

WIGAN METHODIST MISSION
Queens Hall

TAR and ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST AUGUST 2025

Management

Responsibility for management of Wigan Methodist Mission lies with its Church Council, in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The membership of the Church Council is partly ex officio and partly elected. For example, the minister with pastoral responsibility, the church stewards (who are elected annually by the church members), and the treasurer are ex officio. Other members of the Church Council are elected annually by the church members.

In the period of 12 months to the 31st August 2025, the Church Council met 4 times, to review the whole mission of the church, including its worship, the discipleship of its members, its financial position, the maintenance of the church premises, its pastoral care of both its members and adherents, and its social and evangelistic outreach.

The church has a small Leadership Group which meets on average every 6 weeks, which has responsibility for the day to day running of the church, reviews its activities and prepares items for presentation to the Church Council.

Objectives

The mission statement of the church remains "In Jesus Christ, Growing up, Growing together, Growing out, Growth rooted in Love". This statement summarises our mission of serving the community while deepening our fellowship, our relationship to God and Christian discipleship.

Premises

The church building is in one of the main streets in the Wigan Town Centre, close to the bus station. As well as the church sanctuary and ancillary rooms, it has a café. This provides a range of food and drink each morning Tuesday to Friday, in a safe and friendly environment where people, particularly elderly, can meet friends. Prayer and a listening ear are also offered. The café is now operating within the sanctuary and has been welcomed by everyone for its light airy feel and open space. It has also helped to promote prayer for customers and anyone needing help and support.

The church building is open every day. As well as its use for church-based activities, it is used by a number of outside organisations each week. Some are charged a commercial fee. Others, for example Alcoholics Anonymous, pay only a nominal amount.

Our application to the National Lottery Heritage Scheme for funds towards building costs was unsuccessful but we have been encouraged to re-apply. We currently have an enormous problem with the cupola at the top of the building. This has degraded to such an extent that masonry is cracking and needs urgent repair. It will shortly be supported by scaffolding to make it safe, at considerable cost. The lift is in need of refurbishment (again costly), and we have plans to provide toilets on the ground floor (with a quote of £57,000). A recent quinquennial inspection has revealed other work that needs to be carried out. We also have window frames which need replacing, an inefficient heating system which is expensive to run and guttering is inefficient. The total cost of all this is in excess of one million pounds. The members of the Church are working hard to try to bring in extra income but we are reliant on grants for the large amount.

Activities

The activities of the church reflect its obligation to show that it exists for public benefit, with particular regard to the advancement of religion. The church enables ordinary people to live out their Christian faith through:

- Worship and prayer, learning about the gospel of Jesus Christ and developing their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus
- Opportunities for fellowship and the provision of pastoral care for its members and others connected with the church
- Mission and outreach

Worship and Prayer

The church holds services every Sunday morning between 10.45am and 12.30pm. The music is led mainly by our worship group. Those who attend cover a wide age range. The services are led by a variety of preachers as well as the minister. Once a month we hold an informal service, led by a preacher gifted at addressing children as well as adults. Prayer events and healing services are also held.

All are welcome to attend our services; the average weekly adult attendance at the morning service was 35. We have lost many of our children and families since the pandemic but we are now seeing signs of children returning and have a dedicated corner for them.

The sacraments of baptism and marriage are available and funeral services are held.

Several times in the year, we have held a Café worship event on a Wednesday or Thursday afternoon, followed by refreshments. This event has attracted around 20/30 people each time including our learners from Adult Community Education who share our building. Some of those who also attend are customers of the café and have no other attachment to the church.

There is a dedicated Prayer Room on the first floor of the building. It is used for prayer, particularly the weekly Thursday lunchtime prayer meeting, and discipleship and bible study groups. Our leadership meetings and pastoral meetings are held there. It is available for use for private prayer by anyone while the building is open. Prayer is available at the end of church services, and a prayer circle for urgent prayer requests.

Fellowship and Pastoral Care

The pastoral care system is regularly reviewed and all the members and most of the non members who attend regularly have a Pastoral Carer, who is responsible for keeping in touch and/or visiting them in their homes, particularly those who are house-bound or sick.

Mission

Mission continues to be an important element in the Church. We run regular Start and other courses and continue to see people come to faith in Jesus Christ. Our café has proved to be a very important mission field and we have people daily going into the café to offer prayer and a listening ear.

Little Angels is our outreach to younger families and meets during term time. Our Youth outreach is on a monthly basis and on those days, from 3.30pm to 5pm, youth from local high schools visit and take part in

learning to play instruments, singing, craft activities, occasional cookery and enjoying themselves. This continues to grow and develop with our minister taking an active role.

Queens Hall Action on Poverty

The Brick, as it is known, began as a small outreach at the Church and has grown to be a charity in its own right, with its own premises. Its aim is the relief and prevention of poverty in Wigan and the surrounding areas.

Since December 2023, it has hired the Church's lower hall as a night shelter for the homeless. This is now on a month by month basis and we do not know how long this will continue.

Finance

The Church's accounts are subject to independent examination and a copy of the Receipts and Payments for the year to 31st August 2025, duly certified, is attached.

The income from the use of our lower hall by the Brick forms a substantial part of Lettings and accounts for the excess of receipts over payments. The cost of those works listed under Premises which need to be carried out in the near future will be a substantial drain on our reserves.

We have separate current and deposit accounts for money donated for our building works. £14897 was received this financial year, including a grant of £9000 from Wigan Methodist Circuit as a contribution to past expenditure. Payments totalled £5085, leaving a balance of £15056.

Wigan Methodist Mission
Receipts and Payments
Year End 31st August 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
RECEIPTS			
Coffee Bar		£33,603	£37,675
Lets		£112,687	£71,364
Offerings		£26,270	£26,159
Gift Aid		£5,601	£0
Donations and Legacies		£1,040	£2,071
CFB Interest received		£2,342	£1,316
Nehemiah		£0	£3,420
Sundry receipts		£1,630	£1,251
		£183,173	£143,256
PAYMENTS			
Wages, tax, NI		£22,874	£18,780
Assessment		£14,500	£13,000
Heat and light		£32,085	£30,756
Building	1	£25,880	£23,075
Nehemiah		£0	£27,418
Printing, postages, etc		£700	£891
Insurance		£4,610	£4,474
Water		£3,893	£3,642
Telephone		£1,444	£875
Supplies		£4,330	£5,126
Sundry expenses		£1,591	£1,662
Equipment and fittings	2	£461	£6,185
Donations	3	£2,460	£2,180
		<u>£114,828</u>	<u>£138,064</u>
Surplus for year		£68,345	£5,192

Wigan Methodist Mission
Notes on Accounts
Year ended 31st August 2025

	2025	2024
<u>1. Building</u>		
Fire services*	£4,979	£2,005
Lift Repairs and service	£1,936	£38
Waste disposal	£1,692	£1,113
Pat test	£348	£283
Halestone vegetation removal	£0	£5,755
Electrical	£6,156	£5,568
Toilet repairs	£4,350	£1,320
Gas Service	£0	£300
Legionella Assessment	£0	£450
Ground floor toilets plans	£1,560	£2,460
CSS Asbestos	£0	£2,340
Lightning Protection	£2,660	£0
Lighting	£1,627	£0
Other	£572	<u>£1,443</u>
	<u>£25,880</u>	<u>£23,075</u>
 *Extinguisher service	 £167	
Installation equipment	£1,436	
Fire doors	£2,620	
Inspection	£420	
Service	£336	

Wigan Methodist Mission
Notes on Accounts
Year ended 31st August 2025

	2025	2024
<u>2. Equipment</u>		
Defibrillator Hire	£0	£522
Kitchen equipment	£0	£5,260
Chairs	£0	£185
Tables	£170	£60
Other	£291	<u>£158</u>
	<u>£461</u>	<u>£6,185</u>

3. Donations

Alpha International	£320	£240
UCB	£400	£400
MAF	£240	£240
QHHC/QHAP/Brick	£1,200	£1,200
Action for Children	£100	£100
Daily Bread	£200	£0
	<u>£2,460</u>	<u>£2,180</u>

Wigan Methodist Mission
Liquidity Statement as at 31st August 2025

	2024/25		2023/24
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Co-op	£5,666		£17,403
CFB Deposit Account	£100,723		<u>£21,381</u> £38,784
Cash in hand	£740	£107,129	
Less Youth Fund		£454	<u>£454</u>
<u>Net Current Assets</u>		<u>£106,675</u>	<u>£38,330</u>
<u>Accumulated Fund</u>			
Co-op brought forward	£17,403		£3,527
CFB brought forward	<u>£21,381</u>	£38,784	<u>£30,065</u> £33,592
Less Youth Fund		<u>£454</u>	<u>£454</u>
		£38,330	£33,138
Surplus		<u>£68,345</u>	<u>£5,192</u>
		<u>£106,675</u>	<u>£38,330</u>

NEHEMIAH ACCOUNT 2024/25

NEHEMIAH/RESTORATION ACCOUNT

Balance B/f		£5244	Coop Account	£953
Grant	£9000		CFB Deposit A/c	<u>£14103</u>
Events	£2575		Balance 31/08/25	£15056
Other including donations	£3219			
Interest	<u>£ 103</u>	<u>14897</u>		
		£20141		
Fund raiser fee	£3000			
GFS management fees	<u>£2805</u>	<u>£5085</u>		
Balance at 31/08/25		<u>£15056</u>		

Report to the Members of the Wigan Methodist Mission

I have examined the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities of the Wigan Methodist Mission relating to the year ended 31st August 2025. My examination did not amount to an audit but was carried out in accordance with the General Directions issued by the Charity Commissioners for the independent examination of the accounts of smaller charities. Nothing has come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe otherwise than that the accounts accord with the accounting records of the church and such records satisfy the requirements of the Charities Acts. I am not aware of any matter to which attention needs to be drawn in order to obtain a proper understanding of the accounts.

Signed: B J Bourne

Beryl Joyce Bourne

Date: 20/11/25