

PRIORY METHODIST CHURCH, BEDFORD
Registered Charity no. 1127751

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year ended 31 August 2025

**Priory Methodist Church, Bedford, was consecrated in June 1969.
It took its name from the Augustinian Priory of St Paul of Newnham,
which was situated in the locality and was dissolved in 1541.**

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Year ended 31 August 2025

1 Objectives and activities

Priory Methodist Church is rooted in the earliest days of Methodism, with visits to Bedford by John Wesley. In 1969, two congregations came together as a worshipping community in the present premises. Priory is part of the North Bedfordshire Circuit of churches, and through the District to the wider Methodist Connexion. We are also part of an ecumenical triangle with St. Mary's, Goldington and Holy Cross. Priory is committed to serve the needs of the locality, through worship and service, and to share the love of God with all those we meet.

Our purpose is to serve God in the world, using our buildings, skill and faith for the good of all. We commit ourselves to building relationships and to understanding our neighbours so that we may love and serve others.

As ways towards realizing this priority, we will give particular attention to the following:

- Underpinning everything, we do with God-centred worship and prayer
- Supporting community development and action for justice, especially among the most deprived and poor - in Britain and worldwide
- Developing confidence in evangelism and in the capacity to speak of God and faith in ways that make sense to all involved
- Encouraging fresh ways of being Church
- Nurturing a culture in the Church which is people-centred and flexible

Each year we try to think through the specifics of how to put our principal objectives into action. The Priory Leadership Team devises a series of aims under each of the three 'Positive Priory' headings. This list forms the basis of the agenda each time the PLT meets. In addition, the objectives are reviewed at least annually by the Church Council. Aims and objectives are then retained, revised, or new ones set to take us into the next year of our life together.

Public Benefit Statement:

The managing trustees of Priory Methodist Church confirm that they are satisfied that they have complied with their duty with regards to ensuring that the Charity has undertaken suitable works for the benefit of the public; as required by the Charity Commission.

2 Achievements and Performance

We have both long-term and short-term objectives in the following areas: Inspiring Worship, Building Community, and Sharing Faith with the local and wider community.

Examples being:

- Regular Sunday Worship, including open air services
- Joint services with Putnoe Heights Methodist Church at least once a quarter.
- Eternal Light and Junior Church for young people once a month

- A variety of clubs, groups and meetings open to the Church and local community
- Food & Fun club running as an outreach initiative during each school holiday.

Priory is very fortunate in that its premises continue to be widely used by both its own groups and many different outside organisations. For the year to which this statement relates this includes a local ballet school a weekly choir, a dementia group as well as several NHS self-help groups, in total there are some 20 regular groups that hire the premises plus numerous birthday parties. All users find a well-equipped and friendly environment in which to meet. Of course, none of the above could happen at Priory without the continued generosity of its members, both in their regular weekly giving and, in their donations, and legacies.

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Year ended 31 August 2025

3 Financial Review

At the start of the financial year to 31 August 2025 the Church Council formally adopted a projected budget deficit of £21,515 however, due to a number of factors we finished the year with a deficit of £13,326. This meant that our general fund (which includes our reserves) decreased to £115,888.

The biggest thing to happen financially was in March 2025 when we completed on the sale of the former caretaker's bungalow, which increased our general funds by just over £137,000. It has been agreed by the managing trustees to designate this fund such that up to £50,000 can be used on the property with the rest to hopefully be used for an outreach programme, or community worker.

In June 2025 we were also very fortunate to be left 2 unrestricted legacies totalling £12,789. In November 2024 we spent £5,400 from our restricted organ fund on a major clean and inspection of the organ to ensure that it remains in as best a condition as it can.

Another large expenditure was incurred in May 2025 when we needed to replace 2 of our 3 boilers at a cost of £13,326, this was partly offset by obtaining a grant of £5,000 from The William Butterfield Trust; a local charity which helps out Methodist churches.

In terms of our normal income and expenditure our lettings income proved to be some £6,700 higher than we had budgeted for, together with our expenditure being lower than anticipated. This was mainly due to our cleaner being off ill for several months and where church volunteers stepped in to carry out the required cleaning.

We also lost several of our long-standing members who have faithfully donated to the church on a monthly basis for many years and where the annual total of the lost giving equates to some £10,000.

Throughout the year we have continued with our coffee mornings to provide some fellowship and help raise funds for international, national and local causes. When we take into account gift aid which can be claimed on the donations plus small transfers from our Benevolence Fund, we have raised over £7,500.

Most of our other streams of income and expenditure were in line with the budgeted figures. The Priory Leadership Team and the Leadership Forum with the managing trustees in the form of the Church Council continue to meet frequently to ensure that the finances and impacts on it are monitored and understood.

3.1 Reserves Policy

It is the recommended policy of 'The Methodist Church' to hold at least the equivalent of six months general expenditure in reserve; such an amount would provide working capital to cover fluctuations in income and expenditure and meet emergency calls on cash, for example for emergency repairs. At present this is a figure which Priory is meeting and at 31 August 2025 the general reserves stood at £115,888.

3.2 Use of Funds

Designated Funds: These are held for use in property maintenance, outreach and benevolent needs, the latter at the discretion of the Minister of the church.

Restricted Funds: These are funds that have been raised for specific purposes.

Both these types of funds are added to and used throughout the year.

We do not hold funds as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

4 Trustees' responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31 August the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees have:

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Year ended 31 August 2025

- Selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently using the accruals method
- Made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- Followed applicable accounting standards
- Prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis
- Prepared financial statements to comply with SORP 2019

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

5 Structure, governance and management

The Methodist Church holds Excepted Status under Statutory Instrument 2002 No 1598, however on the 28 January 2009 Priory Methodist Church Bedford became a 'Registered Charity' in its own right due to the requirements of the 2006 Charities Act.

Priory Methodist Church is now part of the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District of the Methodist Connexion of Great Britain: prior to 1 September 2006, when the London Districts were reorganised, Priory was a part of the Bedford (North) Circuit of the London North West District of the Methodist Connexion of Great Britain.

5.1 Governance

The governing body of Priory Methodist Church is the Church Council. Its members are the managing trustees for both Methodist and Charity Commission purposes. Normal practice is for it to meet four times a year and exceptional purpose meetings where required.

Members are appointed to the Church Council by the Annual Church meeting of members, normally serving for a term of six years.

5.2 Management

The Priory Leadership Team (appointed by the Church Council) is set up to focus on strategic planning and the vision for Priory.

There are a number of committees, e.g. Finance, Property, Worship etc. who meet on a regular basis to deal with the normal everyday running of the Church.

All policy decisions being referred back to the Church Council for ratification.

6 Reference and Administrative Details

6.1 Name of the Charity

Priory Methodist Church

6.2 Charity registration number

1127751, registered in England and Wales

6.3 Principal Office

The address of Priory Methodist Church and of the Church Office is
63 Newnham Avenue,
Bedford,
MK41 9QJ

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Year ended 31 August 2025

6.4 Minister

Revd Chris Sandy (from September 2024)

6.5 Church Council Secretary

Mrs Margaret Brown (from Oct 2021)

6.6 Treasurer

Mr Keith Gaunt (from September 2019)

6.7 Membership of the Priory Church Council

Members of the Church Council are the Managing Trustees of Priory Methodist Church. The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the Church, including the management of its property. Membership includes the Minister, the Leadership Team, the Senior Worship Steward, Treasurer, Secretary, Secretary of the Pastoral Committee, one Circuit Steward, representatives appointed by the Annual Church Council, and additional persons appointed to the Council to ensure that all areas of the Church's life are adequately represented.

Members of the Church Council and Managing Trustees in the year 2024-25

Chairman	Revd Chris Sandy (from Sept 2024)
Secretary	Margaret Brown (from Oct 21)
Church Treasurer	Keith Gaunt (from Sep 19)
Leadership Team	Karen Gaunt (from Jun 22)
Leadership Team	Colin Watts (from Jun 22)
Leadership Team	Carmen Rowe (from Jun 22)
Pastoral Secretary	Jenny Lloyd (from Apr 19)

Church Council Representatives to the Circuit Meeting

Carmen Rowe (from Aug 15)
Margaret Brown (from April 25)

Church Representatives to the Church Council

Tsatu Ametefe (from Mar 14)
Barbara Barlow (from Mar 15)
Kathy Lewis (from June 14)
Hazel Warner (from April 23 – April 25)
Jenny Wood (from April 23)
Lorraine Kalyan (from April 23)
Christine Hearn (from April 23)
Neville Ponsett (from April 25 – Aug 25)

Additional Representatives to the Church Council

Liz Little – Worship Consultation (from Mar 14)
Colin Watts – Eternal Light (from Mar 20)
Lynn Gound – Safeguarding officer (from Mar 20)
Sue Gordon – Administrator (from Feb 23)
Jasine Belinfante – Senior Worship Steward (from Feb 23)

Circuit Steward Representative to Church Council and a Managing Trustee of Priory

Jane McVey (from Sept 19)

Minister

Revd Chris Sandy (from Sept 24)
Revd Michael Giles – Superintendent (from Sept 22 – Aug 25)

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Year ended 31 August 2025

6.8 Bankers and Deposit Holders

Santander UK Plc, BBAM, Bridle Road, Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, 9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE.
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ.

6.9 Insurers

Methodist Insurance plc, St Ann's House, St Ann's Place, Manchester, M2 7LP.

6.10 Independent Examiner

Karen Dyer FCCA, GKP (Amphill) Limited, First Floor, 3 Doolittle Yard, Froghall Road, Amphill, Bedfordshire MK45 2NW

Approvals

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the Church Council on: 28th Nov 2024



Rev Chris Sandy
Chair of Church Council and a Managing Trustee

Date: 28/11/2024

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Year ended 31 August 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

to the Trustees of Priory Methodist Church, Bedford - A registered Charity.

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the Financial Statements of Priory Methodist Church, Bedford – A Registered Charity (the Trust) for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

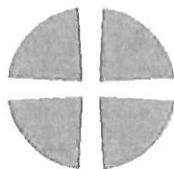
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the Financial Statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the Financial Statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of Financial Statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the Financial Statements give and true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the Financial Statements to be reached.



Mrs Karen Dyer FCCA
For an on behalf of
GKP (Amphill) Limited
First Floor
3 Doolittle Yard
Froghall Road
Amphill
Bedfordshire
MK45 2NW

Date: 8 May 2026



Church
Accruals Accounts
2024-25

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
ACCRUALS BASIS

for the year ended 31 August 2025

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford

Registered Charity - Registration number

1127751

BEDFORDSHIRE (NORTH) CIRCUIT	no 34/1
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Minister

Revd Chris Sandy

Church Stewards

Karen Gaunt

Colin Watts

Carmen Rowe

Treasurer

Keith Gaunt

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2025	Totals 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Church building and other property	8	-	1,853,606		1,853,606	2,017,099
Investments	9	4,961	137,265	-	236	4,987
Total fixed assets		4,961	1,990,871	-	236	2,022,086

Current Assets

Debtors and prepayments	10	22,576	-	-	-	22,576	25,005
Central Finance Board Deposits		86,026		28,141	-	114,167	133,658
Cash at Bank and in hand		4,560	1,261	475	-	6,296	6,772
Total current assets		113,162	1,261	28,616	-	143,039	165,435

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	11	2,235	-	-	-	2,235	6,339
Total current liabilities		2,235	-	-	-	2,235	6,339
Net current assets/liabilities		110,927	1,261	28,616	-	140,804	159,096

Total assets less current liabilities		115,888	1,992,132	28,616	236	2,136,872	2,181,182
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Net assets		115,888	1,992,132	28,616	236	2,136,872	2,181,182
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Funds of the Church

General Fund (Unrestricted)		115,888	-	-	-	115,888	129,214
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		-	1,992,132	-	-	1,992,132	2,018,313
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,108,020	2,147,527
Restricted Funds	13	-	-	28,616	-	28,616	33,419
Endowment Funds		-	-	-	236	236	236
Total Funds		115,888	1,992,132	28,616	236	2,136,872	2,181,182

The Financial Statements we approved by the Board of Trustees on 28th April 2026

and were signed on its behalf by:

Christopher Sandy



Minister

Keith Gaunt



Church Treasurer

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes to the financial statements	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£	
Income							
Offerings		41,824				41,824	46,060
Donations		1,091	425	7,508		9,024	8,239
Gift aid		10,669				10,669	11,982
Interest and investment income		4,438	2,025	1,292		7,755	7,059
Income from property lettings		44,140				44,140	65,051
Internal organisations				186		186	250
Legacies		12,789				12,789	-
Other charitable income	2	631	5,000			5,631	943
Total income		115,582	7,450	8,986	-	132,018	139,584
Expenditure							
Circuit assessment or share		60,000				60,000	60,000
Loss on disposal of bungalow	8		13,653			13,653	-
Legal fees	8		14,600			14,600	-
Grants and donations	3	3,150	278	7,508		10,936	9,595
Property maintenance		1,147	23,508	5,400		30,055	21,056
Insurance, utilities etc	4	17,709				17,709	18,417
Salaries and associated costs	5	24,230				24,230	22,668
Office expenses		1,824				1,824	2,857
Other expenditure	6	2,440		639		3,079	4,458
Internal organisations				242		242	222
Total charitable expenditure		110,500	52,039	13,789	-	176,328	139,273
Net income/(expenditure)		5,082	(44,589)	(4,803)	-	(44,310)	311
Transfers between funds		(18,408)	18,408			-	-
Other gains/(losses)						-	-
Net movement in funds		(13,326)	(26,181)	(4,803)	-	(44,310)	311
Total funds brought forward		129,214	2,018,313	33,419	236	2,181,182	2,180,871
Total funds carried forward		115,888	1,992,132	28,616	236	2,136,872	2,181,182

1 Accounting policies

Basis of Preparing the Financial Statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice' applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and the Charities Act 2011.

These financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Church's financial position and activities.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated below.

Going concern

The church employs a part time administrator to maximise the use of the premises during the week with paid room lettings, which supplement the regular donations from church members. Although the list of hirers does fluctuate year to year the trustees believe the market is robust, and thus the charity will continue to operate as a going concern.

Income recognition

Income is brought into the financial statements when the church becomes entitled to the resources; the trustees are virtually certain that they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Church to the expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of resources will be required in settlement and the monetary value can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis by nature of the expenses incurred.

Tangible fixed assets

Assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1000. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt. Provision is made for depreciation where appropriate to ensure the cost less residual value is written off over their useful economic lives on a straight line basis.

The freehold property is disclosed in the financial statements at cost. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the residual value of the building is not less than this carried valuation and it is maintained to a standard to ensure this residual value.

Investments

The investments are in monetary assets and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. Investment income is included in the financial statements when receivable. The unrealised gains arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds are held for use in repairs & maintenance, outreach and benevolent needs, the latter at the discretion of the Minister of the church.

Restricted and designated funds are added to and used throughout the year.

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
2 Other Charitable Income					
This includes Fundraising activities undertaken within the church and by church members to the benefit of various Funds administered by the Church.					
Coffee & Tea Donations	233			233	253
Sale of items/ Library contributions	398			398	690
Grant from Butterfield Trust towards boilers		5,000		5,000	-
	<u>631</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,631</u>	<u>943</u>

3 Grants and Donations

These are sums given to Connexional Funds, Charities and Projects in year.

Methodist Church Fund	3,000			3,000	3,000
All We Can/ Fund for World Mission			76	76	75
DEC/ Red Cross crisis appeals			300	300	400
Macmillan coffee morning			500	500	550
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal				-	140
3rd Bedford Boys Brigade			954	954	741
Girl Guiding			885	885	450
Zimbabwe Victim Support fund				-	800
IMPAKT/ SMART Prebend Centre			550	550	250
Other	150		4,243	4,393	2,760
Outreach activities: including Benevolent Fund					
		278		278	429
	<u>3,150</u>	<u>278</u>	<u>7,508</u>	<u>10,936</u>	<u>9,595</u>

4 Insurance, Utilities etc

Insurance				6,562	6,405
Refuse Collection				241	241
Electricity, Gas				8,864	10,148
Water				1,357	1,160
Telephone				685	463
				<u>17,709</u>	<u>18,417</u>

5 Salaries and associated costs

Gross salary paid to one (2024: 1) employee was as follows:

Gross Pay		23,439	21,946
Employer's Pension contributions to defined contribution scheme		791	722
		<u>24,230</u>	<u>22,668</u>

The Employer's National Insurance Contribution in year was fully covered by the government allowance.

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial; the holiday year ends 31 August in line with the Financial Year.

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
6 Other expenditure					
Junior Church & Youth Work				-	75
Worship resources, Communion wine, African Palms etc	259			259	1,703
Music and copyright licences			474	474	908
Organ and piano tuning			165	165	165
Costs of income generation	261			261	407
Annual Financial Statements inspection charge (note 7)	1,920			1,920	1,200
Other				-	-
	<u>2,440</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>639</u>	<u>3,079</u>	<u>4,458</u>

7 Fees for examination or audit of the financial statements

Independent examiner's for reporting on the financial statements	1,920	1,200
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner		
	<u>1,920</u>	<u>1,200</u>

8 Church buildings and other property

	Freehold Property £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Balance brought forward at 1 September 2024, at cost	1,950,099	67,000	2,017,099
Additions	-	-	-
Disposal of "Caretaker's Bungalow"	(163,493)	-	(163,493)
Balance carried forward at 31 August 2025, at cost	<u>1,786,606</u>	<u>67,000</u>	<u>1,853,606</u>
Loss on disposal of fixed assets:			
Sale proceeds	200,000		
Connexional Priority Fund levy paid	(50,160)		
	<u>149,840</u>		
Value of bungalow in balance sheet	163,493		
Loss on disposal	(13,653)		
Legal fees	(14,600)		
Total	<u>(28,253)</u>		

The Bungalow was a private dwelling on a corner of the freehold site of the church, and was previously used as the primary residence of the caretaker when the church employed someone in this role. In the absence of a separate cost for the bungalow the value disposed from the fixed assets has been taken to be the insurance valuation as at 1 September 2024. As this was not a replacement project the sale was subject to the Connexional Priority Fund levy.

9 Investments

The funds that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and polity as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Analysis of investment movements

Change in investment values

Carrying (market) value at beginning of
Add: additions to investments at cost
Add: investment of net proceeds from property sale
Carrying (market) value at end of year

This year Prev year
£ £

4,987	4,756
2,235	231
135,240	0
142,462	4,987

Total 2025 Total 2024
£ £

10 Debtors: amounts due within one year

HM Revenue and Customs, Gift Aid to August 2025
Circuit Quarterly Assessment, Sept to Dec 2025
Sundry Debtors
Prepayments

4,761	5,599
15,000	15,000
2,274	3,834
541	572
<u>22,576</u>	<u>25,005</u>

11 Creditors: amounts due within one year

Sundry Creditors
Accruals

375	5,139
1,860	1,200
<u>2,235</u>	<u>6,339</u>

12 Funds

Endowment Fund

This fund - HC Dunham Bequest - is restricted by deed and the capital value cannot be spent. However the income earned on the capital can be used each year. Income from this fund was used for futherance of General Church purposes.

Restricted Funds

These are funds donated to the church for a specific purpose, and must be utilised for this purpose only.

Retiring & other collection Donations given in response to specific calls and events during the church year to be passed on to other beneficiaries.

Organ Fund Funds in the event of a major restoration of the organ, and to ensure ongoing provision of music in support of worship.

Various Church Groups Groups with separate financial arrangements within the church life eg Messy Church & the Flower Fund

Designated Funds

These funds are to serve specific purposes but are not restriced by any document or deed. They are:

Property Repairs Fund Designed to build a fund to meet costs of larger maintenance works

Priory Outreach Account To support outreach activities within the church and circuit, with a particular focus on young people

Benevolence Fund For use at the Ministers discretion to meet needs of people within the locality of the church

Bungalow Fund For activities identified by church countil - currently £50,000 towards major property repairs and the balance for an outreach programme or to employ a community worker.

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford
Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

13 Summary of Fund Movements

Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital £	Annual income £
HC Dunham	TMCP	236	11

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance
Retiring and other collections	-	7,508	7,508		-
Organ Fund	32,888	1,292	6,039		28,141
Various Church Groups	531	186	242		475
Totals	33,419	8,986	13,789	-	28,616

14 Related Parties

All Managing Trustees are members of the Church and as such have contributed to the income and activities through giving of offering, related gift aid and participation in fundraising activities. These gifts, as with those of all Church members, are voluntary in nature and are therefore not disclosed.

Related parties include the Methodist Connexion, Methodist Circuits and Districts, Central Finance Board, Connexional Priority Fund and TMCP. All of these entities have their own Trustees or Directors.

During the year the church made a number of payments to related parties:

Name of Organisation	Nature of payment	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
North Bedfordshire Circuit	Assessment	60,000	60,000
Methodist Church Fund	Donation	3,000	3,000
Methodist World Mission / All We Can	Donation	76	75
Methodist Insurance	Insurance premium	6,567	6,429
Connexional Priority Fund	Levy	50,160	-

15 Volunteer Contributions

Priory Methodist Church is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money to support all areas of Church life and work. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made to value the non-monetary contributions to the Church in monetary terms.

16 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at the year end (2024: £nil)

