

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1127618

## Details

---

**Other names** BRYANT STREET METHODIST CHURCH

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Previously excepted

**Registered** 2009-01-20

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

## Contact

---

**Address** Bryant Street  
Stratford  
London  
London  
E15 4RU

**Phone** 02085484945

**Email** [DSPENCERWALKER@HOTMAIL.CO.UK](mailto:DSPENCERWALKER@HOTMAIL.CO.UK)

**Website** [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)

## 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:** Stratford Methodist church provides worship and mission. Opportunities for worship in the Methodist Christian tradition are primarily through Sunday services, including Sunday school for children. Mission to the community takes the form of community work activities within the building, i.e. parents and toddler group, groups for elderly and letting of rooms for community use.

## Classification

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

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED.
- Newham

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£207,900	£149,875	-	-
2023-08-31	£191,915	£124,398	-	-
2022-08-31	£168,161	£79,140	-	-
2021-08-31	£100,747	£73,292	-	-
2020-08-31	£115,497	£90,040	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ATTO SAAH		2012-06-16
BERNICE JOHNSON		
DENISE SANDRA WALKER		2014-03-30
Dorothy Duddy		2017-08-13
EDMOND SIMPSON		
ERIC WALKER		
HONG NIO HO SRN, SCM		
ISAAC ANKOMAH		
MARGARET MARFO		2012-01-08
Rev ELIZABETH OWUSU OSEI		2016-08-31
TINA AGYEMAN-MENSAH		

**STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1127618

---

# Accounts

---

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2023/2024

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618



FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31<sup>ST</sup>. AUGUST 2024

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
1. Introduction and Mission Statement	1
2. Stewards Report	2
3. Property Report	3
4. Sunday School Report	4
5. Chairperson Report	5
6. Annual Financial Review	8
7. Reserve Policy	9
8. Reference and Administrative information	10
9. Responsibilities of Trustees	11
10. Independent Examiners Report	12
11. Summary of Annual Accounts	13
12. Notes to accounts	15

---

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

### Introduction

Stratford Methodist church is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain, situated within the Newham Circuit of churches. The Church registered, as a Charity on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009. The Charity constituted according to Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist church.

The managing trustees form the Church Council, which meets quarterly. The following Committees meets and report to Church Council: - Community Centre, Welfare, Stewards, Pastoral, Finance and Property, Worship and Youth and Adult committees.

This is the fifteen years of our registration as a charity.

### Mission Statement of Stratford Methodist Church

The mission statement of the Methodist Church as a whole is sum up in the document 'Our Calling'. "The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission".

Worship is about-

- Recognising God's sovereignty over all things and responding in praise, song and prayer
- Becoming open to God's transforming love, through the Holy Spirit
- Receiving and reflecting on the Gospel of Christ in our world today
- Offering ourselves to share in God's costly action in the world

Mission consists of:

- Telling the good news of Jesus  
Helping people to recognise the calling of God in their lives

- Living our discipleship in our world
- Caring for individual people and communities
- Sharing the task of education and social and spiritual development
- Struggling for a just world and in the meantime being alongside 'the poor'
- Becoming friends with people of different cultures and faiths
- Caring for the earth
- Building partnerships with other churches and other groups who share our mission aims.

**Specific aspects of mission at Stratford Methodist Church:**

- To enable our values to be realised through our community work, the provision of services, i.e. for the elderly and parents and toddlers, the letting of rooms for community and nursery use, providing volunteering opportunities and pastoral care for local people, providing space for other churches to worship.
- To offer support and friendship to the staff and volunteers
- To support and become involved in the work of TELCO, which works towards justice in East London
- To provide a benevolent fund for people who are in particular need.
- To be aware of world and local issues and respond with God's love
- To build up our links with other churches in the neighbourhood
- To encourage people to experience Methodist worship
- To encourage church attendance and membership by example

**REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**STEWARDS REPORT**

There was no increase in the number of stewards this year. Our senior steward is still out on long term illness and we continue to pray for his speedy recovery.

Door stewards are reminded to adhere to the rota and should inform the senior steward in advance if they are unable to fulfil their duty so that a replacement could be found in good time.

The stewards will like to encourage the congregation to support visiting preachers and continue to show their appreciation at the end of the service.

Many thanks to all stewards, for their selfless devotion and contributions to the smooth running of the church.

## **PROPERTY REPORT**

### **SMC PROPERTY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2023 - AUGUST 24**

Over past year we have carried out wide range of work to all areas of community centre and church which has made a huge difference to our environment and the health & safety of the building.

Some of the work undertaking includes:

- Fire alarm, smoke detectors, emergency lighting have had their annual inspection and safety certificates issued.
- All boilers service and safety certificates issued.
- All electrical items had their annual safety check (PAT - Testing).
- All Fire extinguishers checked and service.
- Replace the kitchen next to David Lapworth Hall (DLH).
- Purchase a new trolley for church/community Centre.
- Purchase a new computer for Community Centre office.
- Change our broadband provider from XLN business to Sky business.
- New fire alarm system installed.

### **FUTURE WORKS OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS**

- Carry out 5-year inspection of electricity (EICR) (Jan 25).

- All boilers need to be serviced and safety certificates issued (Nov 24)
- Look into replacing the boiler, that provide hot water for whole building and the other 2 boilers that provide the heating for the main hall and the hostel (Wesley House).
- Replace carpet in the church.
- Complete painting of the main hall - ceiling area.
- Paint all areas of community Centre
- Carry out general maintenance to all areas of Church & Community Centre.
- Upgrade stage lightings to LED lights.
- Look into replacing church lights fittings - to allow easy access to the lights when we need to change them.
- Replace the noticeboard outside main entrance to the church.
- Revisit Quinquennial (2021).

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT - AUGUST 2024**

Stratford (Bryant Street) Methodist church have a Sunday school session, during our Service (11.00 - 12.30pm). Where the children leave the main church at about 11.20am and return towards the end service to share what they have learnt during Sunday school.

The age range is from 3 -16 years old, where the children could work in groups or work all together on a variety activity.

We use a variety of resources - Roots magazine, Sermon 4 kids and selection activities selected from the internet.

We have 3 dedicated and hardworking Sunday teachers who run variety of activities every Sunday to help our children learn more about God/Jesus and about been a Christian in a fun and exciting way.

All Sunday school teachers attended regular training courses to keep up to date with all the latest teaching techniques.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Be like the geese – encourage one another!

Recently, there have been swathes of geese flying across our local skies. Have you noticed how they fly in a V formation in order to reduce the wind resistance for those further back, and heard them as they “honk”, encouraging one another to persevere on their long journey?

Being a Christian is rather like that. We need to take up our ‘positions’ in our families, churches and communities, and encourage one another along what is sometimes a perilous life journey.

By the Christian Gift.

As I was reading through some emails and books I received just a while back, I came across the piece above and felt it is appropriate and fits in these days’ challenges that face Christians, Local Churches and our Circuit. I look back and give sincere thanks to God Most High through Christ Jesus who has kept me, my family and the Church members safe till now.

‘Singing the Faith’ Hymn 638 states:

Through All the Changing scenes of life,  
In trouble and in joy,  
The praises of my God shall still  
my heart and tongue employ.

Of His deliverance I will boast,  
Till all that are distressed  
From my example comfort take,  
And charm their griefs to rest.

O magnify the Lord with me,  
With me exalt His name;  
When in distress to Him I called  
He to my rescue came.

O make but trial of His love,  
Experience will decide  
How blest are they, and only they,  
Who in His truth confide?

Fear Him, ye saints, and you will then  
Have nothing else to fear;  
Make you His service your delight,  
Your wants shall be His care.

When I reflect on the work that God enabled Stratford Methodist Church to do,  
All I can say is 'glory be to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ Who Was and Is  
and Is to come'

---

We await the return of Christ Jesus as Scripture tells us at any time.

In the past year, the Church has been represented in almost all the practical  
and spiritual activities within the Newham Communities by some Church  
members and the Minister

To name a few are: 'Transform Newham Faith Leaders Meetings', praying at  
8am- 9am almost weekly for the people and work of the Borough of Newham;  
'Street Pastors use the Church as the 'Base' and went out in the night twice a  
month on Fridays to help vulnerable people on the Street who find themselves  
stranded and gave some toiletries to homeless people where possible. The  
Church supports 'Faith in Schools' by taking active role in spreading the  
Gospel of Christ Jesus to School children; enacting the Christmas story of the  
Birth of Jesus the Saviour of the world; and the Easter stories; we take part  
sometimes in our Church premises activities run by the

Newham Council volunteers to promote Public Health Awareness through Exercises and Dance club and also provides warm space for some people in the community. The Church provides 'Lunches' to the Community to enable people to come through our doors to socialise thereby reducing loneliness. The Church hires out the premises for 'Community functions' and that bring people together as a community to socialise as well as bring in some needed funds for the day to day running of the Centre and the Church. Foodbank is based on the premises and give food out to the community.

In Bryant Street, the Church members organised a Secret Santa get-together which was opened to church members in the community and beyond. It was such a night of fun and dancing to reduce isolation at Christmas time and presented gifts to those who might not get any at Christmas.

Pastorally, the Church members and Minister support each other in times of joy, sickness and bereavement through visits, phone calls and prayers for families. The Minister continues to do visits to sick members in Hospitals and homes to share prayers with their consents.

The minister is still involved with the Westfield Shopping Centre Inspire group of Church volunteers to keep the Rest Space going. Shoppers and workers are given supervised space to go and rest, pray and meditate if they wish.

By the Grace of God in Christ, our Church is slowly growing in numbers, and it is my prayer that people will grow more spiritually in Christ.

We also organise 'Bible Study and Prayer' meetings two times a week in the morning at 11am to 12. Noon and evening from 8 pm - 9 pm on Wednesdays in Bryant Street to enhance our Christian Spiritual growth.

We thank God so much for His love, mercy and grace towards us and pray for His continual strength to know and serve Him more in doing His will through Christ Jesus our Redeemer.

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS CONTRUBUTED TO BUILD THE METHODIST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN STRATFORD IN THE BOROUGH OF NEWHAM. GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

**REV'D ELIZABETH OSEI**

**Chairperson**

## **ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Full details of the results for the year are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 13 and Balance Sheet 14, and they are further analysed on pages 15 and 17.

The total income for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £207,900 and the total expenditure was £149,875 resulting in surplus of £58,025

## **RESERVES POLICY**

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money

Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs, which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s. We have agreed a Reserves Policy, which is set out below and recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report

We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money, which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Church Council

A structure for the risk-based assessment of the free reserve's requirement set by the Stratford Methodist Church Trustees. This sets the target free reserves of £400,000. This level was calculated taking into account the amount considered to be needed to enable the charity to fulfil its existing financial obligations and to future financial obligations, arising from the loss of tenants or indeterminate risks could be met. In this report for the year ended 31 August 2024 the Church Council acknowledged that free reserves were below:

At 31st August 2024, Stratford Methodist Church had total cash reserves of £388,210

These funds were held in the following account:

Central Finance Board	£374,171
Cash at Bank and in hand	<u>£ 14,039</u>
Total	<b><u>£388,210</u></b>

General Church Funds from the Church and the Community Centre are for paying annual assessments to Newham Methodist Circuit of (£40,000 per annum) and to pay maintenance and repair costs of a large building complex which is heavily used for community activities. Community Centre pays for expenses of running the Community Centre and unexpected loss of income from user groups. We aim to have a cash reserve of £450,000 for the Church and for the Community Centre. We currently have about £388,210 in our total reserve and we need a further £61,790 to achieve our target of reserve. The reserve will cover the six months operating expense and start working through projects which have been approved by the Church Council.

---

*“We are followers of Jesus Christ, and we seek to enter into his thinking about wealth and its place in our life and actions both individually and collectively.*

*Continually looking to see if it is producing the fruit of the Spirit and the signs of the Kingdom. Having a sense of gratitude to God for the resources entrusted to us.*

*Applying wisdom in being good stewards of all resources.*

*Deepening a sense of trust in God’s ability to provide for our needs rather than depending upon our own sense of financial security.*

*Sustaining a spirit of mutual care and the sharing of resources with one another.”*

*Being faithful in using our resources in ways that release new possibilities and care for those who minister on our behalf.”*

***Stewardship Network Good Practice Guide, Christian Stewardship Network***

## Reference and Administrative information

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618

### **Officers:**

**Chairperson**–Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei

**Treasurer**-Isaac Ankomah

**Secretary**– Denise Sandra Walker

### **Managing Trustees:**

Rev Asif Karam –

Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei-

Rev Paul Regan-

Mr Isaac Ankomah-

Mrs Denise Sandra Walker-

Mrs Tina Agyeman-Mensah-

Mrs Margaret Marfo-

Mr. Samuel Agyeman-Mensah-

Miss. Hong Nio Ho-

Mrs. Bernice Johnson-

Mr. Edmond Simpson-

Ms. Gloria Thomas –

Mr. Eric Walker-

Mr. Atto Saah –

Ms, Dorothy Duddy –

Mr. Jones Agyeman-

### **WEBSITE**

[www.bryantstreetmethodist.org.uk](http://www.bryantstreetmethodist.org.uk)

E-mail-[stratfordmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stratfordmethodistchurch@gmail.com)

Appointed 1st September 2019

Appointed 1st September 2017

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Appointed 13 August 2017

Appointed 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019

### **Registered Address:**

Stratford Methodist Church

Bryant Street

Stratford

London

E15 4RU

### **Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

Central Buildings

Oldham street

Manchester

M1 1JQ

### **Bankers:**

HSBC

8 Victoria Street

Westminster

London

SW1H 0NJ

### **Investment Managers**

Central Finance Board of Methodist Church

9 Bonhill Street

London

EC2A 4PE

### **Independent Examiner**

Glory Community Accounting Services

318 Barking Road

London

E13 8HL

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees have responsibilities to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

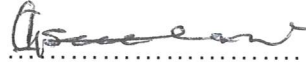
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Law. Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....

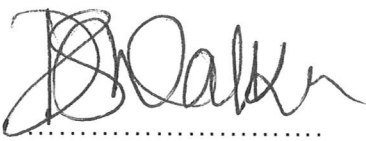
Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (**Chairperson**)

.....

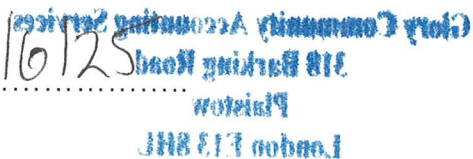
Isaac Ankomah (**Treasurer**)

Date...26/06/2025

Date...26-06-25

.....

Mrs Denise Sandra Walker (**Secretary**)

Date...27/6/25  


## Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church

I report on the attached Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024, which are set on pages 13 to 17 and have been prepared on an accrual basis.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee and Examiner: The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;  to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement: My examination carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the 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 material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



-----  
Hasina Jahan (M Com, DFT, MAAT, MBA)  
Glory Community Accounting Services  
318 Barking Road  
London  
E13 8HL


**Glory Community Accounting Services**  
**318 Barking Road**  
**Plaistow**  
**London E13 8HL**

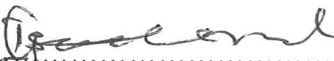
Date: 26/06/25

**Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b><u>Tangible &amp; Fixed Assets</u></b>		
Church Building	1,800,000	1,800,000
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>		
Cash at bank and in hand	388,210	329,885
Debtors and Pre-payment	5      7,000	7,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>395,210</u>	<u>336,885</u>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>		
Creditors and accruals (due in under 1 year)	6      1,900	1,600
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>393,310</b>	<b>335,285</b>
Total Assets less Current liabilities	<u><b>2,193,310</b></u>	<u><b>2,135,285</b></u>
<b>Total Net Assets / (Liabilities)</b>	<u><u><b>2,193,310</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>2,135,285</b></u></u>
<b>Funds and Reserves</b>		
Unrestricted Fund	<b>2,193,310</b>	<b>2,135,285</b>
Restricted Fund		
	<u><u><b>2,193,310</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>2,135,285</b></u></u>

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:

  
 .....  
**Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (Chairperson)**

  
 .....  
**Isaac Ankomah (Treasurer)**

Date... 26/06/2025.....

Date... 26-06-2025.....

## Summary of Annual Accounts 2023/2024

These are summary accounts and may not contain sufficient information for a full Understanding of the charity's financial affairs.

A copy of the full annual accounts is available from our registered address on request

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st August 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Income from Charitable Activities (2)	190,873	-	190,873	182,251
Investment Income (Bank Interest)	17,027	-	17,027	9,394
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>207,900</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>207,900</b>	<b>191,915</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Expenditure on Charitable Activities (3)	149,875	-	149,875	124,398
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>149,875</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>149,875</b>	<b>124,398</b>
Net Income / (Expenditure)	58,025	-	58,025	67,517
Total Funds Brought forward	2,135,285	-	2,135,285	2,067,768
Total Funds Carried forward	<b>2,193,310</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,193,310</b>	<b>2,135,285</b>

# Notes on the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 August 2024

## 1. Accounting Policies

### (a) Format of the Financial Statements

#### Accounting framework and accounting policies

##### 1.1 Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP's 2005 version specified in its related 2008. Regulations and in accordance with the "True and fair override" provision contained therein.

##### 1.2 Public benefit entity

The Stratford Methodist Church definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

##### 1.3 Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost to show a true and fair view of the Stratford Methodist Church financial position and activities.

##### 1.4 Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. The accounts were expressed in Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

##### 1.5 Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available and the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

##### 1.6 Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are income from Sunday Collection, lettings from Just Homes and Community Centre, donations and other activities

##### 1.7 Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are grant for specific purposes which are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year received.

## 1.8 Consolidation

The Church oversees the work of Community Centre and for this reason, the financial statements of the Church is the consolidation of the Church, Community Centre and the income from Just Homes.

## 1.9 Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue. Income is generated from offerings tax recoverable, donations, contributions for use of the premise and from Just Homes

## 1.10 Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the paymer being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the district to pay out resources. Expenditure is recognised in the year in which liabilities are incurred.

## 1.11 Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts pre-paid Newham Circuit as part of our assessment and Creditor is the fee for the independent account's examiner. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit accounts balance with CFB.

## 1.12 Tangible Fixed Assets

This year a value for the church premises remains the same as the previous year. There has not been any depreciation provided or revaluation done. The figure is based on the insured value of the buildings

## 2. Income from Charitable Activities

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Offering And Tax Recoverable	35,025	-	35,025	36,548
Lettings	155,848	-	155,848	145,973
		-		
		-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>190,873</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>190,873</b>	<b>182,521</b>

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Circuit Assessment of Shares	37,320	-	37,320	30,600
Repairs and Maintenance	30,620	-	30,620	51,755
Insurance	4,110	-	4,110	3,453
Utilities	28,798	-	28,798	21,697
Other Expenditure	13,757	-	13,757	6,818
Support & Governance Cost (Notes 4)	13,270	-	13,270	10,075
Donation to Newham Circuit	22,000	-	22,000	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>149,875</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>149,875</b>	<b>124,398</b>

#### 4. Support & Governance Cost

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Staff Cost	11,970	-	11,970	9,075
Accountancy fee	1,300	-	1,300	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,270</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,270</b>	<b>10,075</b>

#### 5. Debtors and Prepayments

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Pre-payment to Methodist Circuit	7,000	-	7,000	7,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>

#### Creditor

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Accountancy fee	1,300	-	1,300	1,000
Assessment	600	-	600	600
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>1,600</b>



**STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1127618

---

# Accounts

---

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2022/2023

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618



FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31<sup>ST</sup>. AUGUST 2023

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
1. Mission Statement	1
2. Stewards Report	2
3. Property Report	3
4. Sunday School Report	3
5. Wesley House	4
6. Community Centre	5-6
7. Chairperson Report	6-7
8. Annual Financial Review	8
9. Reserve Policy	8-9
10. Reference and Administrative information	10
11. Responsibilities of Trustees	11
12. Independent Examiners Report	12
13. Summary of Annual Accounts	13 - 14
14. Notes to accounts	15 – 17

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023

### TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

#### Introduction

Stratford Methodist church is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain, situated within the Newham Circuit of churches. The Church registered, as a Charity on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009. The Charity constituted according to Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist church.

The managing trustees form the Church Council, which meets quarterly. The following Committees meets and report to Church Council: - Community Centre, Welfare, Stewards, Pastoral, Finance and Property, Worship and Youth and Adult committees.

This is the fourteen years of our registration as a charity.

#### Mission Statement of Stratford Methodist Church

The mission statement of the Methodist Church as a whole is sum up in the document 'Our Calling'. "The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission".

Worship is about-

- Recognising God's sovereignty over all things and responding in praise, song and prayer
- Becoming open to God's transforming love, through the Holy Spirit
- Receiving and reflecting on the Gospel of Christ in our world today
- Offering ourselves to share in God's costly action in the world

Mission consists of:

- Telling the good news of Jesus  
Helping people to recognise the calling of God in their lives
- Living our discipleship in our world
- Caring for individual people and communities
- Sharing the task of education and social and spiritual development
- Struggling for a just world and in the meantime being alongside 'the poor'

## PROPERTY REPORT

Over past year we have carried out wide range of work to all areas of community centre and church which has made a huge difference to our environment and the health & safety of the building.

Some of the work undertaking includes:

- All boilers were services and safety certificates issued.
- Fire alarm, smoke detectors, emergency lighting have had their annual inspection and safety certificates issued.
- All electrical items had their annual safety check (PAT - Testing).
- All Fire extinguishers check and service.
- Upgrade of the lighting in the men's toilet, IRL, lounge, hallway and office to LED lights.
- Main Hall repair and repainted – still have to paint the upper and ceiling areas of the hall.
- Kitchen in the main hall replaced.
- Store – room in main hall repair and painted.
- CCTV camera coverage extended to cover back of church building and additional camera installed in the Main Hall,
- First Aid training for church members and volunteers.
- Purchase a defibrillator and an alarm cabinet for storage of the defibrillator.
- Men's toilet, fully refurbished.
- Replace the printer in church office.

Future Plans.

- Look into replacing the boilers, that provide hot water for whole building and the other 2 boilers that provide heating for our Main Hall and our hostel (Wesley House).
- Look into replacing fire alarm system.
- Carry out maintenance work to community centre roof.
- Look into replacing the kitchen next to David Lapworth Hall.
- Look into introducing sound system controller to monitor and control noise level in the main hall.
- Complete painting of upper areas of the main hall.
- Replace stage curtains.
- Look into replacing pews or repairing pews in the church & also look into replacing the flooring in the church this requires further on-going Church Council discussions.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

Stratford (Bryant Street) Methodist church have a Sunday school session, during our Service (11.00 - 12.30pm). Where the children leave the main church at about 11.20am and return towards the end service to share what they have learnt during Sunday school.

The age range is from 3 – 16 years old, where the children could work in groups or work all together on a variety activity.

We use a variety of resources - Roots magazine, Sermon 4 kids and selection activities selected from the internet.

We have 3 dedicated and hardworking Sunday teachers who run variety of activities every Sunday to help our children learn more about God/Jesus and about been a Christian in a fun and exciting way.

All Sunday school teachers attended regular training courses to keep up to date with all the latest teaching techniques.

## **WESLEY HOUSE REPORT**

Wesley House Report May 24

Our partnerships with Just Homes (who are responsible for managing Wesley House) have continued over the past 12 months. The occupancy level has remained full throughout the whole period, and they continue to provide vital accommodation to men sleeping on the street and parks around the Stratford area.

Our partnership remains strong, they are up to date in settling all issued invoices and have passed on to us the funding increase allocated to them by the local authority, as per our license agreement.

A group of us attended the 25th anniversary of First Fruit Charity along with the 15th anniversary of Just Homes Charity, which was celebrated on the 28th of September at Penuel House.

The event was a great success with a very good turnout from partners and well-wishers. Our local MP Sir Stephen Timms (guest speaker), and Cllr Shaban Muhammed – Parliamentary representative for Housing for Newham, Cllr Neil Wilson and Cllr Elizabeth Booker attended the event along with other members from the council.

The renovations to the kitchen was completed in March 23, which consisted of a total gut-out with the renewing of the:

- Flooring
- Wall & Floor Units
- Wiring
- Sinks
- Extractor
- Wall Tiling
- Painting of Walls, Ceiling & Door

Just like the renovation of the shower units previously, the feedback from Just Homes, the Trustees and members of the church about the standard of the kitchen renovation has been very positive.

General maintenance has continued such as the replacement of worn seals around the bottom of the shower doors. The flooring within the lounge has also been changed from carpet to vinyl.

Up until recently no issues relating to repairs had been reported, however we are now investigating a leaking radiator pipe in Room 7 and evidence of leakage resulting in watermarks on the ceiling along the corridor downstairs (above the toilets near the pantry).

Our Newham License for Landlords was renewed last year for another 5 years which enables the use of Wesley House as an MHO for the duration.

Unfortunately, the renewing of the license agreement between the Church and Just Homes (with expired Oct 22), has still not been completed mainly due issues with our solicitors. Assurance has been to Just Homes to alleviate any concerns and we hope it will be completed in the coming months.

We continue to give God the glory for sustaining this partnership and pray for favour daily for it to grow and change the lives of those accessing the services provided.

## **COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT**

The church and centre continue to function considerably well with more enquiries daily. The revenue generated is almost at its study post the pandemic. Thankfully, our regular users have returned and we have acquired one more. The new Latin American Dance Company has ceased using our premises but the Karate Club has continued.

Thursday lunch club and the monthly Chinese lunch clubs are well attended and continue to gain momentum. We issued a license to Stratford Karate Club this year after they completed their probation period

We continue to work with Sphere, a charity who obtains food, donations and baby items to assist the community elderly, mothers and the homeless alike. They currently use the centre facility twice a week and provision has been made to accommodate them fully. A formal licence agreement has been sent to Sphere for any additional programme they wish to conduct on the premises and we await confirmation and the return of their license. We currently assist in the food bank with Sphere on Mondays and Wednesdays.

We are yet to obtain any information about the donations obtain via the Facebook page set up for the night shelter through the night shelter organisers. There is still a notion that we could resume the night shelter back at the centre, provided that volunteers are obtained and re-trained but this is yet to come to fruition.

We currently have nine churches that use the premises for worship namely; Fountain of Blessing Church, The Great Commission Church, Sion Church, London City Chapel Church, Assembly of God Church, The Way of Holiness End Time Ministry, The Church of Pentecost and the Light House Church who began using the premises this year.

Grace Communion International Church Has ceased worshipping at the centre.

We are eager to obtain volunteers to assist at the community centre during the day (weekdays or weekends) as this helps the centre immensely.

Ongoing task at present includes the following;

We require volunteers to help Dorothy and Amy for the Thursday lunch club. As well as for our monthly table top sales.

Changing the church carpet with the donation obtained / deep cleaning of the carpet as well as obtaining a new lectern is yet to be implemented.

We continue to seek volunteers for the centre as well as long term volunteering opportunities.  
Continue to review insurances, safe guarding policy and personal by all users.

Medium to long term 12- 46 months

Maximising the usage of our building for the purpose of what it is intended,

Seeking feasibility to develop the upper part of the main hall and replacing the roof once a feasibility studies in place.

Review our utility services, systems and update our heating systems accordingly particularly the hall as well as the Kitchen units.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Thanks be to God for another year of the Church.

After the effect of the Covid 19 pandemic, the Church has seen a gradual growth in Church attendance of members lately. We participate in activities of the Churches in Newham known as Transform Newham to see to the wellbeing of the Borough. These meetings comprise of Leaders of the various Churches meeting together to share experiences, pray for God's wisdom and revelation to Christ Body- the Church and having our Christian presence felt in the Borough.

In addition to being part of the Newham Churches, we Stratford Methodist Church hire out our premises to various groups to enable them operate and help members of the Community e.g. The Alcoholic Anonymous Group, Karate; various Evangelical Churches and some language Groups, to name a few.

The Church has embarked on training Volunteers to work with Vulnerable women and the youth to signpost people to where to access help and turn their lives round for support when needed.

Again, we run Bible Studies in both mornings at 11 am to 12pm and Evenings on Zoom at members' convenience. These are done on top of our regular Sunday Services in the morning at 11am to 12:30pm latest.

School Children are also invited into the Church to learn about the Christian Religion especially the Christmas story and the use of some Christian artefacts.

There is Thursday Lunch Club every Thursday for the Community after their Dance Exercise Class

to meet over cooked HOT food to socialise at an affordable price.

Furthermore, volunteers provide Chinese lunch once a month for the Chinese group to gather and socialise to reduce isolation among the Chinese community.

From that Lunch group has come another 'Chinese Nurses group' to bring together many of the old time Nurses who have served the Country immensely since coming over to the United Kingdom.

Food bank is also carried on in the premises by volunteers on Mondays and Wednesday from 1 pm to 3pm which help members of the Community and well attended.

The Church is again a Vitamin D Distribution Centre under Newham Council where people from the community come to get their supply.

As one Police lady described to me, "are you from the Church that always has people with lots activities going on?" Yes, indeed we are a Christian Charity that supports, and enable members of the Community to fulfil their potential by God's grace and mercy through Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour.

May God give us the strength and the zeal to continue serving Him and neighbours around.

Rev. Elizabeth Osei

**Chairperson Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church  
Stratford Methodist Church**

## ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW

Full details of the results for the year are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 13 and Balance Sheet 14, and they are further analysed on pages 15 and 17.

The total income for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £191,909 and the total expenditure was £124,398 resulting in surplus of £67,511

## RESERVES POLICY

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money

Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs, which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s. We have agreed a Reserves Policy, which is set out below and recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report

We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money, which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Church Council

A structure for the risk based assessment of the free reserves requirement set by the Stratford Methodist Church Council. This sets the target free reserves of £400,000. This level was calculated taking into account the amount considered to be needed to enable the charity to fulfil its existing financial obligations and to future financial obligations, arising from the loss of tenants or indeterminate risks could be met. In this report for the year ended 31 August 2022 the Church Council acknowledged that free reserves were below:

At 31st August 2023, Stratford Methodist Church had total cash reserves of £330,184

These funds were held in the following account:

Central Finance Board	£316,684
Cash at Bank and in hand	<u>£ 13,200</u>
Total	<u>£330,184</u>

General Church Funds from the Church and the Community Centre are for paying annual assessments to Newham Methodist Circuit of (£40,000 per annum) and to pay maintenance and repair costs of a large building complex which is heavily used for community activities. Community Centre pays for expenses of running the Community Centre and unexpected loss of income from user groups. We aim to have a cash reserve of £400,000 for the Church and for the Community Centre. We currently have about £330,184 in our total reserve and we need a further £69,816 to achieve our target of reserve. The reserve will cover the six months operating expense and start working through projects which have been approved by the Church Council.

*“We are followers of Jesus Christ, and we seek to enter into his thinking about wealth and its place in our life and actions both individually and collectively.*

*Continually looking to see if it is producing the fruit of the Spirit and the signs of the Kingdom. Having a sense of gratitude to God for the resources entrusted to us.*

*Applying wisdom in being good stewards of all resources.*

*Deepening a sense of trust in God’s ability to provide for our needs rather than depending upon our own sense of financial security.*

*Sustaining a spirit of mutual care and the sharing of resources with one another.”*

*Being faithful in using our resources in ways that release new possibilities and care for those who minister on our behalf.”*

***Stewardship Network Good Practice Guide, Christian Stewardship Network***

## Reference and Administrative information

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618

### **Officers:**

**Chairperson**–Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei

**Treasurer**-Isaac Ankomah

**Secretary**– Denise Sandra Walker

### **Managing Trustees:**

Rev Asif Karam

Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei-

Rev Paul Regan

Mr Isaac Ankomah

Mrs Denise Sandra Walker

Mrs Tina Agyeman-Mensah

Mrs Margaret Marfo

Mr. Samuel Agyeman-Mensah

Miss. Hong Nio Ho

Mr. Solomon Oluwafemi Ijehin

Mrs. Bernice Johnson

Mr. Edmond Simpson

Ms. Gloria Thomas

Mr. Eric Walker

Mr. Atto Saah

Ms, Dorothy Duddy

Mr. Jones Agyeman

Mr David Mensah

Mrs Barbara Spencer–Devonish

### **WEBSITE**

[www.bryantstreetmethodist.org.uk](http://www.bryantstreetmethodist.org.uk)

E-mail-[stratfordmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stratfordmethodistchurch@gmail.com)

Appointed 1st September 2019

Appointed 1st September 2017

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 1st January 2009

Appointed 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Appointed 13 August 2017

Appointed 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Appointed 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Appointed 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023

### **Registered Address:**

Stratford Methodist Church

Bryant Street

Stratford

London

E15 4RU

### **Bankers:**

HSBC

8 Victoria Street

Westminster

London

SW1H 0NJ

### **Independent Examiner**

Glory Community Accounting Services

318 Barking Road

London

E13 8HL

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees have responsibilities to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:


- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent ; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Law. Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



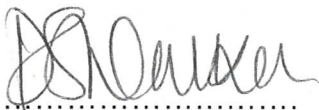
Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (**Chairperson**)



Isaac Ankomah (**Treasurer**)

Date.. 8/06/2024 .....

Date.. 08 - 06 - 2024 .....



Mrs Denise Sandra Walker (**Secretary**)

Date.. 8/6/24 .....

## Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church

I report on the attached Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023, which are set on pages 13 to 17 and have been prepared on an accrual basis.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee and Examiner: The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;  to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement: My examination carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the 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 material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



-----  
Hasina Jahan (M Com, DFT, MAAT, MBA)  
Glory Community Accounting Services  
318 Barking Road  
London  
E13 8HL

**Glory Community Accounting Services**  
**318 Barking Road**  
**Plaistow**  
**London E13 8HL**

Date: 8/06/24

## Summary of Annual Accounts 2022/2023

These are summary accounts and may not contain sufficient information for a full Understanding of the charity's financial affairs.

A copy of the full annual accounts is available from our registered address on request


### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st August 2023


	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Income from Charitable Activities (2)	182,521	-	182,521	167,226
Investment Income (Bank Interest)	9,394	-	9,394	935
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>191,915</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>191,915</b>	<b>168,161</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Expenditure on Charitable Activities (3)	124,398	-	124,398	79,140
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>124,398</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>124,398</b>	<b>79,140</b>
Net Income / (Expenditure)	67,517	-	67,517	89,021
Total Funds Brought forward	2,067,768	-	2,067,768	1,978,747
<b>Total Funds Carried forward</b>	<b>2,135,285</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,135,285</b>	<b>2,067,768</b>

**Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022**

		2023	2022
		£	£
<b><u>Tangible &amp; Fixed Assets</u></b>			
Church Building		1,800,000	1,800,000
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		329,885	262,368
Debtors and Pre-payment	5	7,000	7,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>336,885</u>	<u>269,368</u>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>			
Creditors and accruals (due in under 1 year)	6	1,600	1,600
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>335,285</b>	<b>267,768</b>
Total Assets less Current liabilities		<u><b>2,135,285</b></u>	<u><b>2,067,768</b></u>
<b>Total Net Assets / (Liabilities)</b>		<u><u><b>2,135,285</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>2,067,768</b></u></u>
<b>Funds and Reserves</b>			
Unrestricted Fund		<b>2,135,285</b>	<b>2,067,768</b>
Restricted Fund		<u><b>2,135,285</b></u>	<u><b>2,067,768</b></u>

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:

  
 .....  
**Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (Chairperson)**

  
 .....  
**Isaac Ankomah (Treasurer)**

Date 8/06/2024 .....

Date 08/06/2024 .....

# Notes on the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 August 2023

## 1. Accounting Policies

### (a) Format of the Financial Statements

#### Accounting framework and accounting policies

##### 1.1 Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP's 2005 version specified in its related 2008. Regulations and in accordance with the "True and fair override" provision contained therein.

##### 1.2 Public benefit entity

The Stratford Methodist Church definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

##### 1.3 Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost to show a true and fair view of the Stratford Methodist Church financial position and activities.

##### 1.4 Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. The accounts were expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

##### 1.5 Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available and the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

##### 1.6 Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are income from Sunday Collection, lettings from Just Homes and Community Centre, donations and other activities

##### 1.7 Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are grant for specific purposes which are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year received.

## 1.8 Consolidation

The Church oversees the work of Community Centre and for this reason, the financial statements of the Church is the consolidation of the Church, Community Centre and the income from Just Homes.

## 1.9 Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue. Income is generated from offerings tax recoverable, donations, contributions for use of the premises and from Just Homes

## 1.10 Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payer being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the district to pay out resources. Expenditure is recognised in the year in which liabilities are incurred.

## 1.11 Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts pre-paid Newham Circuit as part of our assessment and Creditor is the fee for the independent account's examiner. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit accounts balance with CFB.

## 1.12 Tangible Fixed Assets

This year a value for the church premises remains the same as the previous year. There has not been any depreciation provided or revaluation done. The figure is based on the insured value of the buildings

## 2. Income from Charitable Activities

	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Offering And Tax Recoverable	36,543	-	36,548	39,662
Lettings	145,973	-	145,973	127,564
		-		
		-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>182,516</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>182,521</b>	<b>167,226</b>

### 3. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Circuit Assessment of Shares	30,600	-	30,600	30,600
Repairs and Maintenance	51,755	-	51,755	19,654
Insurance	3,453	-	3,453	3,077
Utilities	21,697	-	21,697	7,028
Other Expenditure	6,818	-	6,818	7,206
Support & Governance Cost (Notes 4)	10,075	-	10,075	11,575
<b>Total</b>	<b>124,398</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>124,398</b>	<b>79,140</b>

### 4. Support & Governance Cost

	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Staff Cost	9,075	-	9,075	10,575
Accountancy fee	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,075</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,075</b>	<b>11,575</b>

### 5. Debtors and Prepayments

	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Pre-payment to Methodist Circuit	7,000	-	7,000	7,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>

### Creditor

	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Accountancy fee	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Assessment	600	-	600	600
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1,600</b>

**STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1127618

---

# Accounts

---

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2021/2022

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618



FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31<sup>ST</sup>. AUGUST 2022

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
1. Mission Statement	1
2. Stewards Report	2
3. Property Report	3
4. Sunday School Report	3
5. Wesley House	4
6. Community Centre	5-6
7. Chairperson Report	7-8
8. Annual Financial Review	9
9. Reserve Policy	9-10
10. Reference and Administrative information	11
11. Responsibilities of Trustees	12
12. Independent Examiners Report	13
13. Summary of Annual Accounts	14 - 15
14. Notes to accounts	16 – 18

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

### Introduction

Stratford Methodist church is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain, situated within the Newham Circuit of churches. The Church registered, as a Charity on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009. The Charity constituted according to Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist church.

The managing trustees form the Church Council, which meets quarterly. The following Committees meets and report to Church Council: - Community Centre, Welfare, Stewards, Pastoral, Finance and Property, Worship and Youth and Adult committees.

This is the twelve year of our registration as a charity.

### Mission Statement of Stratford Methodist Church

The mission statement of the Methodist Church as a whole is sum up in the document 'Our Calling'. "The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission".

Worship is about-

- Recognising God's sovereignty over all things and responding in praise, song and prayer
- Becoming open to God's transforming love, through the Holy Spirit
- Receiving and reflecting on the Gospel of Christ in our world today
- Offering ourselves to share in God's costly action in the world

Mission consists of:

- Telling the good news of Jesus  
Helping people to recognise the calling of God in their lives
- Living our discipleship in our world
- Caring for individual people and communities
- Sharing the task of education and social and spiritual development
- Struggling for a just world and in the meantime being alongside 'the poor'

- Becoming friends with people of different cultures and faiths
- Caring for the earth
- Building partnerships with other churches and other groups who share our mission aims.

Specific aspects of mission at Stratford Methodist Church:

- To enable our values to be realised through our Community work, the provision of services, i.e. for the elderly and parents and toddlers, the letting of rooms for community and nursery use, providing volunteering opportunities and pastoral care for local people, providing space for other churches to worship.
- To offer support and friendship to the staff and volunteers
- To support and become involved in the work of TELCO, which works towards justice in East London
- To provide a benevolent fund for people who are in particular need.
- To be aware of world and local issues and respond with God's love
- To build up our links with other churches in the neighbourhood
- To encourage people to experience Methodist worship
- To encourage church attendance and membership by example

### **Review of progress and achievements**

## **STEWARDS REPORT**

We thank God that we can now put behind us covid-19 and carry on with our lives.

There has been no change to the number of stewards although more stewards are always welcomed.

The church membership has noticeably gone down and may be attributed to two main factors: The temporary closure of the church during the covid-19 pandemic and the stance adopted by Conference on same sex marriage.

A church stewards meeting was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2022 where the main subject of the meeting was about the duties of a church steward. A copy of the manual 'the Church Stewards handbook' was given to each steward.

At the time of this report, our senior steward Mr. Sam Agyeman Mensah is unwell and we will continue to pray for his speedy recovery.

Many thanks to all stewards for their selfless devotion to the smooth running of the church.

Atto Saah

## PROPERTY REPORT

Over past year we have carried out wide range of work to all areas of community centre and church, which has made a huge difference to our environment and the health & safety aspects of the building.

Some of the work undertaking includes:

- All boilers were serviced and safety certificates issued.
- Fire alarm, smoke detectors, emergency lighting have had their annual inspection and safety certificates issued.
- All electrical items had their annual safety check (PAT - Testing).
- CCTV camera coverage extended to cover the back of the church building and the Main Hall,
- Hand dryer moved to location next to the sinks in the ladies toilet and all hand dryers re- instated in toilets after Covid restrictions were lifted.
- 3 new Tv's were installed in the David Lapworth Hall (DLH) these were donated by one of our user groups.
- Replace fridge freezer Main Hall kitchen.
- New microphone system purchased for church and also the sound for TVs connected to church system.
- Replaced faulty control box for TV projection in the Church.
- Cleared blockage in gullies/drains outside Main Hall kitchen.

### FUTURE PLANS.

- Replace the boilers, that provide hot water for whole building and the other 2 boilers that provide heating for our Main Hall and our hostel (Wesley House).
- Upgrade the lighting in the Main Hall to LED lights
- Look into introducing a sound system to monitor and control noise level in the main hall
- Update and repaint the main hall.
- Update the kitchen in main Hall and the David Lapworth Hall (DLH).
- Look into replacing pews or repairing pews in the church & also look into replacing the flooring in the church this requires further on-going Church Council discussions.
- Look into long-term project - redevelopment of upper storey area to Main Hall for additional hostel or office accommodation.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT**

Stratford (Bryant Street) Methodist church have a Sunday school session, during our Service (11:00 - 12.30pm). Where the children leave the main church at about 11.20am and return towards the end service to share what they have learnt during Sunday school.

The age range is from 3 - 16year old, where the children could work in groups or work all together on an all age activities.

We use a variety of resources - Roots, Sermon 4 kids and selection activities selected from the internet.

We have 3 dedicated and hardworking Sunday teachers who run variety of activities every Sunday to help our children learn more about God/Jesus and about been a Christian in a fun and exciting way.

All Sunday school teachers attended regular training courses to keep up to date with all the latest teaching techniques.

## **WESLEY HOUSE REPORT**

Over the past 12 months, Just Homes - our outreach partner have continued to manage Wesley House. They have had full occupancy for the whole period and have provided vital accommodation to men sleeping on the street and parks around the Stratford area.

Our partnership have grown stronger during this period and thus far they are up to date in settling all their invoices. All their bills have been paid on time and they have passed on to us the funding increase allocated to them by the local authority, as per our license agreement.

Following the incident with the broken shower hose last year, new signage are in place within the showers and all residents are inducted on how to use the shower. Furthermore, the Electric Shower with the broken hose has been.

### **Major Repairs**

They has been one major repair over past 12 months, which was due to leaking shower trays.

The root cause of the leak was "poorly supported shower tray", this led to the sealed joint between the tiles and the shower tray being broken and water escaping through the gap onto the floor below.

All 3 shower enclosures had to be dismantled and the base reinforced with timber and plywood before being re-assembled.

Along with this we've had to deal with leaking pipes due to corrosion, toilet leakage due to the toilet basin not being secured to the floor minor and an infestation of rats which is ongoing, with Newham's vermin department supporting us.

A drainage survey is required to assess the quality of the pipes before the flushing of the whole system.

The current license agreement expires Oct 22, thus we have started the process with regards to it's renewal. The proposed new lease has been reviewed by the committee and Just Homes, and updated accordingly. Solicitors will be engaged in the coming weeks

## **COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT**

We continue to work with Sphere, a charity who obtains food, donations and baby items to assist the community elderly, mothers and the homeless alike. They currently use the centre facility twice a week and provision has been made to accommodate them fully. A formal licence agreement has been sent to Sphere for any additional programme they wish to conduct on the premises and awaiting confirmation. We currently assist in the food bank with Sphere on Mondays and Wednesdays. We are also yet to obtain any information about the donations obtain via the Facebook through the night shelter organisers. There is a notion that we could resume the night shelter back at the centre provided that volunteers are obtained and re-trained.

The church and centre continues to function considerably well with more enquiries daily. The revenue generated is almost at the level it was pre-pandemic. Thankfully, our regular users have returned and we have acquired one more. The new Latin American Dance Company using our premises has continued as well as the Karate Club. Thursday lunch club and the monthly Chinese lunch clubs are well attended and continue to gain momentum.

We currently have eight churches that use the premises for worship.

- Fountain of Blessing Church,
- The Great Commission Church,
- Sion Church,
- London City Chapel Church,
- Assembly of God Church,
- Grace Communion International Church,
- The Way of Holiness End Time Ministry
- The Church of Pentecost (who began using the premises this year.)

We are eager to obtain volunteers to assist at the community centre during the day (weekdays or weekends) as this help the centre immensely.

Ongoing task at present includes the following;

Needing people to help Dorothy and Amy on Thursdays

Volunteers needed for our monthly table top sale.

Changing the church carpet with the donation obtained / Deep cleaning of the carpet as well as obtaining a new lectern.

Temporary volunteering at the centre and long term volunteering opportunities

To review insurances, safe guarding policy and personal by all users.

Medium to long term 12- 46 months

Maximising the usage of our building for the purpose of what it is intended,

Seeking feasibility to develop the upper part of the main hall and replacing the roof once a feasibility study is in place.

Review our utility services, systems and update our heating systems accordingly particularly the hall as well as the Kitchen units.

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Another year has come to see us and we are grateful to God our Father through Christ Jesus for our lives and a Church together.

I wish to thank you all for your help and continual support in all the difficult years gone. I really commend your commitment and the dedication of you all in supporting God's work in this part of London.

As a diverse community, we have worked together by God's grace to make God's work a reality.

My observations have been

1. the utilization of the Church premises: it is encouraging to know that the Church premises is always used by the community and this I believe reflects God's presence in Newham.
2. The unity and enthusiasm you show in working together to enhance the work of God even with our different opinions and I hope that will continue by God's grace. It is my prayer that God will give us His wisdom to discern His truth and to work towards His will on earth.
3. The way the Church leaders work with the people who hire the premises is so commendable and I pray that it will continue for good to encourage other people to experience God's love and peace.

A lot of structural work has been done such as some repairs in the Big Hall floor, heating, painting and lighting to make the place fit for regular use.

### SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

We continue to meet on Wednesday mornings in person and on Zoom in the Evenings to study what God's Word teaches us in the Bible and pray to know and understand Him more.

We meet every Sunday morning in person to worship and socialise together as God's family in Christ. All our activities are open to all people who wish to come.

On Thursdays, we have lunch Club where people from the Community come for meals and chat paying a small amount to cover the food cost.

Once a month on Saturdays there is Table Top Sales in which the people from the community participate to socialise and feel the love of Christ among others.

Since the Covid19, the Centre opened its doors for Food Bank, distributing food to people from the community on Mondays and Wednesdays during the week and continues to this day.

There was also School Children's Holiday Hub throughout the school holidays where children came to have activities and be cared for by the Sphere Group from morning till late afternoon.

The Church also helps out in Faith- in- Schools to share the Christian Story especially during Christmas and Easter.

At the moment the Church is involved and exploring how best to team up with other Christian Groups in Newham to help Refugee children in the Hotels and Vulnerable Women to feel and experience the love and peace that only Christ Jesus can give through activities.

Again, the Church participates in meetings with Faith Leaders with activities in Newham to work with the Council to help and support residents in Newham through the living crisis by sign- posting people to get help needed from the appropriate places in the government sector such as keeping Warm, Cost of living, Mental Health issues and support for children as well as distributing Vitamin D to older people to improve their health, especially during winter.

We are also part of the Street Pastors Team which goes out on Friday night to give help and support to those in need at that time of the day especially, Rough sleepers.

I will say that Christians are together a BIG BOOK being constantly read by people we come across in our daily walks in the world.

Let us therefore be the 'refreshing Book' other people would want to read every day, to experience the presence and peace of God through Christ and give glory to God our Father.

As long as God spares our lives, we have a lot to continue doing to show God's love to the world.

Therefore, hold on tight to the faith we profess and continue to ask Christ Jesus to help and give us the strength to finish the race set before us with confidence and joy knowing that our work for Christ will never be in vain.

Stay safe and may God bless you all.

Thank you.

Rev. Elizabeth Osei  
**Chairperson Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church**  
**Stratford Methodist Church**

## ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW

Full details of the results for the year are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 14 and Balance Sheet 15, and they are further analysed on pages 17 and 18.

The total income for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £168,161 and the total expenditure was £79,140 resulting in surplus of £89,021

## RESERVES POLICY

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money

Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs, which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s. We have agreed a Reserves Policy, which is set out below and recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report

We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money, which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Church Council

A structure for the risk based assessment of the free reserves requirement set by the Stratford Methodist Church Council. This sets the target free reserves of £300,000. This level was calculated taking into account the amount considered to be needed to enable the charity to fulfil its existing financial obligations and to future financial obligations, arising from the loss of tenants or indeterminate risks could be met. In this report for the year ended 31 August 2022 the Church Council acknowledged that free reserves were below:

At 31st August 2022, Stratford Methodist Church had total cash reserves of £262,368

These funds were held in the following account:

Central Finance Board	£247,228
Cash at Bank and in hand	<u>£ 15,140</u>
Total	<u>£262,368</u>

General Church Funds from the Church and the Community Centre are for paying annual assessments to Newham Methodist Circuit of (£30,600.00 per annum) and to pay maintenance and repair costs of a large building complex which is heavily used for community activities. Community Centre pays for expenses of running the Community Centre and unexpected loss of income from user groups. We aim to have a cash reserve of £300,000 for the Church and for the Community Centre. We currently have about £262,368 in our total reserve and we need a further £37,632 to achieve our target of reserve. The reserve will cover the six months operating expense and start working through projects which have been approved by the Church Council.

*“We are followers of Jesus Christ, and we seek to enter into his thinking about wealth and its place in our life and actions both individually and collectively.*

*Continually looking to see if it is producing the fruit of the Spirit and the signs of the Kingdom. Having a sense of gratitude to God for the resources entrusted to us.*

*Applying wisdom in being good stewards of all resources.*

*Deepening a sense of trust in God’s ability to provide for our needs rather than depending upon our own sense of financial security.*

*Sustaining a spirit of mutual care and the sharing of resources with one another.”*

*Being faithful in using our resources in ways that release new possibilities and care for those who minister on our behalf.”*

***Stewardship Network Good Practice Guide, Christian Stewardship Network***

## **Reference and Administrative information**

**CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618**

### **Officers:**

**Chairperson**–Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei

**Treasurer**-Isaac Ankomah

**Secretary**– Denise Sandra Walker

### **WEBSITE**

www.bryantstreetmethodist.org.uk  
E-mail-stratfordmethodistchurch@gmail.com

### **Managing Trustees:**

Rev Asif Karam – Appointed 1st September 2019  
Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei- Appointed 1st September 2017  
Rev Paul Regan- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mr Isaac Ankomah- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mrs Denise Sandra Walker- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mrs Tina Agyeman-Mensah- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mrs Margaret Marfo- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mr. Samuel Agyeman-Mensah- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Miss. Hong Nio Ho- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mr. Solomon Oluwafemi Ijehin- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mrs. Bernice Johnson- Appointed -1st January 2009  
Madame Pamela Prentice- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mr. Edmond Simpson- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Ms. Gloria Thomas – Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mr. Eric Walker- Appointed 1st January 2009  
Mr. Atto Saah – Appointed 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017  
Ms, Dorothy Duddy – Appointed 13 August 2017  
Mr. Jones Agyeman- Appointed 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019

### **Registered Address:**

Stratford Methodist Church  
Bryant Street  
Stratford  
London  
E15 4RU

### **Bankers:**

HSBC  
8 Victoria Street  
Westminster  
London  
SW1H 0NJ

### **Independent Examiner**

Glory Community Accounting Services  
318 Barking Road  
London  
E13 8HL

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees have responsibilities to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent ; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Law. Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (Chairperson)



Isaac Ankomah (Treasurer)

Date. 30.4.23

Date. 30-4-2023



Mrs Denise Sandra Walker (Secretary)

Date. 30.4.23

## Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church

I report on the attached Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2022, which are set on pages 19 to 18 and have been prepared on an accrual basis.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee and Examiner: The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;  to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement: My examination carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the 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 material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



-----  
Hasina Jahan (M Com, DFT, MAAT, MBA)  
Glory Community Accounting Services  
318 Barking Road  
London  
E13 8HL

**Glory Community Accounting Services**  
**318 Barking Road**  
**Plaistow**  
**London E13 8HL**

Date: 30/04/23

## Summary of Annual Accounts 2021/2022

These are summary accounts and may not contain sufficient information for a full Understanding of the charity's financial affairs.

A copy of the full annual accounts is available from our registered address on request

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st August 2022

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Income from Charitable Activities (2)	167,226	-	167,226	99,654
Investment Income (Bank Interest)	935	-	935	106
HMRC refund				988
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>168,161</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>168,161</b>	<b>100,748</b>
 <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Expenditure on Charitable Activities (3)	79,140	-	79,140	73,292
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>79,140</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79,140</b>	<b>73,292</b>
Net Income / (Expenditure)	89,021	-	89,021	27,456
Total Funds Brought forward	1,978,747	-	1,978,747	1,951,291
Total Funds Carried forward	<b>2,067,768</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,067,768</b>	<b>1,978,747</b>

Glory Community Accounting Services  
 318 Barking Road  
 Plaistow  
 London E13 8HL

Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022

		2022	2021
		£	£
<b><u>Tangible &amp; Fixed Assets</u></b>			
Church Building		1,800,000	1,800,000
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		262,368	173,347
Debtors and Pre-payment	5	7,000	7,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>269,368</u>	<u>180,347</u>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>			
Creditors and accruals (due in under 1 year)	6	1,600	1,600
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>267,768</b>	<b>178,747</b>
<b>Total Assets less Current liabilities</b>		<b><u>2,067,768</u></b>	<b><u>1,978,747</u></b>
<b>Total Net Assets / (Liabilities)</b>		<b><u>2,067,768</u></b>	<b><u>1,978,747</u></b>
<b>Funds and Reserves</b>			
Unrestricted Fund		<b>2,067,768</b>	<b>1,978,747</b>
Restricted Fund		<u>2,067,768</u>	<u>1,978,747</u>

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (Chairperson)

  
 .....  
 Isaac Ankomah (Treasurer)

Date 30/04/2023.....

Date 30-04-2023.....

# **Notes on the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 August 2022**

## **1. Accounting Policies**

### **(a) Format of the Financial Statements**

#### **Accounting framework and accounting policies**

##### **1.1 Accounting framework**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP's 2005 version specified in its related 2008. Regulations and in accordance with the “true and fair override” provision contained therein.

##### **1.2 Public benefit entity**

The Stratford Methodist Church definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

##### **1.3 Basis**

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost to show a true and fair view of the Stratford Methodist Church financial position and activities.

##### **1.4 Content**

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. The accounts were expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

##### **1.5 Going concern**

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available and the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

##### **1.6 Unrestricted Funds**

Unrestricted funds are income from Sunday Collection, lettings from Just Homes and Community Centre, donations and other activities

##### **1.7 Restricted Funds**

Restricted funds are grant for specific purposes which are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year received.

## 1.8 Consolidation

The Church oversees the work of Community Centre and for this reason, the financial statements of the Church is the consolidation of the Church, Community Centre and the income from Just Homes.

## 1.9 Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue. Income is generate from offerings tax recoverable, donations, contributions for use of the premises and from Just Homes

## 1.10 Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the District to pay out resources. Expenditure is recognise in the year in which liabilities are incurred.

## 1.11 Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts pre-paid Newham Circuit as part of our assessment and Creditor is the fee for the independent accounts examiner. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit accounts balances with CFB.

## 1.12 Tangible Fixed Assets

This year a value for the church premises remains the same as the previous year. There has not been any depreciation provided or revaluation done. The figure is based on the insured value of the buildings

## 2. Income from Charitable Activities

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Offering And Tax Recoverable	39,662	-	39,662	29,896
Lettings	127,564	-	127,564	69,758
		-		
		-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>167,226</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>167,226</b>	<b>99,654</b>

### 3. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Circuit Assessment of Shares	30,600	-	30,600	30,600
Repairs and Maintenance	19,654	-	19,654	17,207
Insurance	3,077	-	3,077	2,895
Utilities	7,028	-	7,028	6,917
Other Expenditure	7,206	-	7,206	6,123
Support & Governance Cost (Notes 4)	11,575	-	11,575	9,550
<b>Total</b>	<b>79,140</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79,140</b>	<b>73,292</b>

### 4. Support & Governance Cost

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Staff Cost	10,575	-	10,575	8550
Accountancy fee	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,575</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,575</b>	<b>9,550</b>

### 5. Debtors and Prepayments

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Pre-payment to Methodist Circuit	7,000	-	7,000	7,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>

### Creditor

	2022	2022	2022	2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Accountancy fee	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Assessment	600	-	600	600
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1,600</b>

**STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1127618

---

# Accounts

---

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2020/2021

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618



FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31<sup>ST</sup>. AUGUST 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
1. Mission Statement	1
2. Stewards Report	2
3. Property Report	3
4. Sunday School Report	3
5. Wesley House	4
6. Community Centre	5-6
7. Chairperson Report	7-8
8. Annual Financial Review	9
9. Reserve Policy	9-10
10. Reference and Administrative information	11
11. Responsibilities of Trustees	12
12. Independent Examiners Report	13
13. Summary of Annual Accounts	14 - 15
14. Notes to accounts	16 – 18

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021

### TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

#### Introduction

Stratford Methodist church is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain, situated within the Newham Circuit of churches. The Church registered, as a Charity on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009. The Charity constituted according to Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist church.

The managing trustees form the Church Council, which meets quarterly. The following Committees meets and report to Church Council: - Community Centre, Welfare, Stewards, Pastoral, Finance and Property, Worship and Youth and Adult committees.

This is the twelve year of our registration as a charity.

#### Mission Statement of Stratford Methodist Church

The mission statement of the Methodist Church as a whole is sum up in the document 'Our Calling'. "The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission".

Worship is about-

- Recognising God's sovereignty over all things and responding in praise, song and prayer
- Becoming open to God's transforming love, through the Holy Spirit
- Receiving and reflecting on the Gospel of Christ in our world today
- Offering ourselves to share in God's costly action in the world

Mission consists of:

- Telling the good news of Jesus  
Helping people to recognise the calling of God in their lives
- Living our discipleship in our world
- Caring for individual people and communities
- Sharing the task of education and social and spiritual development
- Struggling for a just world and in the meantime being alongside 'the poor'

- Becoming friends with people of different cultures and faiths
- Caring for the earth
- Building partnerships with other churches and other groups who share our mission aims.

Specific aspects of mission at Stratford Methodist Church:

- To enable our values to be realised through our Community work, the provision of services, i.e. for the elderly and parents and toddlers, the letting of rooms for community and nursery use, providing volunteering opportunities and pastoral care for local people, providing space for other churches to worship.
- To offer support and friendship to the staff and volunteers
- To support and become involved in the work of TELCO, which works towards justice in East London
- To provide a benevolent fund for people who are in particular need.
- To be aware of world and local issues and respond with God's love
- To build up our links with other churches in the neighbourhood
- To encourage people to experience Methodist worship
- To encourage church attendance and membership by example

### **Review of progress and achievements**

## **STEWARDS REPORT**

We spent nearly the whole of the financial year under Government covid -19 restrictions. The result of this situation made our Church to be locked down until the resumption of Church services in June 2021.

Thanks to all those who took it upon themselves to distribute all the foodstuffs to all the elderly within our church and the Community. Despite the restriction imposed as a result of Covid-19 pandemic, the Minister and the Chief Steward continued to phone all the Church members.

To all the Stewards, I am very grateful for your dedicated and constant selfless services.

A very special thank you is reserved for Eric Walker, although not a Church steward, kept the church building covid-19 secure throughout the lock down. Without him, the Church could not have opened in June 2021.

Lastly, we are still seeking for more stewards. Please pray and consider joining the Stewards.

Sam Agyeman Mensah  
Senior Steward

## **PROPERTY REPORT**

The property team has carried out wide range of work to all areas of community centre, church and our hostel (Wesley House) This also included work for us to be Covid - 19 secure

- Ongoing Covid -19 work - regularly cleaning in addition to our general cleaning, updated signage, installation of wall mounted hand sanitiser.
- All boilers were serviced and safety certificates issued.
- Replacement of leaking filter on the boiler for Church /Community Centre.
- CCTV Hard drive replaced
- Fire alarm and smoke detector (6 - monthly check).
- Old grey chair feet replaced to protect wooden floor.
- Two CCTV cameras and power supply replaced.
- Shelving fitting in table storeroom.
- Storeroom for tables converted into storage for our Food Bank partner (Sphere).
- 5 yearly building inspection carried out by Methodist church (Quinquennial) - we are currently waiting for the report.

### **Future Plans**

Repair and repaint the main hall.

Updating boilers with more environment friendly ones.

Repair or replacement of leaded windows or fit secondary glazing in the main church area.

Replacement of carpet and look into replacing or repairing pews in the church.

Overhauling and updating music system in the church.

Eric Walker - Property Committee

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT**

At Stratford Methodist church, we have 3 dedicated and hardworking Sunday school teachers who run variety of activities every Sundays to help our children learn more about God/Jesus and about being a Christian in a fun and exciting way.

We use a variety of resources - Roots (Methodist Church resources), Sermon 4 kids and a selection activities from the approved Christian internet websites.

All Sunday school teachers attend regular training courses to keep up to date with all the latest teaching techniques.

Our Sunday school session, take place during our church service (11.00 - 12.30pm). The children leave the main church service at about 11.20am and return towards the end service to share what they have learnt during the Sunday school sessions.

The age range is from 3 – 16 years old, where the children either work in groups or work all together on an all - age activities.

## **WESLEY HOUSE REPORT**

Stratford Methodist has leased Wesley House Hostel, which has 14 rooms to Just Homes for five years, Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes TMCP was involved in the arrangement. Just Homes is a charity, which provides help to homeless people in The London Borough of Newham, to rebuild their lives.

Just Homes reports to Wesley House Committee quarterly which reports to Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church at Church Council meetings. There is a very good working relationship between Stratford Methodist Church and Just Homes.

### **Overview:**

Just Homes are in their 4<sup>th</sup> Year of managing Wesley House and have full occupancy. The team are on site daily and have been maintaining the property very well. The council increased their funding this year and they've passed on this to us, in-line with our agreement. We have not had any meetings with Just Homes during this period, however we are in regular communications with them and issues are resolved when they arise.

Over the past 12 months, Just Homes - our outreach partner have continued to manage Wesley House. They have had full occupancy for the whole period and have provided vital accommodation to men sleeping on the street and parks around the Stratford area.

Our partnership have grown stronger during this period and thus far they are up to date in settling all their invoices. All their bills have been paid on time and they have passed on to us the funding increase allocated to them by the local authority, as per our license agreement.

Following the incident with the broken shower hose last year, new signage are in place within the showers and all residents are inducted on how to use the shower.

Furthermore, the Electric Shower with the broken hose has been replaced.

### Major Repairs

They has been one major repair over past 12 months, which was due to leaking shower trays. The root cause of the leak was "poorly supported shower tray", this led to the sealed joint between the tiles and the shower tray being broken and water escaping through the gap onto the floor below.

All 3 shower enclosures had to be dismantled and the base reinforced with timber and plywood before being re-assembled.

The current license agreement expires Oct 22, thus we have started the process with regards to it's renewal.

## COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT

The centre continues to function well with more and more enquiries daily. That said, we are very selective of who/whom the venue is hired to. The revenue generated is not as it were pre Covid - 19. Thankfully 95% of our regular users have returned and we have acquired one more regular users but lost 30% overall. That said, we receive several enquires who are willing to take their place should they fulfil the criteria. This means that our revenue is almost back to the level it was at prior to the pandemic.

All our community users are back and the major change has been teaming up with Sphere, a charity who obtain food, donations and baby items to assist the community elderly, mothers and the homeless. They currently sue the centre twice a week and provision has been made to accommodate them fully. The only outstanding challenge awaiting is to create a formal agreement for the partnership. We are also yet to obtained any information about the donations obtain via the Facebook through the night shelter organisers. There is also a notion that we could resume the night shelter back at the centre provided volunteers are obtained and re-trained. We currently run a food bank on Monday and Wednesdays. We also have a new Latin American Dance company using our premises.

We still require volunteers to assist at the community centre during the day (weekdays or weekends) as this wo help the centre immensely with enquires. Painting: We aim to complete the painting of the main hall after painting the stage area with revised quotations.

Ongoing task at present We need people to help Dorothy and Pam on Thursdays

Volunteers needed for our monthly table top sale. Changing the church carpet with the donation obtained / Deep clean church carpet Reviewing the telephone contract Temporary volunteering at the centre and long term volunteering opportunities Yet to receive all the licence in place from a few regular users as well as the insurances and reviewed safe guarding policy and personal.

**Medium to long term 12- 46 months**

Maximising the usage of our building for the purpose of what it is intended, seeking feasibility to develop the upper part of the main hall and replacing the roof

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

We give thanks to God as the year draws to a close.

Looking back, the whole world experienced an unprecedented crisis that as have been said never happened before.

The world was hit with Coronavirus 19. This prompted the governments in the world to take drastic actions in terms of lockdowns in many countries. The United Kingdom was not exempt, so we had our share of lockdown. This sudden announcement demanded that people stayed at home except front line workers.

This affected the Churches including the Stratford Methodist Church.

During that time, we followed the Government and Methodist District Office guidelines about the Covid 19 and locked our Church to safeguard all our members especially our elderly and vulnerable members. Risk Assessments were often carried out to help members stay safe.

Sadly, the church lost two of our elderly members. May their souls rest in peace with God.

At that time the Pastoral Carers and the Minister reached out to almost all the Church members regularly by phone calls to keep them company and check their welfare. The Circuit also organised Zoom Services, enabling members to Worship which really helped members Spiritual wellbeing. Again, the Church organised Bible Studies and Prayers meetings on Zoom which were very appreciated and continues till now even though we are back in Church in person.

The Church also sent out Food parcels and financial support to some of our members to show them our Christ's given love. Furthermore, the Church participated in the Easter Story in Schools on Zoom by Faith in Schools making the love and sacrifice of Christ our Lord known to pupils and teachers about Christianity as well as the Christmas Journey Story in Schools.

The Church was again involved with the Westfield Chaplaincy, chatting, listening and praying with Shopkeepers, shoppers and Hotel workers and was very appreciated just before the Covid 19 hit.

Once more the Church with Keir Hardie Methodist Church supported and filled in about 50 Christmas Shoe Boxes for less fortunate children abroad through the Samaritan Purse with donations for posting the boxes.

ON THE CHURCH PREMISES: In the Church premise, we started Foodbank led by Nicole (Which organisation is Nicole ... and some of the Church members.

Thanks to Amy, Stuart and Eric from the Church who helped regularly.

We had some Super Markets donating food to be distributed to people in the Community and beyond. Those who could not come out due to health reasons had food sent to their homes.

Thank God there was a real community spirit in looking after one another in the Church and the Community. Our Church premises was used as Hubs for School Children during holidays and continues to support school children during this Christmas holidays with cooked food and activities and gifts.

Now the Church is still worshipping physically observing the covid guidelines and pray for God's intervention for the new omicron variant to enable people to worship freely as much as possible.

However, may God's will be done in His world but to help people to be rooted more in faith in Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour.

We thank God through Christ Jesus and A big thank you to all our Church members, families and friends who have helped and supported the Churches to keep going in these difficult situations.

On behalf of my family and the Church community, I wish you all A wonderful Christmas and a Peaceful New Year that Christ Jesus brings to all those who put their trust in Him.

God bless you and all your families. Please stay safe.

Rev Elizabeth Osei  
Chairperson Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church  
Stratford Methodist Church

## **ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Full details of the results for the year are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 13 and Balance Sheet 14, and they are further analysed on pages 15 and 17.

The total income for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £100,747 and the total expenditure was £73,292 resulting in surplus of £27,455

## **RESERVES POLICY**

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money

Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs, which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s. We have agreed a Reserves Policy, which is set out below and recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report

We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money, which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Church Council

A structure for the risk based assessment of the free reserves requirement set by the Stratford Methodist Church Council. This sets the target free reserves of £200,000. This level was calculated taking into account the amount considered to be needed to enable the charity to fulfil its existing financial obligations and to future financial obligations, arising from the loss of tenants or indeterminate risks could be met. In this report for the year ended 31 August 2021 the Church Council acknowledged that free reserves were below the

At 31st August 2021, Stratford Methodist Church had total cash reserves of £173,347

These funds were held in the following account:

Central Finance Board	£151,483
Cash at Bank and in hand	<u>£ 21,864</u>
Total	<u>£173,347</u>

General Church Funds from the Church and the Community Centre are for paying annual assessments to Newham Methodist Circuit of (£30,600.00 per annum) and to pay maintenance and repair costs of a large building complex which is heavily used for community activities. Community Centre pays for expenses of running the Community Centre and unexpected loss of income from user groups. We aim to have a cash reserve of £200,000 for the Church and for the Community Centre. We currently have about £173,347 in our total reserve and we need a further £26,653 to archive our target of reserve. The reserve will cover the six months operating expense and start working through projects which have been approved by the Church Council.

*"We are followers of Jesus Christ, and we seek to enter into his thinking about wealth and its place in our life and actions both individually and collectively.*

*Continually looking to see if it is producing the fruit of the Spirit and the signs of the Kingdom. Having a sense of gratitude to God for the resources entrusted to us.*

*Applying wisdom in being good stewards of all resources.*

*Deepening a sense of trust in God's ability to provide for our needs rather than depending upon our own sense of financial security.*

*Sustaining a spirit of mutual care and the sharing of resources with one another."*

*Being faithful in using our resources in ways that release new possibilities and care for those who minister on our behalf."*

***Stewardship Network Good Practice Guide, Christian Stewardship Network***

## **Reference and Administrative information**

**CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618**

### **Officers:**

**Chairperson**–Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei

### **WEBSITE**

[www.bryantstreetmethodist.org.uk](http://www.bryantstreetmethodist.org.uk)  
E-mail-[stratfordmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stratfordmethodistchurch@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**-Isaac Ankomah

**Secretary**– Denise Sandra Walker

### **Managing Trustees:**

Rev Asif Karam – Appointed 1st September 2019

Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei- Appointed 1st September 2017

Mr Isaac Ankomah- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mrs Denise Sandra Walker- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mrs Tina Agyeman-Mensah- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mrs Margaret Marfo- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Samuel Agyeman-Mensah- Appointed 1st January 2009

Miss. Hong Nio Ho- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Solomon Oluwafemi Ijehin- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mrs. Bernice Johnson- Appointed -1st January 2009

Madame Pamela Prentice- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Edmond Simpson- Appointed 1st January 2009

Ms. Gloria Thomas – Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Eric Walker- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Atto Saah – Appointed 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Ms, Dorothy Duddy – Appointed 13 August 2017

Mr. Jones Agyeman- Appointed 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019

### **Registered Address:**

Stratford Methodist Church

Bryant Street

Stratford

London

E15 4RU

### **Bankers:**

HSBC

8 Victoria Street

Westminster

London

SW1H 0NJ

### **Independent Examiner**

Glory Community Accounting Services

318 Barking Road

London

E13 8HL

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees have responsibilities to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

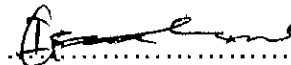
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent ; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Law. Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (Chairperson)



Isaac Ankomah (Treasurer)

Date 01-05-2022

Date 1/5/2022



Mrs Denise Sandra Walker (Secretary)

Date 1/5/2022

## Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church

I report on the attached Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2021, which are set on pages 10 to 15 and have been prepared on an accrual basis.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee and Examiner: The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;  to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement: My examination carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the 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 material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



Hasina Jahan (M Com, DFT, MAAT, MBA)  
Glory Community Accounting Services  
318 Barking Road  
London  
E13 8HL

**Glory Community Accounting Services**  
**318 Barking Road**  
**Plaistow**  
**London E13 8HL**

Date: 01/05/2022

## Summary of Annual Accounts 2020/2021

These are summary accounts and may not contain sufficient information for a full Understanding of the charity's financial affairs.

A copy of the full annual accounts is available from our registered address on request

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Income from Charitable Activities (2)	99,653	-	99,653	114,611
Investment Income (Bank Interest)	106	-	106	886
HMRC refund	988	-	988	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>100,747</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,747</b>	<b>115,497</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Expenditure on Charitable Activities (3)	73,292	-	73,292	90,040
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>73,292</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>73,292</b>	<b>90,040</b>
Net Income / (Expenditure)	27,455	-	27,455	25,457
Total Funds Brought forward	1,951,291	-	1,951,291	1,925,834
Total Funds Carried forward	<b>1,987,746</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,978,746</b>	<b>1,951,291</b>

**Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020**

		2021	2020
		£	£
<b><u>Tangible &amp; Fixed Assets</u></b>			
Church Building		1,800,000	1,800,000
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		173,347	145,891
Debtors and Pre-payment	5	7,000	7,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>180,347</u>	<u>152,891</u>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>			
Creditors and accruals (due in under 1 year)	6	1,600	1,600
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>178,747</b>	<b>151,291</b>
Total Assets less Current liabilities		<u><b>1,978,747</b></u>	<u><b>1,951,291</b></u>
<b>Total Net Assets / (Liabilities)</b>		<u><u><b>1,978,747</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>1,951,291</b></u></u>
<b>Funds and Reserves</b>			
Unrestricted Fund		1,978,747	1,951,291
Restricted Fund			
		<u><u><b>1,978,747</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>1,951,291</b></u></u>

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (Chairperson)

  
 .....  
 Isaac Ankomah (Treasurer)

Date 01/05/2022 .....

Date 1/5/2022 .....

# Notes on the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 August 2021

## 1. Accounting Policies

### (a) Format of the Financial Statements

#### Accounting framework and accounting policies

##### 1.1 Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP's 2005 version specified in its related 2008. Regulations and in accordance with the "true and fair override" provision contained therein.

##### 1.2 Public benefit entity

The Stratford Methodist Church definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

##### 1.3 Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost to show a true and fair view of the Stratford Methodist Church financial position and activities.

##### 1.4 Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. The accounts were expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

##### 1.5 Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2021, the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

##### 1.6 Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are income from Sunday Collection, lettings from Just Homes and Community Centre, donations and other activities

##### 1.7 Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are grant for specific purposes which are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year received.

## 1.8 Consolidation

The Church oversees the work of Community Centre and for this reason, the financial statements of the Church is the consolidation of the Church, Community Centre and the income from Just Homes.

## 1.9 Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue. Income is generate from offerings tax recoverable, donations, contributions for use of the premise and from Just Homes

## 1.10 Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the District to pay out resources. Expenditure is recognise in the year in which liabilities are incurred.

## 1.11 Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts pre-paid Newham Circuit as part of our assessment and Creditor is the fee for the independent accounts examiner. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit accounts balances with CFB.

## 1.12 Tangible Fixed Assets

This year a value for the church premises remains the same as the previous year. There has not been any depreciation provided or revaluation done. The figure is based on the insured value of the buildings

## 2. Income from Charitable Activities

	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Offering And Tax Recoverable	29,896	-	29,896	22,693
Lettings	69,757	-	69,757	91,919
		-		
		-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,653</b>		<b>99,653</b>	<b>114,612</b>

**penditure on Charitable Activities**

	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Circuit Assessment of Shares	30,600	-	30,600	30,600
Grants and Donations		-		1,380
Repairs and Maintenance	17,207	-	17,207	19,842
Insurance	2,895	-	2,895	2,892
Utilities	6,917	-	6,917	5,464
Other Expenditure	6,123	-	6,123	18,404
Support & Governance Cost (Notes 4)	9,550	-	9,550	9,010
Covid 19 –Opening Church,				2,447
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,292</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>73,292</b>	<b>90,040</b>

**4. Support & Governance Cost**

	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Staff Cost	8,550	-	8,550	8,010
Accountancy fee	1,000		1,000	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,550</b>	<b>9,010</b>

**5. Debtors and Prepayments**

	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Pre-payment to Methodist Circuit	7,000	-	7,000	7,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>

**6. Creditor**

	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Independent Examiner Assessment	1,000		1,000	1,000
	600	-	600	600
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>1,600</b>

**STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1127618

---

# Accounts

---

# STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2019/2020

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618



FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31<sup>ST</sup>. AUGUST 2020

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
1. Mission Statement	1
2. Stewards Report	2
3. Property Report	3
4. Sunday School Report	4
5. Wesley House	4
6. Community Centre	6
7. Chairperson Report	8
8. Annual Financial Review	11
9. Reserve Policy	11
10. Reference and Administrative information	13
11. Responsibilities of Trustees	14
12. Independent Examiners Report	15
13. Summary of Annual Accounts	16 - 17
14. Notes to accounts	18 - 20
15.	

# **STRATFORD METHODIST CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020**

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

### **Introduction**

Stratford Methodist church is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain, situated within the Newham Circuit of churches. The Church was registered, as a Charity on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009. The Charity was constituted according to Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist church.

The managing trustees form the Church Council, which meets quarterly. The following Committees meet and report to Church Council. The committees are as follows - Community Centre, Welfare, Stewards, Pastoral, Finance and Property, Worship and Youth and Adult committees.

This is the eleventh year of our registration as a charity.

### **Mission Statement of Stratford Methodist Church**

The mission statement of the Methodist Church as a whole can be summed up in the document 'Our Calling'. "The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission".

Worship is about-

- Recognising God's sovereignty over all things and responding in praise, song and prayer
- Becoming open to God's transforming love, through the Holy Spirit
- Receiving and reflecting on the Gospel of Christ in our world today
- Offering ourselves to share in God's costly action in the world

Mission consists of:

- Telling the good news of Jesus
- Helping people to recognise the calling of God in their lives

- Living our discipleship in our world
- Caring for individual people and communities
- Sharing the task of education and social and spiritual development
- Struggling for a just world and in the meantime being alongside 'the poor'
- Becoming friends with people of different cultures and faiths
- Caring for the earth
- Building partnerships with other churches and other groups who share our mission aims.

Specific aspects of mission at Stratford Methodist Church:

- To enable our values to be realised through our Community work, the provision of services, i.e. for the elderly and parents and toddlers, the letting of rooms for community and nursery use, providing volunteering opportunities and pastoral care for local people, providing space for other churches to worship.
- To offer support and friendship to the staff and volunteers
- To support and become involved in the work of TELCO, which works towards justice in East London
- To provide a benevolent fund for people who are in particular need.
- To be aware of world and local issues and respond with God's love
- To build up our links with other churches in the neighbourhood
- To encourage people to experience Methodist worship
- To encourage church attendance and membership by example

### **Review of progress and achievements**

## **STEWARDS REPORT**

The Pastoral and the Stewards had done their respective duties from the period under review until the unexpected emergency of the dreadful Covid-19

The result of this situation made our church to be locked down from end of March 2020 until the resumption in the first week of September 2020.

Thanks to all those who took it upon themselves to distribute all the foodstuffs to all the elderly within our church and the Community. We are grateful to Mr Bernie Sarhene, Mrs Bernice Johnson and Ms Florence Adu Mensah, who are now part of the Sunday Weekly Steward team.

Despite the restriction imposed as a result of Covid-19 pandemic, the Minister and the Chief Steward continue to phone all the church members. To all the Stewards, I am very grateful for your dedicated and constant selfless services.

Lastly, we are still seeking for more stewards. Please pray and consider joining the Stewards.

Sam Agyeman Mensah  
Chief Steward

### **Property Report (August 2019 - September 2020)**

Despite being closed for 5 months from March to August 20 due Covid19, the property team has carried out wide range of work to all areas of community centre, church and our hostel (Wesley House) this also included work for us to be Covid-19 secure so that, we were able to reopen in September 20.

Some of the work undertaking includes:

- Clearing and throwing out all unwanted items from the stage area and other areas of church & community spaces.
- Painted and repaired lighting/fittings on the stage in the main hall and replaced the old carpet with lino.
- Installed lighting, shelving and insulation for our container. This was part provided with a grant from Newham Council.
- Security lights (x2) fitted in the area outside area next to container.
- All boilers were serviced and safety certificates issued.
- Fire alarm, smoke detectors, emergency lighting have had their annual inspection and safety certificates issued.
- 5 yearly inspection of Electrical Installation Condition Report completed - (Jan 2020).
- Carried out Remedial electrical work that came out of the Electrical Installation Condition Report.
- All electrical items had their annual safety check (PAT - Testing).
- Replaced all standard lights at Wesley House with LED ones.
- Shelving fitted in store - room in the main hall.
- New cupboards were fitted in the David Lapworth Hall and the lounge.
- Replaced damage CCTV camera in the David Lapworth hall and replaced the TV in the main church.
- Ladies toilet refurbished.
- All doors within community centre all repainted.

## **Future Plans.**

- Update music system in the church and providing sound control for main hall.
- Update and repaint the main hall.
- Look into repairing leaded windows or fitting secondary glazing in the main church area.
- Look into replacing the flooring and the pews with chairs in the main church.

Eric Walker

Property Committee

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.**

At Stratford (Bryant Street) Methodist church, we have 3 dedicated and hardworking Sunday school teachers who run variety of activities every Sunday to help our children learn more about God and Jesus and about being a Christian in a fun and exciting way.

We use a variety of resources - Roots (Methodist Church resources), Sermon 4 kids and selection activities from the approved internet websites.

All Sunday school teachers attended regular training courses to keep up to date with all the latest teaching techniques.

Our Sunday school session, take place during our church service (11.00 - 12.30pm). The children leave the main church at about 11.20am and return towards the end service to share what they have learnt during the Sunday school sessions.

The age range is from 3 - 16year old, where the children either work in groups or work all together on an all - age activities.

Sunday school Teachers (Mr Eric Walker, Mrs Tina Mensah, Mrs Cynthia Saah)

## **WESLEY HOUSE REPORT**

Stratford Methodist has leased Wesley House Hostel, which has 14 rooms to Just Homes for five years, Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes TMCP was involved in the arrangement. Just Homes is a charity, which provides help to homeless people in The London Borough of Newham, to rebuild their lives.

Just Homes reports to Wesley House Committee quarterly which reports to Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church at Church Council meetings. There is a very good working relationship between Stratford Methodist Church and Just Homes.

### **Overview:**

Just Homes are in their 3<sup>rd</sup> Year of managing Wesley House and have full occupancy. The team are on site daily and have been maintaining the property very well. The council increased their funding this year and they've passed on this to us, in-line with our agreement. We have not had any meetings with Just Homes during this period, however we are in regular communications with them and issues are resolved when they arise.

### **Bills**

Just Homes have kept up to date with paying their invoices on time and are responsible for paying the council tax directly, however the Water, Gas, Electricity is paid to us when they receive their invoice. Following a review of the formula used for calculating the invoice for gas and electricity, an error was discovered which had been present for over 12 months, resulting in lower bill being generated. The error has subsequently been corrected and verified by Just Homes, and correct invoices have been generated since March 2020. It was agreed that the outstanding balance from the previous bill will be waived.

### **Repairs**

Modification to room into an office has been completed and has been in use for most of this year. The lighting system in the corridors has been replaced as agreed last year and there has not been any reports of bulbs blowing periodically. Apart from this, there has not been any major repairs this year. In May, one of the circuit breakers in the consumer unit for the electric showers blew and had to be replaced. Other issues included lack of the hot water supplies in some of the rooms but these have been sorted out. There is ongoing investigation into the radiator thermostat for Wesley House as the heating came on during the summer when it was not supposed to.

### **Major Incident**

A resident was scolded by hot water because of a burst shower hose in August 2019 and a full investigation has been completed. The resident has issued a claim against Just Homes for negligence and the case is now with their lawyers. Upon request from Just Homes, we have provided information about the installation of the Showers Units and any repairs/ maintenance history. We await the outcome of this litigation.

Wesley House Committee Co-Ordinator (Mr Jones Agyeman)

## COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT

At Bryant Street/Stratford community centre, we have two small rooms & 2 halls available for hire by our local community for a variety of events from parties, exercise & dance classes, large community events, youth group meetings, prayer meetings and for Sunday worship.

We have eight churches and nine regular user groups that use the centre every week, we also have several enquires each week for our spaces at the centre.

The community centre has a table top sale every 3rd Saturday of the month and we also run a lunch club every Thursday – once a month a representative from the local council visits to give a talk on a range of topics (health, financial matters and other services the council offers).

Our income for this year has been in line with previous years until we had to close due to the Covid – 19 pandemic where the community had no income for 5 months.

During the period of the centre being closed we worked really hard to keep in touch with all users of the centre via email, regular telephone calls and Zoom meetings.

The community centre also worked with Newham Food Alliance and Sphere Support CIC to run a food bank during the period of lockdown where we provided food for delivery and collection by the local community.

With regard to building and maintenance work in 2019/20 please see property report on Page 2 but we would like to highlight some of the work that has been done at the Community Centre.

1. Refurbished the women's toilet.
2. Painted and updated lighting of the stage area in the main hall.
3. Painted all doors around the community centre.
4. Painted and repaired areas of the main hall.
5. Getting the building, Covid -19 secure so that we could re- open our building and the main church.

The community centre finally re – opened on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

Three (3) churches and two (2) support groups have returned other churches and user groups felt it was too early for them to come back.

We hope that all our regular user groups will return in the near future.

We have had three new user groups who will be starting with us from September 2020.

- (1) Over 60 keep fit, (2) Lyric Dance School. (3) Stratford Karate Club.

A fourth group - Sphere Support CIC will be running the school holiday lunch and activities club from the October half -term holiday. This club we run through until end of August 2021.

The team that help to run and manage the community centre are Revd Elizabeth Osei, Mr David Mensah, Mr Eric Walker, Ms Amy Fisher, Mr Stuart Taylor, Ms Dorothy Duddy and Mr Frank Sewell.

Centre Management Committee Secretary (Mr Eric Walker)

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

We give thanks and praise to God Most High for protecting us and families to now.

I hope you will agree with me that we all started the year 2020 with hopeful expectations.

However, we all have seen that nobody knows what the future holds.

Hardly did anyone dream or know that the whole world would go into lockdown and come to a halt of almost all activities of the economy.

I asked some very Senior Citizens with advanced age thinking they would be able to share light on what the world started experiencing since mid-March 2020. They all said that, in all their lifetime, they had not experienced anything like the COVID 19 experience before.

Again, this shows that the world does not belong to us as human beings. Instead, it belongs to the one who created it and knows its future – God Most High in Christ Jesus. To Him be glory forever.

From last year September 2019, the Church continued to be part of Faith in Schools where the Ministers invited to join Faith in Schools' staff and other Multi Faith Leaders in Schools to share the Gospel of Christ and experiences as Christians and what the Bible says about life after death. It was such fun and amazing to learn from the pupils' perception about death.

The Minister represented the Church in TELCO meetings eg in Anchor House to discuss and lobby the Politicians to provide affordable accommodation for people on low income and to pay workers decent London wages to help them make ends meet for poor families .

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of September, the Newham Circuit welcomed our Superintendent Rev Asif Karam and Rev. Nigel Lindsay. They replaced Rev Nicola Vidamore who left to Milton Keynes.

There were Pastoral visits by the Minister to the Nursing Home in Keir Hardie to lead Services and Holy Communion and to chat with the Senior Citizens there which were such delight as they felt comfortable and shared stories of their past. Some were also prayed with at their request including some of the staff.

The Minister paid pastoral visit to children in the Hospital eg the Great Ormond Street prayed and shared the Gospel of Christ's love and comfort in times of difficulties with some families.

There were weekly visits to the Westfield Shopping Centre to chat and check on the wellbeing of the Holiday Hotel Workers and Staff in other Shops and prayed with some of them at their request.

The Minister joined the Ghana Fellowship Night Vigil Prayers once a month, praying for all members and the Methodist Church as a whole as well as for world peace.

Apart from the above activities, the minister led regular Sunday Services in the various Churches within the Circuit including her own three Churches namely Stratford, Keir Hardie and Stratford Newtown Methodist Church in the evenings. She also led Weekly Bible Studies and Prayers for the Older Adults in the morning and for the Youth in the evening, which were well attended.

In addition to that Funerals, Weddings, Baptisms and Confirmation were conducted in the Church and the Community by the Minister on request.

There were meetings for Faith Leaders in Newham which the minister attended as part of belonging to the Ecumenical Churches to shine the light of Christ in Newham.

The minister is part of the Inspire Chaplaincy Team and Street Pastors who meet to share the Gospel of Christ with the Community and the Homeless and sign post enquirers to places for social support.

The Stratford Methodist Church is part of the Night Shelter helping to accommodate the Homeless during the winter months on voluntary basis

The Church also donated £1,280.00 to support Zimbabwe during the Cyclone that devastated the Country,

During the Christmas, the Church organised Christmas Party and exchanged gifts in the form of Secret Santa to bring laughter and joy to the Church Community.

Some Volunteers in the Church run a Weekly Thursday Lunch Club and Conversation Café' with Chair Exercises, to encourage people from the community to socialise and this is supported by one of the Newham Counsellors'- Shah Lakmini.

Since March 2020, you will agree with me that as a congregation we have not been able to do much together because of the Covid 19 lock down for almost six months.

Throughout those periods, the Minister organised Zoom Services every Sunday for our two Churches and friends who wanted to link in. Pastoral calls to check on members' wellbeing were made and food parcels sent to the Senior Citizens in the Church Community

'You tube' Services were also organised for the Circuit in which many members were encouraged to join and participate since no one was allowed to come to the Church physically due to the COVID19 virus which plagued the world.

A big 'Thank You' to all those who were involved in the Church Services. Up till now, some

people have expressed a longing to continue the Zoom Services even though the Church has reopened. The Ministers are thinking of a way to incorporate that to our normal Sunday Services to benefit those who are still shielding at home.

So, we need 'IT Experts' to help us start Live Services again from the Church. Please speak to Elizabeth the Minister or Eric if you can help.

During the lockdown, I believe a lot of people did a lot of things to keep themselves busy and others like myself were very busy attending Zoom meetings and Trainings on line like Bereavement Support, Unconscious Bias, Best Practise, Children's Ministry, Newham Council various meetings for Champions and a lot more. For me I thank God for helping me to use my time well, and more especially doing more than I could physically go to places for meetings and trainings.

My sincere thanks go to some of our members who worked hard behind the scenes to prepare the Church to be reopened. It is good not to mention names lest I leave out somebody. I thank God for them and pray God is blessing over them and their families.

Thank you to everyone who have contributed financially to the Church to enable us meet our financial obligations and all those who continue to support the Church in various ways.

Even though the Church has reopened, there are still uncertainties in the country today due to the Covid 19 pandemic. However, we are hopeful that our God through Christ Jesus who loves us and has seen us through all these difficult days will continue to see us through. In addition, as the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Ephesians says: 3:17- 18 " I pray that Christ will make His home in your hearts through faith. I pray that you may have your roots and foundation in love, so that you, together with all God's people may have the power to understand how broad and long, how high and deep is Christ love" for you (Good News Bible)

Let us therefore, hold on tight to the faith we profess and continue to ask Christ Jesus to help and give us the strength to finish the race set before us with confidence and joy, knowing that our work in Christ will never be in vain.

Thank you and May God bless you all richly.

Rev Elizabeth Osei  
Chairperson Trustees of Stratford Methodist Church  
Stratford Methodist Church

## **ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Full details of the results for the year are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 16 and Balance Sheet 17, and they are further analysed on pages 18 and 20.

The total income for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £115,497 and the total expenditure was £90,040 resulting in surplus of £25,457

## **RESERVES POLICY**

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money

Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs, which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s. We have agreed a Reserves Policy, which is set out below and was recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report

We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money, which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Church Council

A structure for the risk based assessment of the free reserves requirement was set by the Stratford Methodist Church Council. This sets the target free reserves of £160,000. This level was calculated taking into account the amount considered to be needed to enable the charity to fulfil its existing financial obligations and to future financial obligations, arising from the loss of tenants or indeterminate risks could be met. In this report for the year ended 31 August 2020 the Church Council acknowledged that free reserves were below the

At 31st August 2020, Stratford Methodist Church had total cash reserves of £145,891

These funds were held in the following account:

Central Finance Board	£121,377
Cash at Bank and in hand	<u>£ 24,514</u>
Total	<b><u>£145,891</u></b>

General Church Funds from the Church and the Community Centre are for paying annual assessments to Newham Methodist Circuit of (£30,600.00 per annum) and to pay maintenance and repair costs of a large building complex which is heavily used for community activities. Community Centre pays for expenses of running the Community Centre and unexpected loss of income from user groups. We aim to have a cash reserve of £180,000 for the Church and for the Community Centre. We currently have about £145,891 in our total reserve and we need a further £34,109 to archive our target of reserve. The reserve will cover the six months operating expense and start working through projects which have been approved by the Church Council.

*"We are followers of Jesus Christ, and we seek to enter into his thinking about wealth and its place in our life and actions both individually and collectively.*

*Continually looking to see if it is producing the fruit of the Spirit and the signs of the Kingdom. Having a sense of gratitude to God for the resources entrusted to us.*

*Applying wisdom in being good stewards of all resources.*

*Deepening a sense of trust in God's ability to provide for our needs rather than depending upon our own sense of financial security.*

*Sustaining a spirit of mutual care and the sharing of resources with one another."*

*Being faithful in using our resources in ways that release new possibilities and care for those who minister on our behalf."*

***Stewardship Network Good Practice Guide, Christian Stewardship Network***

## **Reference and Administrative information**

**CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER – 1127618**

**Officers:**

**Chairperson**–Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei

**Treasurer**-Isaac Ankomah

**Secretary**– Denise Sandra Walker

**Managing Trustees:**

Rev Asif Karam – Appointed 1st September 2019

Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei- Appointed 1st September 2017

Mr Isaac Ankomah- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mrs Denise Sandra Walker- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mrs Tina Agyeman-Mensah- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mrs Margaret Marfo- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Samuel Agyeman-Mensah- Appointed 1st January 2009

Miss. Hong Nio Ho- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Solomon Oluwafemi Ijehin- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mrs. Bernice Johnson- Appointed -1st January 2009

Madame Pamela Prentice- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Edmond Simpson- Appointed 1st January 2009

Ms. Gloria Thomas – Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Eric Walker- Appointed 1st January 2009

Mr. Atto Saah – Appointed 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Ms, Dorothy Duddy – Appointed 13 August 2017

Mr. Jones Agyeman- Appointed 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019

**Registered Address:**

Stratford Methodist Church

Bryant Street

Stratford

London

E15 4RU

**Bankers:**

HSBC

8 Victoria Street

Westminster

London

SW1H 0NJ

**Independent Examiner**

Glory Community Accounting Services

318 Barking Road

Plaistow

London

E13 8HL

**WEBSITE**

[www.bryantstreetmethodist.org.uk](http://www.bryantstreetmethodist.org.uk)  
E-mail-[stratfordmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stratfordmethodistchurch@gmail.com)

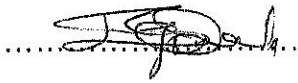
## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees have responsibilities to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent ; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Law. Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (**Chairperson**)



Isaac Ankomah (**Treasurer**)

Date... 20/02/2021

Date... 20/02/2021



Mrs Denise Sandra walker (**Secretary**)

Date... 20/2/2021

## Independent Examiners Report to the Members of Stratford Methodist Church

I report on the attached Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020, which are set on pages 10 to 15 and have been prepared on an accrual basis.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee and Examiner: The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;  to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement: My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the 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 material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



Hasina Jahan (M Com, DFT, MAAT, MBA)  
Glory Community Accounting Services  
318 Barking Road Plaistow  
London  
E13 8HL

**Glory Community Accounting Services**  
**318 Barking Road**  
**Plaistow**  
**London E13 8HL**

Date: 20/02/21

## Summary of Annual Accounts 2019/2020

These are summary accounts and may not contain sufficient information for a full Understanding of the charity's financial affairs.

A copy of the full annual accounts is available from our registered address on request

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st August 2020

	2020	2020	2020	2019
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Income from Charitable Activities (2)	114,611	-	114,611	189,544
Investment Income (Bank Interest)	886	-	886	716
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>115,497</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>115,497</b>	<b>190,260</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
Expenditure on Charitable Activities (3)	90,040	-	90,040	161,666
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>90,040</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>90,040</b>	<b>161,666</b>
Net Income / (Expenditure)	25,457	-	25,457	28,594
Total Funds Brought forward	1,925,834	-	1,925,834	1,897,241
Total Funds Carried forward	<b>1,951,291</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,951,291</b>	<b>1,925,835</b>

**Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020**

	2020	2019
	£	£
<b><u>Tangible &amp; Fixed Assets</u></b>		
Church Building	1,800,000	1,800,000
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>		
Cash at bank and in hand	145,891	119,835
Debtors and Pre-payment	5      7,000	7,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>152,891</u>	<u>126,835</u>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>		
Creditors and accruals (due in under 1 year)	6      1,600	1,000
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>151,291</b>	<b>125,835</b>
<b>Total Assets less Current liabilities</b>	<b><u>1,951,291</u></b>	<b><u>1,925,835</u></b>
<b>Total Net Assets / (Liabilities)</b>	<b><u>1,951,291</u></b>	<b><u>1,925,835</u></b>
<b>Funds and Reserves</b>		
Unrestricted Fund	1,951,291	1,925,835
Restricted Fund		
	<u>1,951,291</u>	<u>1,925,835</u>

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
  
**Rev Elizabeth Owusu Osei (Chairperson)**

.....  
  
**Isaac Ankomah (Treasurer)**

Date..... 20/02/2021.....

Date..... 20-02-2021.....

# **Notes on the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 August 2020**

## **1. Accounting Policies**

### **(a) Format of the Financial Statements**

#### **Accounting framework and accounting policies**

##### **1.1 Accounting framework**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP's 2005 version specified in its related 2008. Regulations and in accordance with the “true and fair override” provision contained therein.

##### **1.2 Public benefit entity**

The Stratford Methodist Church definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

##### **1.3 Basis**

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost to show a true and fair view of the Stratford Methodist Church financial position and activities.

##### **1.4 Content**

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. The accounts were expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

##### **1.5 Going concern**

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2020, the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

##### **1.6 Unrestricted Funds**

Unrestricted funds are income from Sunday Collection, lettings from Just Homes and Community Centre, donations and other activities

##### **1.7 Restricted Funds**

Restricted funds are grant for specific purposes which are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year received.

## 1.8 Consolidation

The Church oversees the work of Community Centre and for this reason, the financial statements of the Church is the consolidation of the Church, Community Centre and the income from Just Homes.

## 1.9 Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue. Income is generate from offerings tax recoverable, donations, contributions for use of the premises and from Just Homes

## 1.10 Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the paymer being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the District to pay out resources. Expenditure is recognise in the year in which liabilities are incurred.

## 1.11 Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts pre-paid Newham Circuit as part of our assessment and Creditor is the fee for the independent accounts examiner. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit accounts balances with CFB.

## 1.12 Tangible Fixed Assets

This year a value for the church premises remains the same as the previous year. There has not been any depreciation provided or revaluation done. The figure is based on the insured value of the buildings

## 2. Income from Charitable Activities

	2020	2020	2020	2019
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Offering And Tax Recoverable	22,693	-	22,693	33,102
Lettings	91,919	-	91,919	156,442
Other income	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>114,612</b>		<b>114,612</b>	<b>189,544</b>

### 3. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	2020	2020	2020	2019
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Circuit Assessment of Shares	30,600	-	30,600	30,600
Grants and Donations	1,380	-	1,380	2,661
Repairs and Maintenance	19,842	-	19,842	72,761
Insurance	2,892	-	2,892	2,828
Utilities	5,464	-	5,464	16,833
Other Expenditure	18,404	-	18,404	21,661
Support & Governance Cost (Notes 4)	9,010	-	9,010	14,322
Covid 19 –Opening Church,	2,447	-	2,447	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>90,040</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>90,040</b>	<b>161,666</b>

### 4. Support & Governance Cost

	2020	2020	2020	2019
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Staff Cost	8,010	-	8,010	13,322
Accountancy fee	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,010</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,010</b>	<b>14,322</b>

### 5. Debtors and Prepayments

	2020	2020	2020	2019
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Pre-payment to Methodist Circuit	7,000	-	7,000	7,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>

### 6. Creditor

	2020	2020	2020	2019
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Independent Examiner Assessment	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	600	-	600	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1600</b>	<b>1000</b>