

Minister: Rev'd Katie Leonowicz (01253 852284, katie.leonowicz@methodist.org.uk)
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Annual Report of Thornton Methodist Church 1st September 2022 – 31st August 2023

Following the reopening of activities, we have continued to build up and support all that is happening in our Church, and continue to support and serve the community of Thornton across this past year. In this past year, we celebrate that God has been at work through the weekly 'normal' activities of our Church and as we have travelled through the seasons of the Church year. We give thanks for the regular activities such as our Coffee Stop which also served as a Warm Hub over the winter months, for our monthly coffee mornings, our Craft and Chat group on Wednesday Evenings, and I Love Thursday with Worship and Boardmates and the growing regular use of our Community Hall by local groups and organisations.

In amongst what now feels like our normal pattern of life at TMC, we give thanks especially for:

- Our Community events and celebrations aimed at local families where we have enjoyed events such as a Pancake Party, Easter Party and a Coronation Picnic.
- Our new Sensory Toddler Group 'Sensory Stay and Play' which opened in January 2023 on Tuesday mornings in term time. We were especially grateful for a grant from our local council to enable us to buy the sensory equipment.
- Our continued relationship with JT Byrne, including hosting their annual memorial service at Christmas, giving local bereaved families a space to remember loved ones.
- Our developing our continuing relationship with our local Schools and nursery, including a new link with Red Marsh Special School. We also loved hosting Millfield School for their 6 carol services in 3 days at the end of the Christmas Term.
- Our newly launched Bible Study groups during the day and evening.
- Our 24 hours of prayer for Pentecost, which culminated in a Café Church and Taizé Prayer evening to celebrate Pentecost itself where the Holy Spirit was at work!
- Our growing links and relationships as the whole of North Fylde Methodist Circuit, as we worshipped together throughout Lent as we explored the Methodist Way of Life and launched Circuit Morning Services when we have worshipped together – including through workshops and celebrating the Ordination of Rev'd Sarah Lamb.
- We have seen a growth in attendance at our midweek Worship on a Thursday morning.
- And our continued exploration of different styles of worship and setting into a new worshipping pattern as a congregation of all ages and traditions on a Sunday morning, where we have found a firm favourite with our Sunday morning congregation is Café Church!

These are just the things I can remember! Along with the cycle of the year we experience in the life of the Church through celebrating Christmas and Easter, and in the offering of our pastoral care to our community not only in supporting bereaved families, and celebrating with them in Baptisms but the love we offer to all members of our community. All this and so much more makes up a range of aspects of the life of the Church that we continue in our journey as followers of Jesus.

As the Minister I particularly want to give thanks to all at TMC who offer their time, talents, gifts, and resources in service to the Church and to God's mission, through whom makes it possible for us to continue 'Loving God and Loving People'

Rev'd Katie Leonowicz, Minister of TMC, January 2024.

| SECTION A | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Totals this year | Totals last year |
|-----------|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a1 | RECEIPTS | | | | |
| a2 | Offerings and Tax recovered | 39,842 | | 39,842 | 40,408 |
| a3 | Bank and CFB interest and Investment income | 1,729 | | 1,729 | 204 |
| a4 | Lettings | 11,751 | | 11,751 | 9,737 |
| a5 | Other receipts | 4,593 | 12,461 | 17,054 | 15,104 |
| a6 | TOTAL RECEIPTS | 57,915 | 12,461 | 70,376 (a7) | 65,453 |

| SECTION B | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Totals this year | Totals last year |
|-----------|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| b1 | PAYMENTS | | | | |
| b2 | Circuit Assessment or Share | 35,000 | | 35,000 | 33,437 |
| b3 | Donations | 566 | | 566 | 466 |
| b4 | Repairs and Maintenance | 7,353 | | 7,353 | 4,973 |
| b5 | Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting) | 11,725 | | 11,725 | 11,920 |
| b6 | | | | | |
| b7 | Other payments | 3,248 | 16,041 | 19,289 | 6,881 |
| b8 | TOTAL PAYMENTS | 57,893 | 16,041 | 73,933 (b9) | 57,677 |

| SECTION C | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Totals this year | Totals last year |
|-----------|--|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| c1 | NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR | (a6-b8) | 23 (3,580) | (3,557) | 7,775 |
| c2 | Total funds brought forward from last year | 44,349 | 19,526 | 63,875 (c6) | 56,100 |
| c3 | Sub total | (c1+c2) | 44,372 15,946 | 60,318 | 63,875 |
| c4 | Transfers and adjustments | | | | |
| c5 | TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR | (c3+c4) | 44,372 15,946 | 60,318 (c8) | 63,875 (c6) |

| SECTION D | | £ | £ |
|---|---|-----|-----|
| FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS | | | |
| d | (these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above) | | |
| d1 | Balance brought forward from last year | | |
| d2 | Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations | 342 | 446 |
| d3 | Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations | 342 | 446 |
| d4 | BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID | | |
| | (d1+d2-d3) | | |

Name of Church .. Thornton Methodist No 1129988

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 B. M. Wilt

Name of independent examiner BRIAN MICHAEL WATKINS

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACCA

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 7 Enderley Court

Thornton Lanes Post Code FY5 5JB

Date 26.9.2023

* delete or circle as appropriate