

Annual Report of Morpeth Methodist Church and Centre for the Community,

Registration no: 1128303, for the year to 31st August 2025

Administrative Information and Structure

The Church's mission statement is "To make Christ visible in the world". This report will discuss the means in which this is discharged.

The Church comprises the Sanctuary and 5 rooms of various sizes. The address is: Howard Terrace, Morpeth. NE61 1HU. Tel no: 01670 511078.

The Church was opened in 1905, extended in 1986 and reconfigured and further extended in 2005. The Church has 100 confirmed members and approximately an additional 25 adherents.

The Church is a member of the South East Northumberland Circuit.

Our presbyter is Rev Antony Oakley.

The Governing Board is the Church Council, whose members, the trustees, during the year were:

The minister (Antony Oakley), the Leadership Team (Pam Oakley, Vivien Scott, David Simpson, Bridget Rowbottom, John Carss, Maureen Baker, Lorrie Bronsema, Paul Crook) and elected and ex-officio members (Clive Kemp, Dorothy Potts, Judith Quenet, Pat Folkard, Wendy Garvey, Catherine Wakefield).

Church Committees and groups report to the Church Council.

Church Council met four times during the year. The Council's members discussed the management of the Church's activities and made decisions regarding based on their discussions.

This year's Annual Church Meeting will be held on 7th September 2025

Aims, Objectives and Delivery

The aims of the Church, as seen on the Charities Commission website, are:

"The provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the Church and non-members alike. The provision of sacred space (a building) for prayer and contemplation. The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups, pastoral work, including visiting the sick"

Morpeth Methodist Church and Centre for the Community also offers facilities for regular meetings of clubs, societies, organisations and focus groups and for special events to the wider community. These are used regularly by both Church groups and groups in the local community.

The Church seeks to pursue its mission statement by “Celebrating Christ, growing in His love, praying and acting for Him and being a Centre acting as a resource for the whole community.

The Church is a member of the South East Northumberland Methodist Circuit.

The Presbyter to the Church is Rev Antony Oakley, who is the Superintendent Minister of the South East Northumberland Methodist Circuit.

The committees and groups that report to the Annual Church Meeting or Church Council are:

Leadership Group, Pastoral Group, Worship Group and Mission Partnership

The Leadership Group includes the Church stewards. The Church Treasurer reports to this group and to the Church Council.

The Leadership Group supports the minister and congregation. Members of the Leadership Group act as Church Secretary, Church Treasurer and Safeguarding Officer. Members of the Leadership Group also act on behalf of the Church in organising care and maintenance of the building, booking and letting rooms and organisation of Church activities.

The structural organisation of the Church seeks to cover three broad areas of influence:

- 1) The spiritual, pastoral and social needs of its members.
- 2) The mission of the Church within our community and Circuit
- 3) The care and development of the physical assets of the Church
- 4) The use of the facilities for the benefit of the wider community

Services are held in the Church on Sunday mornings. Tuesday Communion Services are held weekly.

Junior Church meet weekly in the Church during term time. The 6th Morpeth Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts meet in the Church during the week

Womens Meeting Point and Men’s Breakfast Group meet in the Church.

Drop in lunches are usually held weekly on Tuesdays and the Memory Café meets fortnightly in the Church for those with cognitive impairment and their carers. Both of these activities have been appreciated by those attending.

The Church continues its Mission Partnership with Kamuzinda Victory Christian Church, Uganda. Morpeth and Kamuzinda Churches support each other with regular prayer, meetings and communication. Collections of donations for the benefit of KVCC are held after Sunday services twice a year.

The Church is used as a centre in Morpeth for musical events, including concerts, performances for Morpeth Music Society and performances by bands and choirs.

Comment on the Annual Accounts

The audited accounts for the year ended 31st August 2025 are set out in the attached file.

Most of the expenditure items are self explanatory. The largest expense is the Circuit Assessment which is set by the Circuit and covers the Church's central overheads, including stipends and other central expenses. The expenditure on salaries will fall as the Church manager and receptionists were made redundant in September 2025. Church members took on these responsibilities. Other items of major expenditure include energy and repairs and maintenance.

The accounts show a surplus of £8943.

The Church finances aim to operate on the basis of a balanced annual budget, with outcomes monitored by the Leadership Group. Church Council approved a Reserves Policy holding reserves approximately equal to six months of normal expenditure, in accordance with the recommendation from the Methodist Connexion.

Responsibility for day to day receipts and payments and the presentation of final and interim accounts are the responsibility of the Church Treasurer, Lorrie Bronsema.

CHURCH (Short Form)
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
(SHORT FORM)

Morpeth Methodist Church

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

South East Northumberland Circuit

Circuit no

20/6

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1128303

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

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

Minister:

Revd Antony Oakley

Church Stewards:

Paul Crook

Viv Scott

David Simpson

Judith Quenot

Treasurer:

Lorraine Bronsema

MORPETH METHODIST

Church

Church - Short
Form

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

SECTION A

a1	RECEIPTS	Note
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	
a3	Bank and CFB interest & investment income	
a4	Lettings	
a5	Other receipts	
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	

This year's amount
to the nearest £

£
56453
788
38209
4269
99719

Last year's amount to
the nearest £

£
72746
404
41694
5830
120674

SECTION B

b1	PAYMENTS	
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	
b3	Contributions	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	
b6	Other payments	
b7	TOTAL PAYMENTS	

47925
0
17177
16867
8286
90255

51480
0
18807
16905
48738
135930

SECTION C

c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6 - b7)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	
c3	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c1 + c2)
c4	State here the total of any other assets of the Church	
c5	State here the total of any liabilities of the Church	
c6	State here the insured value of the Church premises and contents	

9464

(15256)

35851 (c7)

57107

45315

35851 (c7)

4559820

4559820

SECTION D ANALYSIS OF FUNDS

d1	Balances held at TMCP at 31 August	
d2	Balances held at CFB at 31 August	
d3	Bank and cash balances at 31 August	
d4	TOTAL (= Box c3)	

5000
13683
26631
45314

5000
5663
25188
35851

SECTION E

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)

e1	Balance brought forward from last year	483	0
e2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	2693	1600
e3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	3176	1117
e4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	0	483

(e1+e2-e3)

Name of Church MORPETH METHODIST No.

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer [Signature] Date 13/4/2026
Name and address of treasurer LORRAINE BRONSEMA, CATTERLIN,
HIGH PARK LANE, MORPETH Post Code NE61 2ST

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting [Signature]
Name of the Chair of the meeting REID DENISE HARDING Date 10/5/26

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

MORPETH METHODIST Church

Charity Number 1128303

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the MORPETH METHODIST Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 1 to 2. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church MORPETH METHODIST No

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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

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

Signature of independent examiner CMH

Name of independent examiner CHRISTOPHER MARK HORTON

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACIB

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 18 SHIRE ROAD, NETHERTON PARK,
MORPETH, NORTHUMBERLAND

Post Code NE61 6GQ

Date 10/4/2026

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Name of independent examiner CHRISTOPHER MARK HORTON

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