

LEIGH WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1130293

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-06-23
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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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: METHODIST CHURCH

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Southend-on-sea

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£97,560	£119,660	-	-
2024-08-31	£108,686	£102,567	-	-
2023-08-31	£138,018	£107,553	-	-
2022-08-31	£104,902	£87,534	-	-
2021-08-31	£77,645	£99,876	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANNA WRATISLAW		
Alexander Childs		2020-01-21
CLLR HELEN BOYD		2012-05-01
EILEEN SIMMONS		2015-05-01
GABRIELLE GREENWAY		2014-05-01
IAN LOWE BSC HONS		
ISOBEL WRATISLAW		
JUNE CHILDS		2015-05-01
RUPERT BERTIE		2016-05-01

LEIGH WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH

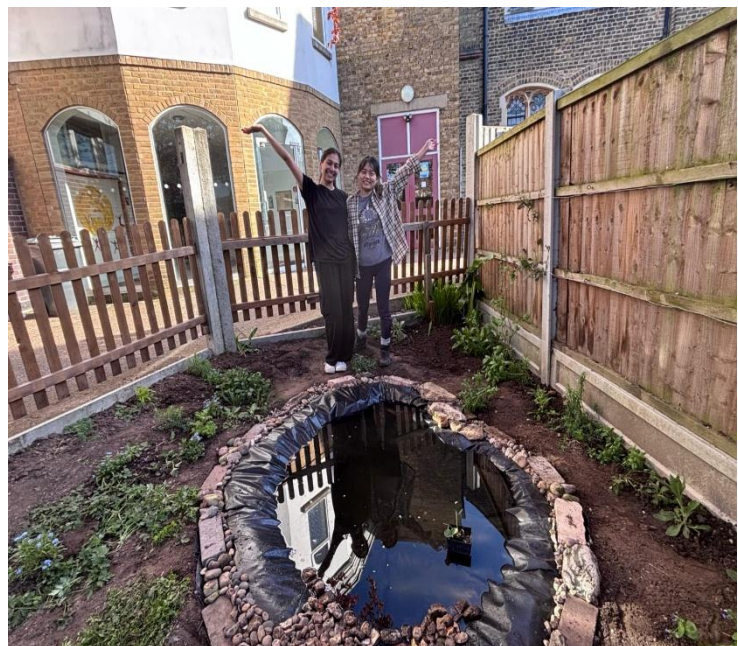
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Accounts

Annual Church Reports 2025



**Photograph with kind permission of Laura
and Ishrat**



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1.9.23-30.4.24**

GCM MINISTER'S LETTER – WESLEY METHODIST 2025

As you read this letter, I will be completing my 1st year as a presbyteral (ministerial) probationer. On 1st September this year, I will commence my 2nd year of probation, with a view to being accepted into full connexion and ordained to Word and Sacrament on 28th June 2026, pending approval by the Methodist Church. As in my 1st year of probation, I still have to study and have to allocate one day a week for this purpose. This has been a really busy year trying to balance pastoral responsibility for 3 churches, college studies, and probationer commitments, of which there are many. As I write this letter, I am aware that this May marks seven years of my ministry at Wesley. As with most years, there have been great times of joy, but also of sadness as I have journeyed with you all these past years. I have great faith that God still has much for us to do here at Wesley, and it has been great to see so many new faces in our congregation over recent months, and the joy of baptisms and people coming into membership, and we give God the praise for that.

Many of our activities have been continuing to be successful in this pass year. Fusion Youth Club moving from weekly to monthly (due to lack of adults), has been successful, Parent & Toddlers is thriving and Memory Worship service attendance is definitely on the rise. The Wesley Warm Space (Warm Hub) ran again this year and fulfilled a valuable community need and was a beneficial outreach activity for the church.

Our café is doing well and is seeing new people coming every week, although we are struggling to find helpers to run it. The jumble sale arranged by Pam Boughton-Smith, which coincided with the café, raised an amazing amount for charity and also attracted new people to the church.

Janet Whiddett's Tea & Cake events have again proven popular and are always busy.

None of the successful activities above would be able to run without our wonderful volunteers, to whom we give a huge gratitude of thanks.

On a more personal note, I would like to thank Wesley church for your support and patience as I work towards ordination. I am quite aware that this process has had an adverse effect on my ministry. Just one more year to go!

I leave you with words of encouragement from the Paul's letter to the Thessalonians: ¹⁶ *May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father,*

who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷ encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.'

[2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 NIVUK]

May God richly bless you,
Reverend Steve Mayo
May 2025

**Members and their Capacity of Wesley Methodist Church- Current
as of 13/05/2025**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
Rev. Peter Moorhouse	Superintendent Minister
Pastor Steve Mayo	Minister (Chair of Council)
Judy Taylor	Church Secretary/ Safeguarding/Circuit Rep
Gabrielle Greenway	Steward
Ian Lowe	Serving, Inclusion and Justice in the Circuit Community/Circuit Steward
Anna Wratishlaw	Communication/Deputy Circuit Rep for GG
Eileen Simmons	Pastoral Co-ordinator
Helen Boyd	Church Rep
June Childs	Church Rep
Alex Childs	Church Rep
Rupert Bertie	Church Rep
David Cox	Church Rep
Isobel Wratishlaw	Church Rep
Alan Severne	Property Co-Ordinator (Non -voting)
Tina Gowers	Treasurer (Non-Voting)

Circuit Report by Ian Lowe – Leadership Team Service.



**Service – a place in the community, a place for justice
News from the Circuit, District and Conference**

1. Ministerial Oversight, Staffing & Stationing

Ministerial Changes

In July 2024, we said a fond farewell to Rev Dr Calvin Samuel as he moved to Malaysia. We were delighted that Rev Steve Mayo successfully completed his training and Conference has appointed him as a probationer Minister in the Circuit.

Re-invitations

Rev Peter Moorhouse has been re-invited to continue his ministry until 2030.

Deacon Sarah McDowall will remain with us until 2028.

The re-invitation process for Rev Zena Smith will commence this year.

Candidating

John Annim is progressing through the candidating process and hopes to begin part-time ministry from 2028.

Stationing Updates

All four ministerial appointments for 2025 in our District were successfully filled, including one from the Church of England and one from Zambia.

From 2026, new stationing guidelines require one minister per 150 members, though re-invitations are not affected. Probationers must have at least 100 members.

Conference Proposals on Stationing

- Circuits should review ministerial needs annually at CLT meetings.
- Discernment conversations should take place in the third year of a minister's appointment.

- Feedback on re-invitations will now be attributed to individuals rather than anonymous.
- Circuit profiles should make greater use of digital tools like websites and videos.
- A shift from 5-year to 7-year appointments is under consideration.
- Probationer ministers should not be planned every Sunday, allowing them time to worship themselves.

2. Churches and Mission Initiatives

Thundersley Wellbeing Hub

Thundersley is developing 'The Burrell Centre,' a mission hub focused on wellbeing. The church is currently recruiting a manager to lead this exciting initiative. Thundersley is continuing to worship but at some point in the future may cease.

Trinity Family Centre (TFC)

The Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) has recognised the substantial work TFC do for Westcliff, and the number of people they support, fulfilling Methodist Calling. The Circuit has a strong desire to support them and awarded them a missional gift of £10,000 from the Model Trust Fund.

UMC Shoebury Closure

Worship at Shoebury ceased in November 2024. The site is now on the market, and we are thankful to the dedicated team maintaining the premises during the transition.

3. Projects and Outreach

The Experience Project

The healing room sessions remain oversubscribed, reflecting the project's impact. Community members enjoyed learning new skills through sewing workshops while our bookshop and pop-up charity stall continue to thrive. The Jansen Foundation has supported us with regular fresh produce donations. We are building relationships with local schools through RE curriculum visits.

3Generate

The Circuit supported young people by covering travel costs to attend 3Generate. Deacon Sarah is available to share their experiences with churches.

Christians Against Poverty

A £1,000 donation was approved to help further their essential work.

4. Events and Celebrations

Westerley Care Home

Westerley celebrated its 75th anniversary with a joyful event attended by guests and the President of Conference.

Circuit Quiet Day

A Quiet Day is scheduled for 21 June 2025 at Hadleigh, centred on the theme "In the Stillness."

District Synod 2025

The Synod will be held on 13 September 2025 at Belfairs Academy. Volunteers are needed to help with arrangements.

5. Safeguarding and Legal Matters

Safeguarding

Judy Taylor has taken on the role of Circuit Safeguarding Officer. Safeguarding roles at District level are transitioning to Connexional employment.

CCLI Licensing

A Circuit-wide meeting on CCLI guidelines helped clarify responsibilities. Mike Spaul from Belfairs is available to advise churches with copyright queries.

Manse Letting

The Circuit continues to stay up-to-date with current legislation on letting properties.

6. Environmental and Property Matters

Energy Efficiency

All churches and manses are encouraged to undertake energy audits and any funds from property sales should be considered for energy upgrades. Opportunities for grant funding and solar panel installation are being actively explored.

7. Governance, Strategy and Statistics

Circuit Finances

The existing assessment formula (50% offerings and Gift Aid, 50% lettings income) will continue, with a 6% cap for 2025/26.

Archiving Support

Support is available through the Circuit Office, with additional resources on the Connexional website.

Mission Statistics

We're pleased to report a 99% return rate for mission statistics this year for our District.

8. Future Planning

Leadership Transition

Rev Dr David Chapman will complete his term as District Chair in 2027. The search for a successor will begin in Spring 2026.

Circuit Stewards

Succession planning is essential, and a personal approach is encouraged when recruiting new Circuit Stewards.

Collaboration

Discussions between the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District and the East Anglia District are ongoing around sharing resources, though no structural changes are currently planned.

Communication report by Anna Wratishlaw

COMMUNICATION



Communications within Wesley continue apace, as we promote all the events taking place at Wesley across print, digital and social media. Wesley recently featured in the Leigh-on-Sea News, where our Jumble Sale for Christian Hope International was advertised. Events like this go a long way to promoting and demonstrating our community involvement - thank you to Pam and the team for organising such a successful event bringing so many people into the church.

Over the last year, we have promoted our special services over Christmas and Easter. This included the production of a banner, website & social media artwork and posts, leaflets and/or cards. Over Christmas we used material from the Methodist Church's 'Hush the Noise' campaign, and we continue to make use of resources available from both Methodist Publishing and CPO (Christian Publishing and Outreach), such as the Explore prayer cards available on the prayer table.

Our A-boards were refreshed last summer, with new A-board posters produced for our monthly and midweek services, and we are also grateful for the creation of our new outdoor poster boards. We have work in the pipeline to produce new "who's who" photo boards of the leadership team and church council, alongside the existing lists, so that this information is more readily accessible for the church family.

Thank you to Judith Taylor for editing and printing the Clarion each month, Sue Hockett who produces our weekly notice sheet, and all those who help create, proofread and distribute our communications in all their forms – all hugely important for promoting everything that goes on at Wesley. As an Eco Church, we continue to distribute communications via email where possible, and I encourage you to make use of this facility as we work to reduce our paper usage.

Please continue to be mindful of GDPR regulations and our policies if you are ever in a position where you need to take, keep or use personal data of any kind, or share any photos or information in regards to our events. Please speak to myself or Judith Taylor if you have any questions on GPDR or data protection within the church context.

Finance Report by Tina Gowers



As at 30th April, our expenditure is greater than our income by £16,882.72. This is largely due to the difference between our circuit assessment and the income from offerings / monthly giving, but also the financial loss when Beehives Education Pre-School closed in January and the increase in utility bills. I have put in a Gift Aid claim which should total around £4,000.

There is an increase in our circuit assessment, next year, from £45,027 to £45,852. Wesley relies on its lettings income to help pay for the circuit assessment whereas, some churches, are reliant on their offertory / giving income. Our internal organisations hold quite a bit of money, and I would ask those organisations to look at donating to the church in lieu of heating, lighting, wear and tear etc.

I would like to thank those who run the Café, Afternoon Teas, lunches, Talking Poetry etc whose net money does go straight into church funds and offsets other general expenditure.

Our original budget showed a loss of £9,819 but the predicted end of year loss is now £22,753.56 and this is largely due to the increase in utility costs, as we came off a low fixed rate which carried us over recent years. Also, with the changes in National Insurance, we also pay an extra £78 per month for 2 of our staff but both staff members are needed and valued and could only be replaced by non-paid volunteers!

I would like to express my thanks to those Stewards and organisation leaders who count and bag up the money for me. It allows me to double check the money rather than it being counted by one person only (security and transparency).

Appendices: Photocopied Separately for Budget

FUSION Youth & Kids Report by Judy Taylor

We are amazingly fortunate to be joined by several new volunteer helpers this year which has made manning the once a month session considerably easier. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who helps, prays and supports Fusion Youth Club, we could not do it without you. We say a special thank you to helpers who have left us this year after many years of volunteering, you are always welcome back to come and see us.

This year has seen a shift in the age of the children attending the club, as with most years we lose our Year 6's and are replenished with Year 1's, the natural order of things. Number have been slightly down and we are working with North Street to make sure that the club nights are published on their parents website and our leaflet distributed. We are very lucky to still have the use of North Street playground and in particular the astro turf.

We look forward to another year of working with the children and creating a safe space for them to relax, learn and be themselves. A grateful thanks to Emma Hearn who is continuing to take the "God Slot" and introduce the children to faith in its many aspects.

It would be lovely to welcome even more volunteers to Fusion Youth Club and as a long term goal we would love to be able to offer this activity weekly or fortnightly again. But for now we are grateful for the sessions we are able to offer and the service and mission we are providing to the local community.

GDPR Report by Judy Taylor



We remain GDPR compliant and Gaye/Anna and myself recently completed an audit for the Circuit GDPR Checklist, which was approved at the Church Council April 2024 meeting.

As a church we continue to be mindful of GDPR and have completed the required check on consent forms and how they are stored. This is a requirement that we have to undertake every two years to ensure that we are compliant. I would like to thank Gaye and Anna for all the work they do behind the scenes relating to GDPR and how vigilant they both are.

Pastoral Report by Eileen Simmons



I regard Pastoral Care as covering the complete range of events in our lives and it is a real privilege to hear about births, new jobs, marriages, examination results, interviews, new homes and family matters. Ill health is sad news and I would like to pay tribute here to Revd. Steve who visits homes and always goes to see anyone in our Wesley family who is admitted to hospital. Of course Pastoral Care continues until death and during our Annual Church Meeting we read out the names of those who have died since the previous meeting.

Pastoral Visitors must be Members of the church and we are hoping and need to increase our number of Pastoral Visitors.

However, there is lots of evidence of supportive friendships showing all the qualities of Pastoral Care. The Visitors meet twice a year to talk about our groups. Pastoral Groups include Members and those on the Community Roll. Any new Member who wants to help in Pastoral work could easily agree with Revd. Steve and me to take care of a very small number of people if their other responsibilities prevent them offering more.

As a retired person I am able to spend a lot of my week on such work, but someone still holding down a responsible job could readily just take care of one or two people newly into the Wesley family or on our Community roll but not already in a group.

Until recently I took all new comers, but can no longer do that as at today my group numbers seventeen.

We are all God's children and to care for each other is one of the greatest privileges in life.

Finally, I must warmly thank all our current Pastoral Visitors, some of whom have been doing this highly valued, appreciated and vital caring work for so many years. Geoff and I have only worshipped at Wesley since 2013 when we transferred from Wesley's Chapel, but many of my colleagues go back a very long time. Please keep the information flowing in. I hate to miss a retirement or special wedding anniversary!

Property Report by Alan Severne



Quinquennial Inspection

Every five years the church and ancillary buildings are inspected by a qualified surveyor. The report informs our priorities for essential works, grouped by urgency and in most cases giving an indication of costs though these are not definitive. The report suggests that a reasonable expectation of cost for the items identified is in the region of £60,000. A recent quote for external decoration was IRO £24000. The surveyor also advised that it has become more difficult in recent times to accurately estimate future costs and obtain quotes, an experience which is reflected locally. The next inspection is due early next year. In buildings of this nature further issues will arise.

Sanctuary

Internally the Sanctuary is generally still in good order, with minor issues only.

Externally some of the pointing should be replaced soon. It is suggested that pointing be performed in “chunks”, starting with the most weathered areas and continuing over an extended period depending on financial constraints. There are a small number of broken segments within the stained glass windows which would need specialist repair. There are no further signs of damp in the porch following remedial action.

Roofs

Rainwater continues to penetrate, under a particular combination of weather circumstances, near the vent structure on the apex of the Sanctuary roof.

There are a few small issues in other roof areas, and we also should bear in mind that most flat roofs have a finite lifespan; the Quinquennial Inspection recommended we continue with an ongoing roof maintenance program, which is our intention. Thorpe Bay Methodist have recommended a builder who has resolved issues for them that others did not; this firm has visited and recommended an approach; costings are expected shortly.

Organ

The organ is playable following some adjustments by our normal tuner. The relatively wide variations in humidity and temperature as the church

is used are responsible for many of its “quirks”. It remains on the agenda of the property and finance group.

Manse Garden

This continues to go from strength to strength, with many positive comments from humans and frequent visits from birds and other wildlife. Recently Gaye has added a shallow pond which is home to tadpoles and newts thanks to generous donations. The area is now fenced. Runoff from the garage roof is captured to help support the area.

Lighting and Electrical

Sanctuary internal lighting remains satisfactory following repairs. Emergency lighting throughout the premises is tested monthly and is satisfactory except for inside the lift (See below).

Some of the oldest internal lights in other parts of the building are obsolete and will need to be replaced in the not too distant future. CC will be asked to approve additional replacements this summer. A periodic inspection is due next year.

Lift

The twice-yearly independent inspection has again highlighted a (different) weakness with the emergency lighting which the maintainer should have resolved by the time this is published. Otherwise satisfactory.

Halls

The primary issue is interior finishes, which in many cases have deteriorated over time or due to historical leaks. The Youth Hall and Room 2 have just been decorated, including some fairly minor plaster repairs. These rooms, which are usually the most heavily used in terms of hours per week, were selected for priority attention to support an application for approval to operate as a pre-school. The carpet in the foyer is worn out and portions of the flooring in the Youth Hall require replacement; this is work-in-progress.

Boilers/Water Heaters/Plumbing

Central Heating Boilers have supported heating both the Church and Halls throughout the winter without issue. They are still in the top category for energy efficiency. The kitchen water heater replaced last year is also

working well, as are the new water heaters serving the concourse toilets and the sinks in the flower room and upstairs and downstairs serveries.

Safeguarding Report by Judy Taylor



Within the circuit as a whole there has been concerted drive to bring us in line with the requirements of the Methodist Church, both for the Foundation Module and the Advanced Module. Several of our new volunteers at Fusion have undertaken this training and are now fully compliant with the Safeguarding requirements to be a Youth Volunteer. I would like to thank Jane Fulford for her assistance with the Local Preachers and Worship Leaders and for providing regular updates. This year sees the introduction of the Safeguarding Board in the Concourse, which displays relevant Safeguarding information for this Church/Circuit and District.

Worship and Mission Report by Gabrielle Greenway



Worship

Attendance stands at between 30 and 50 on ordinary Sundays, plus 5 under 18, higher for special Sundays and of course United services. Christmas and Easter services were well attended, however the pressure due to lack of presbyters and preachers generally meant that on Easter Sunday Rev Steve had to join our preacher Sanya later in the service to give Communion and we were unable to hold a service at Wesley on Mothering Sunday. This was distressing but it was wonderful to join the section at Highlands and share together on that morning.

The Leadership team have decided that the church will need a bigger team of stewards this Christmas to prepare for the large numbers at Christingle. Thanks go to those who moved chairs etc and to Judy and Aimee who as usual did a great job with the hot cross buns for the section service on Good Friday.

There have been a few occasions when our organist has been unable to play and we struggle a bit with the recorded music used. However, we are

getting more proficient at delivering the recorded music and, as many other churches have found, this may become increasingly necessary as substitute organists are hard to find.

As we hear from the Circuit Report changes are underway which are likely to make finding preachers every Sunday even more challenging, and we are likely to be given more Local Arrangements than the current 3 a quarter. Leadership Team are thinking about getting our Local Preachers and Worship Leaders together to perhaps plan some services which can then be delivered by a team of members. Jane and others did this for us in February, very successfully.

Some of our other services are also under review. Inspire and Creative Worship have a small but loyal following. Inspire may not be fulfilling its planned role within our range of worship. We will be looking at this in the coming months. We are experimenting for a year with monthly morning communion at 9am on a Wednesday, numbers vary but again it is truly valued by the attendees.

Julie Peek is taking a sabbatical from Memory worship, but the preaching team have stepped up to fill the gap, although she is greatly missed. The team provides a wonderful afternoon.

Mission

We continue to run a number of groups and events as outreach to our community. Many of these include valued helpers from outside of the congregation. We are very grateful for their contribution.

Many groups could do with more help so please do prayerfully consider helping in some way. The café for example goes from strength to strength, but more helpers and especially bakers would be so welcome. Please see the individual reports for these activities.

Reports from other Church Groups:

Advisory Group on Property and Finance by Judy Taylor



The Committee is working through the Quinquennial Report to make suggestions to Church Council to move forward with works that need to be undertaken, of which there are several range from those of a small cost to those which will require large sum of money to complete. We are grateful to all who serve on this committee and the expertise they bring.

Afternoon Tea Report By Janet Whiddett



We have enjoyed meeting up again in April 2024 after the long winter months. These afternoons have become a relaxing place to meet with friends and share in good conversations. Hoping we make each newcomer feel welcome and we offer a listening ear over the cups of tea.

We have just begun another year of Tea and Cake Afternoons. Some cakes are home-made and some shop bought with plenty of choice and a selection to take home. Looking forward to seeing you there, all the dates are printed in the Clarion and on a pocket sized card.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make these afternoons flow smoothly.

Cameo Report by Jane Fulford



This house group is a very friendly group of members from Wesley. We usually meet once a month on the third Wednesday in the afternoon at Wesley in the concourse. There is no set agenda for the year we decide each meeting the time before – so a mix of topics can be reviewed varying from a lent course from the charity Embrace, scripture passages to current local and national concerns. We number about 8 and any newcomers are very welcome.

Team Jumble from Pam and the Jumble Team

So far an amazing amount of £1,237.00 has been raised for the CH and ALS school [Christian Hope International] Many thanks go to:

- All the people involved in the advertising and promoting of the Jumble sale.
- People who moved all the tables down from upstairs and put them back again.
- All the volunteers who set the tables up and put the jumble out.
- The café and Hot Dog gang.
- The tidy uppers and the people who washed the floor.
- All the help that was given in taking left over jumble to the Charity Shops/the numerous tip runs and taking the rags for collection.

This really was a team event and would not have happened with our everyone's contribution, however small.

Creative Worship Report by Jane Fulford



Creative Worship is held on the 4th Tuesday of each month for just less than an hour beginning at 8pm. They are always different but tend to be more meditative. I am very grateful to Isobel Wratishlaw and Sue Hockett who lead these services with thought and care.

The dates for Summer 2024 are

Tuesday 27th May 8pm

Tuesday 24th June 8pm

Tuesday 22nd July 8pm

No meeting in August

Always different. Do come and join us.

Jane Fulford

Inspire Service Report by Judy Taylor



Inspire Services are held once a month on the third Sunday of the month at 5:30 [coffee and cake provided] These services are led by a range of different people and offer many different styles of worship. We would welcome anyone who would like to come and experience something different.

We are very thankful to all our leaders and the work they put into creating exciting and thought provoking worship in a laid back style. All are welcome.

Memory Worship Report by Rev S Mayo



Memory Worship has been running now for about a decade at Wesley, and has helped and supported many people in this time; people with, or without dementia. Memory Worship is held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 2pm, in the main sanctuary.



The service commences with the opening of the Memory Worship Box, where items; a red table cloth, a Bible, a cross, a prayer bear and a candle, are taken out and placed on a table, whilst we are reminded of the religious significance of each item.

There is always a theme for the service and a short talk, often visual. The service lasts approximately 30 mins. Familiar hymns and Scripture readings are used to support the theme.

It is intentional that there is a set pattern to this service, of which music plays a large part, as music has an amazing way of provoking memories. We always open the service with the song 'Bring me Sunshine,'

associated with Morecombe and Wise, and it always brings a smile to people's faces. After the service there are refreshments and craft/games activities.

We seem to be getting new people attending every month, so our missional outreach is going from strength to strength.

Memory Worship is led and supported by a large number of volunteers to whom we are extremely grateful for their time and efforts. Our special thanks must go to Julie Peek, who has been the main stay of preparing and leading Memory Worship since its conception.

The focus for the afternoon is fun and friendship, why not come along and give it a try?



Parent and Toddlers Report by Georgina Paveling

This year has seen a lot of changes with P&T. 2024 was a challenging year as we were short of volunteers to help with the group. Plus due to June Childs illness this added to the pressure of running the group. Thankfully we have some lovely regulars who would step in from time to time and help with washing up etc. showing the true community spirit and appreciation for the group.

Thankfully and in true Wesley style they have rallied round and we now have a great bunch of helpers and the return of Becca too. Judy Taylor has come on board I'm pleased to say to help in the weeks Gaye is unable to and we've welcomed back Marjorie. It's been a joy having Marjorie back and watching her relish her cuddles with the babies.

We also welcome Amanda as part of the team. Amanda is a mother who first came to the group with her daughters Lizzie and Sophia. Amanda started volunteering at the end of last year and is an asset to our group. We thank all the volunteers for their time and dedication.

We now have a rota so we can take turns to provide freshly baked cake every week and serve a range of coffees. Something I know is our appeal with the parents and carers who attend. And we have such good feedback on not just the refreshments. But how welcoming the group is and the lovely range of crafts and activities we put together each week.

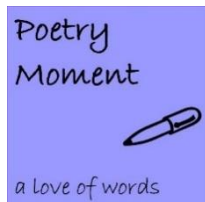
Wesley our everywhere bear still continues to go on his adventures each week with the children. He's so popular we do get some tears when we have more than one child wanting to take him home. So we may introduce a second bear.

Each week the groups structure is kept much the same. Which is free play, tidy up time which we signal by playing a special song. Which the children enjoy. Then story time and finishing off with parachute and bubbles. Then on key occasions such as Christmas, Easter, mothers and Father's Day, Chinese new year etc. We theme them with crafts, decorations, cakes.

P&T still continues to attract new people as well as our regulars. The group endeavours to create and maintain a warm and welcoming space. Somewhere where people can share their good and bad days and build new friendships.

Parenting is something they all have in common and whatever background the experience is much the same. And it's this that brings everyone together.

Poetry Report by Joan Hawkins.



Talking Poetry remains an enjoyable friendly fortnightly meeting for our nine members, although they aren't always able to be present at each meeting.

We have a programme of poets or a subject, and although we start with serious intent, having spent time researching books and the internet, there are usually a few laughs as some of us feel we haven't grasped the poet's meaning.

Two of our older members have left us this year, but we have had an extra two joining, which is encouraging.

If you think you may enjoy a very relaxed approach to poetry, please email Joan on joanh838@icloud.com

Prayer and Prayer Diary by Jane Fulford



At Wesley prayer is important as it should be both for individuals and in worship with and for others.

We do have a prayer chain that is in the monthly Clarion. Each month there is a prayer diary – a prayer for each day of the month. Each month is different and there are about seven people who compose them. Anyone who would like to become involved please contact me.

We also have a Wesley WhatsApp prayer chain.

In the Vestry there is a prayer book for names to be read out in our Sunday morning worship for those in need of prayer and have **requested** their name be read out.

In our sanctuary there is a prayer table, usually with a prayer tree to be able to write prayers for others and hang them on the tree. The Fusion Youth Club have a prayer board that is used regularly each month. There is a peace table for Ukraine and Israel and Palestine where we do on occasions light candles.

It is hoped that anyone in need of prayer will be able to use any of the above methods to pray. If you want to be added to the prayer chain or WhatsApp group, please contact me or a steward. If you want to write a prayer diary, please contact me. If you can think of any ways, we can encourage prayer please let us know.

Jane Fulford

Southend Foodbank Report by Anna Wratishaw



Wesley continues to collect donations for Southend Foodbank and deliver these to the warehouse. Collection bins are available at the back of the church sanctuary and in the concourse, and all donations are very gratefully received. Over the last year Wesley has also supported the foodbank at our Harvest Festival in October, as well as the foodbank being the nominated charity for our Christmas charity collections at our Christmas Eve Communion and Christmas morning services. We are pleased that Natasha Copus, Southend Foodbank Project Manager, will be attending our service on 25th May to talk about her work.

We are endeavouring to include an updated list of most needed items in the weekly notice sheet; for those with smartphones, the *Bank the Food* app can keep you updated with this list and will ping your phone when you enter a supermarket that has a foodbank donation point. The app is completely free and was developed in Southend with a local charity supporting Southend Foodbank. The foodbank is also listed on Common Good – which is like a gift registry, but for charitable causes; the foodbank lists the items they most need, and donors purchase items which are then delivered directly to the foodbank. More information on how to donate food, drop-off points, financial donations and other ways to donate are available on the Southend Foodbank website, or please speak to Anna Wratishlaw. Thank you for all you are able to give.

The Clarion Report by Judy Taylor



It has been a pleasure to be the Editor of the Clarion for another year and I would like to thank everyone who contributes whether it is monthly or ad hoc, your items are also most welcome. The Clarion is sent by post to 25 people who have requested a monthly copy and to an email group of over 30 people. Thank you to all those who send on copies of the Clarion, it is good to see how well-travelled our magazine is. Here's to another successful year of sharing news/events with our church community and wider.

Thursday Call Report Written by Isobel Wratishlaw

Thursday Call continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month, in the homes of members (we can always facilitate joining by zoom for those not able to attend in person). Each session is led by a different member, alternating the style and theme. We would always welcome anyone who feels this might be something they'd like to join. Please see Isobel Wratishlaw for details.

Communion and a Time of Prayer

Since September 2024 we have offered a Communion and a Time for Prayer on the second Wednesday of the month (not August) at 9am. It is followed by a Time for Prayer as requested and a cup of tea / coffee.

Thank you for Revd Steve Mayo for doing this and ensuring that another minister offers communion when he is unable to.

The numbers are small but those that attend are appreciative of the short service

The dates for the rest of the year are:

11th June

9th July

No Communion in August

It is intended to have a review of whether this new venture should continue in June/July so perhaps you could discuss at the GCM.

Warm Hub Report by Geoff Fulford

This winter we ran the Warm Welcome for the third year, again on Tuesdays and Thursdays from November to March.

We had money left over from a previous generous grant from The BEH District so did not need any new funding. We spent a total of £404.52 and also had some donations of £60.61 making the cost £343.91.

Over the 5 months we had 178 visitors, an increase of 1 on last winter. Again this was a very valuable service to those who came along. It also served as a Community Hub, where 73 people, mostly church members dropped in for a chat and a tea or coffee.

We had a number of helpers and I would like to thank: Dave Cox, Gaye Greenway, Peter Lister, Geoff Nash, Jan Pope (Belfairs) and Maureen Chambers for their important contribution of time, patience and conversation with our visitors.

We received a grant of £1,000 when we started from the BEH District and after 3 years, there is £98.04 left in the kitty.

Once more, I will leave it to the Church Council to decide if it is run next winter. However, I will not be able to be the co-ordinator for next winter. I do hope it is able to continue as some of our regular visitors rely on us more and more.

WTG Report by Judy Taylor

We have had another busy year including the popular “Ladies in Lavendar” which was well received by all. We are currently working on a celebration of VE/VJ day and afternoon tea, which is taking place on June 7th 2025 at 5pm. For this evening entertainment we are very pleased to welcome members of ‘Talking Poetry’ who are joining us.

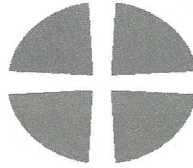


This year is our pantomime year which is always a time of much fun and laughter [stress for the producer] and anyone would be welcome to join us. This includes if you would like to work behind the scenes, sewing, painting, any help would be warmly received.

As a Theatre group we are limited in our choice of production as our numbers decrease, it would be amazing to have some new recruits. Please contact either Judy Taylor/Isobel Wratishlaw or any of the group.

Also attached to this document:

- GCM agenda 2025
- Minutes from ACM Meeting 2024



Church
Accruals Accounts
2024-2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TEMPLATE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2025

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

Registered Charity - Registration number (if applicable)

1130293

Circuit No

34-10

Minister

Rev Stephen Mayo

Church Stewards

Ian Lowe

Eileen Simmons

Judy Taylor

Anna Wratishlaw

Rupert Bertie

Peter Lister

Richard Faraway

Isobel Wratishlaw

Church Treasurer

Tina Gowers

Name of Church

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church No 34/10

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

Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024-25
	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments					
1 Offerings and tax recoverable	29,291 ✓				29,291
2 Donations & Grants	5,375 ✓	0			5,375
3 Interest and investment income	4,154 ✓				4,154
4 Income from investment properties					0
5 Other income	8,006 ✓	-			8,006
6 Internal organisations		3,289 ✓			3,289
7 Other charitable activities					0
Total from charitable activities	46,825	3,289	-	-	50,115
8 Lettings	47,446 ✓				47,446
9 Other income					0
Total income and endowments	94,271	3,289	-	-	97,560
Expenditure					
10 Circuit assessment or share	45,123 ✓				45,123
11 Grants and donations					0
12 Property maintenance	7,149 ✓				7,149
13 Insurance, utilities etc	34,051 ✓				34,051
14 Provisions					0
15 Depreciation					0
16 Office expenses	93 ✓				93
17 Other expenditure	8,468 ✓	0			8,468
18 Salaries & pensions	21,466 ✓				21,466
19 Internal organisations		3,310 ✓			3,310
Total charitable expenditure	116,350	3,310	0	0	119,660
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments					0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties					0
22 Net income/(expenditure)	-22,079	-21	0	0	-22,100
23 Transfers between funds					0
24 Other gains/(losses)					0
25 Net movement in funds	-22,079	-21	0	0	-22,100
26 Total funds brought forward	101,283	12,486	3,824		117,594
27 Total funds carried forward	79,204	12,465	3,824	-	95,494

Name of Church

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church No 34/10

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2025	Totals 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
insured value	6,293,142				6,293,142	6,032,761
					0	Didn't inc Contents
					0	
	6,293,142	0	0	0	6,293,142	6,032,761
✓						
					0	
					0	
					0	
	66,092	12,000	3,824		81,916	110,763
	13,112	465	0		13,578	6,831
	79,205	12,465	3,824	0	95,494	117,594
✓						
					0	
					0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0
	79,205	12,465	3,824	0	95,494	117,594
	6,372,347	12,465	3,824	0	6,388,636	6,150,355
✓						
					0	
					0	
					0	
	6,372,347	12,465	3,824	0	6,388,636	6,150,355

Funds of the Church

General Fund (Unrestricted)		79,205				79,205	101,284
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		12,465				12,465	12,486
Total Unrestricted Funds						91,670	113,770
Restricted Funds			3,824			3,824	3,824
Endowment Funds						0	
Total Funds		91,670	3,824	0	0	95,494	117,594

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Closing balances
Internal Organisations						
						0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

External Charitable Organisations

Bal Fwd 01/09/2024	112
Income	2764
Expenditure - Passed to Charities	2876
Bal c/fwd 31/08/25	0

Signed



Church Treasurer

3/9/25

Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting

	2025	2024
£	3342	5576

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

6	8
---	---

Nature of the expenses

General church expenses

If there are no payments to Trustees, please record no expenses were paid.

Total amount paid

£	3,342	5,576
---	-------	-------

Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

£	nil	nil
---	-----	-----

Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor

£	nil	nil
---	-----	-----

Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind

£	21,697	18,282
---	--------	--------

Employer's National Insurance costs

£	389	
---	-----	--

Pension costs

£		
---	--	--

Total staff costs

£	22,085	18,282
---	--------	--------

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

	4	4
--	---	---

Leigh Wesley Methodist

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group*.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

3/9/25

Name of Treasurer

Mrs Tina Gowers

Address

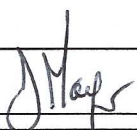
17 The Crest, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. SS9 5NJ

Presentation to the Church Council / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group* for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2025 were, or will be* presented to the **Church Council** / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group* at its meeting on

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev Stephen Mayo

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2025

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Church's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary 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:

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning 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. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(3) 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.

Name of independent examiner

Mrs Heather Sims

Signature of independent examiner



Relevant Professional qualification or body

Name of firm (where appropriate)

N/A

Address

1a Grove Road, Rayleigh, Essex. SS6 ~~84P~~ 8PU

Date

24/9/25

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning 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. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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Name of independent examiner

Mrs Heather Sims

Signature of independent examiner



Relevant Professional qualification or body

Name of firm (where appropriate)

N/A

Address

1a Grove Road, Rayleigh, Essex. SS6 ~~8PU~~ 8PU

Date

24/9/25

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

LEIGH WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1130293

Accounts



Photographs with kind permission of the Summertime Afternoon Tea and Cakes.



Annual Church Reports 2024

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**APPENDICES: WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT 1.9.23-30.4.24/ BUDGET
1.9.23-30.4.24**

ACM MINISTER'S LETTER – WESLEY METHODIST 2024

As you read this letter, I will be completing my last few months of presbyteral (ministerial) training. On 1st September I will commence my 2-year probationary period and will become Reverend Steve. In my probationary period I still have to study and have to allocate 1 day a week to these studies. I will be undertaking a Masters in Theology and Mission. Probation will be followed by my ordination to Word and Sacrament, when I will become a Presbyter in 2026.

As from 1st September I will also be taking on pastoral responsibility for Trinity Methodist church. As I have been officially stationed to this circuit as from 1st September, I have a circuit welcome service at Wesley Methodist on 2nd September @ 7.30pm. It will be great to see you all there! My brass band has been invited to participate.

It is almost unbelievable to think that May marks 6 years of my ministry at Wesley. There have been great times of joy, but also of sadness as I have journeyed with you all these past years. I have great faith that God still has much for us to do here at Wesley, and it has been great to see so many new faces in our congregation over recent months, and we give God the praise for that. Many of our activities have been continuing to be successful in this past year. Fusion Youth Club is regularly seeing 80-90 children, Parent & Toddlers is thriving and Memory Worship service attendance is definitely on the rise.

The weekly lunches have also been successful, due to the commitment of volunteers, to whom we give grateful thanks.

Our café is doing well and is seeing new people coming every week, and the table top sales, which have coincided, as well as raising amazing amounts for charities, have also attracted new people to the church. Janet Whiddett's Tea & Cake events have again proven popular.

The Wesley Warm Space, has been a beneficial outreach activity, and all those who helped are to be commended for their commitment and efforts.

This just leaves me to say a huge thank you to all those who work to keep Wesley functioning and active within our community in whichever role you undertake. Without you, the church would not be here, or would not be undertaking the mission activities it engages in, shining God's love and light into our local community and beyond. Thank you.

I leave you with words of encouragement from the Apostle Paul: *¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time – God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might for ever. Amen.* [1 Timothy 6:12-16 NIVUK]

May God richly bless you,

Pastor Steve Mayo

**Members and their Capacity of Wesley Methodist Church- Current
as of 5/4/24**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
Rev. Peter Moorhouse	Superintendent Minister
Pastor Steve Mayo	Minister (Chair of Council)
Judy Taylor	Church Secretary/ Safeguarding/Circuit Rep
Gabrielle Greenway	Worship and Mission
Ian Lowe	Serving, Inclusion and Justice in the Circuit Community/Circuit Steward
Anna Wratislaw	Communication/Deputy Circuit Rep for GG
Eileen Simmons	Pastoral Co-ordinator
Emma Hearn	Youth
Helen Boyd	Church Rep
June Childs	Church Rep
Alex Childs	Church Rep
Rupert Bertie	Church Rep
David Cox	Church Rep
Isobel Wratislaw	Church Rep
Alan Severne	Property Co-Ordinator (Non -voting)
Tina Gowers	Treasurer (Non-Voting)

Circuit Report by Ian Lowe – Leadership Team Service.

Service – a place in the community, a place for justice

Circuit News



1 Trinity Family Centre (TFC)

At Circuit Meeting (CM) TFC requested a Circuit Grant in order to continue the work of the centre. Without a grant, the centre would have needed to close by the end of September 2023 and make employees redundant. The lack of funds situation had been caused by a matter of timing. Certain grant makers had closed applications, others could not be applied for because a full year had not passed since the last application had been made. Wage increases had also contributed to lack of funds. TFC had looked at whether services could be run on a voluntary basis but concluded this was not viable. Two new trustees had recently come on board with new ideas to make the centre sustainable. Revenue from the charity shop had also increased. CM requested the Circuit Finance Officer to look at the accounts of TFC and delegated to the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) to consider the grant request and ensure all the paperwork was in order. After consideration, CLT granted TFC a match-funded grant of £7500 from the Elm Road fund.

The trustees of Trinity Family Centre thanked CM for the timely grant, which saved the centre from closure. Trinity were also extremely grateful for a generous personal donation following CM and the offer of a fundraising concert by Rev. Heather. TFC has subsequently been granted £7500 from the District to match the Circuit's commitment. With another grant of £9600.00 from Awards for All, TFC is back on a more secure financial footing.

2 The Experience Project

The Experience was nominated for a High Sheriff Award, and at Christmas helped Southend Hospital with food packages for staff.

3 UMC – Shoebury site

UMC Church Council agreed to cease worship at the Shoebury site, close this Church and put it up for sale. UMC will continue to worship at the Great Wakering site. CM approved this closure and this will now follow CPD procedures going to the next stage to Synod for approval.

4 Circuit Finances

Adrian Nunn was thanked for his work as Circuit Treasurer and handed over to Alistair Jenkins, the new Circuit Finance Officer. The Circuit ended up with only a very small deficit of £398 on an income of £407,592 in 2022/23. This was very pleasing given the uncertainties of the year and the cost of living crisis, which had impacted church incomes and assessments.

For the current year, 2023/24, CM accepted the proposals from Ian Lowe, Adrian Nunn and Rev. Pete Moorhouse that the Circuit budget would be the same as last year. This was very good news given inflation was over 10% at the time.

The Circuit Finance Officer met the Church Treasurers in April 2024 and they proposed the budget and individual church assessments for next year, 2024/25. CM agreed these. There has had to be an increase in the budget, largely due to Methodist wage increases, factoring in inflation costs and forecasts. It was agreed that the assessment for next year would be based on offering income (plus Gift Aid) and rental income and will result in a 7.1% increase for Wesley. The formula for Assessment was agreed to be for one year and will be reviewed again next year.

5 Stationing 2024/25 and Pastoral Oversight

Rev. Calvin notified CM that he had been given permission to curtail his appointment in the Circuit as he is seeking an overseas appointment. Rev. Pete thanked Calvin for his time given to the Circuit.

Pastor Steve Mayo's candidating for the Southend and Leigh Circuit has been approved by the Stationing Committee.

Therefore, the following charges will take place from the 1st September 2024 and the following ministers will be allocated for Methodist year 2024/2025:

Castle Point Section

Benfleet:	Rev. Zena Smith
Canvey Island:	Rev. Zena Smith
Hadleigh:	Rev. Pete Moorhouse and Rev. Zena Smith
Thundersley:	Rev. Zena Smith

Rochford Section

Hockley and Hawkwell:	Rev. Agnes Sam
Rayleigh:	Rev. Norman Hooks
Rochford:	Rev. Agnes Sam
UMC – Gt Wakering:	Rev. Agnes Sam

Leigh-on-Sea Section

Belfairs:	Rev. Steve Mayo
Fishermen's:	Rev. Heather Simmons
Highlands:	Rev. Heather Simmons
Wesley:	Rev. Steve Mayo

Southend Section

Chalkwell Park:	Rev. Pete Moorhouse and Rev. Margaret Deans
-----------------	---

Thorpe Bay: Rev. Pete Moorhouse
Trinity: Rev. Steve Mayo and Deacon Sarah McDowall
City Centre Chaplain: Deacon Sarah McDowall

6 Circuit Safeguarding Officer

Rob Gray stepped down after many years as Circuit Safeguarding Officer and CM expressed its thanks to him. Judy Taylor was proposed as the new Circuit Safeguarding Officer and CM was very pleased that she had offered. She was unanimously elected to this post.

7 CCLI Christian Copyright Licensing International

CCLI is a service that provides legal access to licensed audio and video content for churches, schools and organisations who use it in worship. CM agreed that a meeting should be set up for all Church projectionists in the Circuit to ensure that we are consistently following the legal requirements.

8 Matters Referred by Conference or District

By 2030 the Connexion aims to become Net Zero. Several churches in the Circuit have already made a commitment to this by achieving the Bronze Eco Church Award. A few others have taken steps to consider the Eco Church route. Installing solar panels had been considered by some churches, but it was noted that this would not be suitable for every building.

Synod agreed that every Church should have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) paid for by the District. Belfairs, Benfleet and Wesley have already had these completed, paid for by the Circuit. The Circuit is going to work together to become Net Zero and is working with those churches that have expressed an interest in Solar panels, including Wesley, and has employed a company to help us consider this. Eco church surveys are being conducted across the Circuit and all churches are requested to make a commitment to achieving the Bronze Eco Church Award.

The Living Wage increased to £12 an hour from Nov 2023 – it was previously £10.90. All Church Treasurers have been informed and payroll is being amended, since Methodism is a Living Wage Employer. Two Circuit Staff were under the new Living Wage and it has been agreed to increase their salary to the Living Wage each year, automatically.

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) Training – Judy Taylor was thanked at CM for leading the training sessions. People were reminded to notify the Circuit Office if they have completed the training online. District have concluded that the Southend and Leigh Circuit has completed their EDI training for all members that required it.

Communication report by Anna Wratishlaw



Communications within Wesley continue apace, as we promote all the events taking place at Wesley across print, digital and social media. Wesley recently featured in the Leigh-on-Sea News, where our Jumble Sale for Christian Hope International was advertised. It was brilliant to get included in this local paper, and goes a long way to promoting and demonstrating our community involvement. Thank you to Pam, Gabrielle and all the team for organising such a successful event bringing so many people into the church.

Over the last year, we have promoted our special services over Christmas and Easter. This included the production of a banner, website & social media artwork and posts, leaflets and/or cards. Over Christmas we also displayed material from the Methodist Church's 'Out of the Ordinary' Christmas campaign, and we continue to make use of resources available from both Methodist Publishing and CPO (Christian Publishing and Outreach), such as the Explore prayer cards available on the prayer table.

Thank you to Judith Taylor for editing and printing the Clarion each month, Sue Hockett who produces our weekly notice sheet, and all those who help create, proofread and distribute our communications in all their forms – all hugely important for promoting everything that goes on at Wesley. Mindful of our aim to become an Eco Church, we continue to distribute communications via email where possible, and I encourage you to make use of this facility as we work to reduce our paper usage.

Please continue to be mindful of GDPR regulations and our policies if you are ever in a position where you need to take, keep or use personal data of any kind, or share any photos or information in regards to our events. Please speak to myself or Judith Taylor if you have any questions on GPDR or data protection within the church context.

Finance Report by Tina Gowers



Our income v expenditure, for the first 8 months of the financial year 2023/2024, shows a deficit of just over £6,000. However, I am expecting a gift aid claim of around £5,800 and income from this year's gift day donations. Our original budget for the year, predicted a £10K deficit but now, I think it will be nearer £4K and this is due to some repairs & maintenance not being carried out (although this may change before the end of the year). Deficits are always worrying as they cannot be sustained in the long-term.

Our offerings / giving is lower than our monthly circuit assessment and the shortfall has to be taken from other income sources i.e. lettings income, café income and other donations. This year, our annual assessment was £42,042 but next year, 2024/25, it will increase to £45,027.

Appendices:

- Budget for 1st Sept 2023 – 31st March 2024
- Finance Report

FUSION Youth & Kids Report by **Emma Hearn Fusion Youth Leader**

Fusion Youth & Kids meets once a month on a Thursday night at 6pm and has up to 100 children attend of primary school age. The children enter through the church and then go through to the back where there are a number of different activities set up – board games, sports, xbox, karaoke, hairdressing, lego, dressing up and lots more! The last half an hour we come into the Church space for our ‘worship’ where we sing songs, have a 10/15minute talk lead by me and then some group games and prayers from our prayer board to round the evening off.

We always have a theme to our regular evenings and an important part is to share our love of Jesus with the children through stories, videos, singing, short plays etc. It really is a joy to see the children learn about Jesus and hopefully, whether it be now or in the future, come to want to know more.

Recent themes have been:

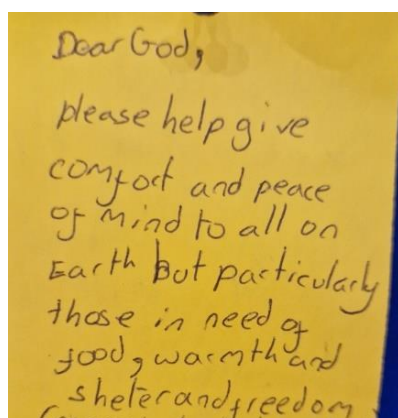
- Easter Special – involving a chocolate bar and a cream pie in the face! Visual idea of sacrifice – Jesus’ sacrifice for us. We also looked at our beautiful glass window of the Last Supper.
- Homelessness – how does that feel – a hole in their lives – God filling that hole no matter what situation you are in.
- Love is..... (1 Corinthians 13.4-8) – did you see our poster? Check it out it’s hanging from the balcony.

Our Team

We are truly blessed to have our righthand ladies - Sam and Clare who work tirelessly for Fusion along with Sami, Luke, Trudi, Ben, Alan along with our wonderful Church family members.

Alan continues to help clear all the chairs for us every month and helps Judy with setting up at the start – thank you both for all your hard and dedicated work.

Our very own Steve Mayo who may not be able to attend regularly due to his many other commitments, has and continues to be, a massive support to the youth of our church and community.



Fusion Prayer



The Sanctuary Café – Youth in our Church by Emma Hearn

We have been very lucky to have 4 Duke of Edinburgh volunteers on a Saturday morning at the café. They have been serving, clearing tables and talking to our customers. They have enjoyed themselves and I have had great reports back from our team about them. One young person who has completed their 3 month period told their mum that maybe her and her mum could help out sometimes. These are people who have never set foot in our church before and now wanting to be part of our community – how wonderful!

Thank you to everyone who volunteers and supports the work of the youth in our church.



Finley, Louie and George – D of E Volunteers

GDPR Report by Judy Taylor



We remain GDPR compliant and Gaye/Anna and myself recently completed an audit for the Circuit GDPR Checklist, which was approved at the Church Council April 2024 meeting. As a church we continue to be mindful of GDPR and starting from August we will be required to update the consent forms we hold in regards to keeping and storing personal information in order to contact members of our church. I would like to thank Gaye and Anna for all the work they do behind the scenes relating to GDPR and how vigilant they both are.

Pastoral Report by Eileen Simmons



I regard Pastoral Care as covering the complete range of events in our lives and it is a real privilege to hear about births (a bumper year), new jobs, examination results, interviews, new homes, family matters, birthdays and so on. Ill health is sad news and I would like to pay tribute here to Pastor Steve who is so prompt to visit at home or in hospital any of our Wesley family.

Pastor Steve and I would love to everyone, who thinks of themselves as in our Wesley family in a Pastoral Group, but currently we are not able to provide that. Methodism has certain rules and only Members can be responsible for a Pastoral Group. I would like to thank all the Pastoral Visitors for their amazing work.

However, Pastor Steve has a group of people, who wish to become members and that might lead to more opportunities. This is the structure, but every time I come to church for any reason I both witness and experience love, care, kindness, friendship and concern for each other.

We continue to welcome new people and there seems to be real evidence this year of how many of our activities introduce individuals to worship. This year one individual progressed from the Sanctuary Café to coming to Sunday worship. Another came via the Warm Room.

Do please talk to me if you would like to help with Pastoral work to ensure we do not leave people out. Even if you are not a member you could work with a Pastoral Visitor and team up with a small number of people to keep in touch. As my own group has grown to twenty two (I take all newcomers), I certainly would welcome your help. People so much appreciate visits, calls, emails, telephone calls and chats before and after church. This applies also to the Sanctuary Café, community lunches, afternoon teas and cakes and so on.

We are all God's children and to care for each other is one of the greatest privileges in life.

Property Report by Alan Severne



Quinquennial Inspection

Every five years the church and ancillary buildings are inspected by a qualified surveyor. The report informs our priorities for essential works, grouped by urgency and in most cases giving an indication of costs though these are not definitive. The report suggests that a reasonable expectation of cost for the items identified is in the region of £60,000. The surveyor also advised that it has become more difficult in recent times to accurately estimate future costs and obtain quotes, an experience which is reflected locally.

Sanctuary

Internally the Sanctuary is generally still in good order, with minor issues only.

Externally some of the pointing should be replaced soon. It is suggested that pointing be performed in “chunks”, starting with the most weathered areas and continuing over an extended period depending on financial constraints. There are a small number of broken segments within the stained glass windows which would need specialist repair. There are no further signs of damp in the porch following remedial action.

Roofs

Rainwater continues to penetrate, under a particular combination of weather circumstances, near the vent structure on the apex of the Sanctuary roof.

I looked over all the flat roof areas and found that the summer heat has caused a number of issues which will need attention once the weather improves. Estimates are being sought. Flat roofs generally have a finite lifespan, though there are some systems which offer a lifetime guarantee these are usually substantially more expensive. Roof renewal can also offer the opportunity – or requirement – to improve insulation. Affordability is a significant factor here.

Organ

The organ is playable following some adjustments by our normal tuner. The relatively wide variations in humidity and temperature as the church is used are responsible for many of its “quirks”. It remains on the agenda of the property and finance group and we are in the initial stages of exploring what another rebuilder might be able to suggest, previous quotes being impractical in current circumstances.

Manse Garden

Gaye has transformed this area to an environmentally friendly space - having a wildflower theme, with further measures planned to enhance the appeal of the area for birds and insects. You may have already seen the birds enjoying her hospitality! The fence will be up shortly.

Lighting and Electrical

Sanctuary internal lighting remains satisfactory following repairs. Emergency lighting throughout the premises is tested monthly and is satisfactory except for inside the lift (See below).

Some of the oldest internal lights in other parts of the building are obsolete and will need to be replaced in the not too distant future. Following the success of the emergency LED units in the Youth Hall and the Concourse it seems prudent to consider where similar units might also be used instead of fluorescent devices and I expect to present costs at the next CC.

Lift

The independent inspection carried out on 11th April was satisfactory except for the emergency lighting and external sounder and the lift was put back in full service the same morning. (The emergency call connection remains operational if the button can be found in the dark: a temporary battery light is in the car and I've posted notices about the issue

Halls

The primary issue is interior finishes, which in many cases have deteriorated over time or due to historical leaks.

Boilers/Water Heaters/Plumbing

Central Heating Boilers have supported heating both the Church and Halls throughout the winter without issue. They are still in the top category for energy efficiency. The new kitchen water heater is also working well. The water heaters providing hot water to the toilets / flower room / both serveries have both failed. CC have agreed these can be replaced; the initial quote was £1544 but I expect to improve substantially on this and works to be completed in the next fortnight.

Safeguarding Report by Judy Taylor



This year has seen many members of the circuit undertake both Safeguarding /Equality and Diversity/Unconscious Bias training, which is great news and we are nearly up to date with all those who are required to undertake Safeguarding training for the roles they hold in the churches of our circuit. The Safeguarding Policy for Wesley has been reviewed and passed by Church Council at our April 2024 meeting. The documentation for the Warm Space was also brought to this meeting for several actions to be agreed by Church Council, and was agreed unanimously.

Worship and Mission Report by Gabrielle Greenway

Worship

Since the last Church Council we have had a number of special services, firstly the Covenant Service on 4th February, this was moved away from the New Year period as it was thought that people might be away but it was still not particularly well attended. On Mothering Sunday, Pastor Steve preached for the first time at this service at Wesley, it was well attended and much appreciated. Our Easter services in the section were also a great blessing.

We have had some new people attending worship, including 3 new children, with 2 more visiting on Easter Sunday. Most preachers included the children in worship with a special talk and activities. Wesley always requests this of visiting preachers. Notably during the Easter season, our service following Shrove Tuesday, Palm Sunday and Easter Day services had full participation from the children.

This quarter we were allocated 3 Local arrangement services, which is a hard task with only 2 active worship leaders and no control over the dates. Isobel stepped up and organised the first service with Judy, even though it was the morning after the play. Judy is leading worship on 21st April and we have solved the 3rd Sunday when neither were available by joining Belfairs on 26th May when Jane is preaching. Next quarter we are being allowed more control over our services and we hope Local Arrangements can be planned in advance.

Mission and Outreach

Our missional activities continue, Fusion is covered elsewhere but remains extremely popular.

Parent and Toddler is always busy with a loving, supportive family atmosphere. We have a new helper, Hannah, and Becca is hoping to rejoin in September as a helper.

The cafe is popular, especially the cakes! We have a number of regular customers who are now a real part of the Wesley community.

Warm Hub is reported elsewhere but numbers of attendees were significantly up on last year.

The recent jumble sale in aid of Christian Hope International was a great success and very well attended. Pam and the team were well organised as usual and worked very hard during the preceding weeks and in the clearing up. Over £1000 was raised for the charity. The cafe was exceptionally busy and the team worked really hard, over £200 was taken for Wesley funds.

Judy is reporting on our application to participate in the Eco Church scheme, something all Methodist Churches are asked to get involved in. As part of this we have begun a native wild flower garden and rewilded the small front garden. Two apple trees

have been planted, one in the front and one in the back garden, a Tayberry is being trained against the fence at the back. The Eco church movement encourages us to grow food plants where possible. "

Then it continues with We will also be planting....

We will also be planting some tomato plants in the front garden. This project has been widely supported by members of various groups using the building, with donations of plants, seeds and bird food, a bird box and bug houses. Soon the area will be fenced and the pond enlarged.

Reports from other Church Groups:

Advisory Group on Property and Finance by Judy Taylor

This year saw the Property and Finance committee merging to form one committee, sadly Geoff Nash retired from the committee and we thank him for all his diligence with taking the notes and all the other many jobs that he held. The Committee is working through the Quinquennial Report to make suggestions to Church Council to move forward with works that need to be undertaken, of which there are several range from those of a small cost to those which will require large sum of money to complete. We are grateful to all who serve on this committee.

Afternoon Tea Report By Janet Whiddett



As we begin another year of Summertime Afternoon Tea and Cakes, the weather is cold and wet for Spring. Each afternoon brings a different mix of people but the format is still the same. A safe, familiar place to meet with old friends and more time to welcome and begin to know new ones. Tables are laid with pretty tablecloths in the Canteen Room which is usually a light, sunny space. It is good to see all age groups and well behaved dogs enjoying a relaxing afternoon together. There is always a selection of cakes and biscuits to choose from, with plenty left over to take a slice or two home. Pam, Julie and helpers work hard making a great refreshment team and thank you to Linda Lister who kindly bakes a delicious cake each time.

We hope these afternoons provide time for good conversation, friendship and the opportunity for anyone to ask questions about faith and the life of our Church.

Cameo House Group Report By Jane Fulford

This house group is a very friendly group of members from Wesley. We usually meet once a month on the third Wednesday in the afternoon at Wesley in the concourse. There is no set agenda for the year we decide each meeting the time before – so a mix of topics can be reviewed varying from Scripture to current local and national concerns. We number about 8 and any newcomers are very welcome.



Team Jumble from Pam and the Jumble Team

So far an amazing amount of £1,237.00 has been raised for the CH and ALS school [Christian Hope International] Many thanks go to:

- All the people involved in the advertising and promoting of the Jumble sale.
- People who moved all the tables down from upstairs and put them back again.
- All the volunteers who set the tables up and put the jumble out.
- The café and Hot Dog gang.
- The tidy uppers and the people who washed the floor.
- All the help that was given in taking left over jumble to the Charity Shops/the numerous tip runs and taking the rags for collection.

This really was a team event and would not have happened with our everyone's contribution, however small.

Creative Worship Report by Jane Fulford

Creative Worship is held on the 4th Tuesday of each month for just less than an hour beginning at 8pm. They are always different but tend to be more meditative. I am very grateful to Isobel Wratishlaw and Sue Hocket who lead these services with thought and care.

The dates for Summer 2024 are

Tuesday 28th May 8pm

Tuesday 25th June 8pm

Tuesday 23rd July 8pm

No meeting in August

Always different

Do come and join us.

Inspire Service Report by Judy Taylor

Inspire Services are held once a month on the third Sunday of the month at 5:30[coffee and cake provided] These services are led by Sanya/Judy/Isobel/Pastor Steve and offer many different styles of worship. We have grown in number and would welcome anyone who would like to come and experience something different. We are very thankful to all our leaders and the work they put into creating exciting and thoughtful provoking worship in a laid back style. All our welcome.

Why Memory Worship?

Julie Peek reflects on the growing success of church services for people with dementia

NO two people experience dementia in exactly the same way.

What may be a help for one person may not be for another. At Memory Worship we try to provide an accepting, accessible space where everyone feels held by God.

After all, we all have dark days from time to time but nothing can extinguish God's light, the light to light our path.

Back in 2016 I was newly employed as a mission enabler for older people and took part in a Methodist study day on the spiritual needs of older people and those living with dementia.

I came away with a strong sense that more needed to be done in our local community to support the spiritual needs of older people.

With the support of my church minister, the Rev Julia Monaghan, I set up a monthly church service called Memory Worship, worship for those with and without dementia at Wesley church in Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

Memory Worship takes a regular consistent pattern of welcome; singing well-known hymns, reading familiar passages of Scripture, sharing the peace and saying the Lord's Prayer together.

The formal part of the service is 30 minutes before leading into a craft activity



and hospitality providing an opportunity for conversation to reinforce the theme of the service. A dementia friendly trained team of volunteers are always on hand with tea, homemade cake and Methodist fellowship.

This service grew very quickly and was replicated by Thorpe Bay church so every month there were two local church services on the first and third Mondays.

Other churches were regularly joining our services to see how they too could set up similar services for their local community.

This all stopped in March 2020 when Covid-19 gripped the world.

This devastating blow compelled me to put together a "Memory Worship at Home" service to be viewed on YouTube, initially for the people that had been attending monthly services at Wesley and Thorpe Bay.

Years on and Memory Worship at Home YouTube service has been watched at home and in care homes locally and all over the country.

These monthly services have been viewed more than 3,000 times by people such as Margaret (pictured) who watches at home in Bedale, Yorkshire, supported by her amazing carer daughter Heather.

Pre-Covid Bedale church had set up their own monthly Memory Worship "Silver service" that Margaret and Heather used to attend together.

The exit out of Covid re-

venture with Christ church United Reformed Church. This means there are now three services locally that people can attend every month.

Now in its eighth year at Wesley church in Leigh-on-Sea, support for people living with dementia is only getting harder.

When I look at our local authorities' support of people living with dementia it is shrinking rapidly due to funding issues and this is a national problem.

Support groups such as Singing for the Brain, men's clubs and advocacy groups are disappearing. Churches are in many cases offering the only support available to people.

A video on "Memory Worship in Leigh-on-Sea, helping all to be included in Church" can be seen on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com).

Memory Worship sessions are all 2-4 pm on the first Monday of the month at Thorpe Bay Methodist church, on the first Tuesday of the month at Rayleigh Methodist church and on the third Monday of the month at Wesley Methodist church.

Julie Peek is no longer employed by the church but continues to lead a dedicated volunteer team rolling out one of the only community connections people living with dementia have access to locally.





Parent and Toddlers Report by Georgina Paveling

P&T is continuing to grow in popularity. As we say goodbye to our graduates it seems so quiet but word soon gets around. And now we have a whole new wave of babies (lots of twins) coming in, who will no doubt be with us till pre-school. The group still has its regulars and continues to forge strong bonds and relationships and supporting each other through daily parenting issues to general problems in life.

Volunteers: Since Becca's departure last September we have continued as always but with just myself, June & Gaye as the main leaders. However we now have Hannah one of our parents who attends the group that pitches in too. Hannah has attended the group for around two years now with her son Percy. Hannah helps out with crafting and tuft tray activities and bakes cakes for our sessions. Hannah's well known for her homemade playdough which often fragrances the room with smells of lavender, gingerbread and cinnamon.

Hannah helps when she can but as she has her son Percy she can't give as much of her time as she would like to.

However, Becca is expecting her second child in September and she intends on returning to playgroup after the babies arrived. Which is just brilliant news! Though we've continued as we have always it's been a lot more work. So having her back will be wonderful.

Activities: The group still has a lot of crafts and themed weeks. Celebrating Divali, Chinese new year, Valentines, Easter, Christmas. Which we throw ourselves into with decorations, crafts and activities.

Wesley the lion: Wesley as you may know by now is our groups everywhere bear. Each week a child has the opportunity to take him home with them and share a week of adventure. We ask that they send us pictures of their time with Wesley and we put them in our book. Which we share with the rest of the group at carpet time. Wesley's so popular we may have to consider a second character. Tears are often shed when having to pass him onto the next child. The children love Wesley's rucksack which they carry him in with his passport, pyjamas and clothes. Some of which have been made by carers that attend the group.

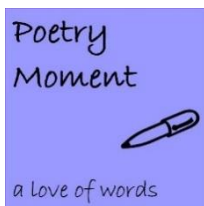
Refreshments : We continue to produce homemade cakes each week for the group. From banana loafs to cupcakes and serve good coffee and tea. Often people tell us that this is one of the things they've been told is the groups selling points. We like to offer our parents and carers a treat. It's hard work with the little ones! But we don't forget them either. So we have fresh fruit and juice for them too.

Supporting charities: We like to support charities some weeks. Donating the £2 donations to the charity of our choice. We've raised money for Children in need, Comic relief and recently The National Autistic society. One of our mums ran the London marathon for NAS this year as her son Rupert who attended the group is Autistic. So again supporting those within the group and their achievements.

Environment: we like to do our bit to save the planet at the group. So we've continued with our Wesley swap shop box. Where people can bring in children's/ baby clothes and take anything they'd like. We also recycle our coffee pods through the pod service and we have swapped our paper plates to plastic reusable ones.

It's been harder with less volunteer's this year. However we've continued to work hard to keep up all the lovely things we offer our visitors. And we maintain a welcoming and inclusive environment which we're proud of.

Poetry Report by Joan Hawkins.



Talking Poetry remains an enjoyable friendly fortnightly meeting for our nine members, although they aren't always able to be present at each meeting.

We have a programme of poets or a subject, and although we start with serious intent, having spent time researching books and the internet, there are usually a few laughs as some of us feel we haven't grasped the poet's meaning.

Two of our older members have left us this year, but we have had an extra two joining, which is encouraging.

If you think you may enjoy a very relaxed approach to poetry, please email Joan on joanh838@icloud.com

Southend Foodbank Report by Anna Wratishlaw



Wesley continues to collect donations for Southend Foodbank and deliver these to the warehouse. A collection bin is available at the back of the church sanctuary, and all donations are very gratefully received.

Over the past year, the foodbank has been serving people who are struggling with the national cost of living crisis, and increased fuel bills. In one year, access to Southend Foodbank has jumped 64.6%. In March 2024, the Foodbank received 626 referrals and provided enough 3-day food parcels for 1584 people; although this is slightly less than the same period last year, it is still 70% higher than March 2022.

In addition to providing 3 days of emergency food across 8 locations, Southend Foodbank provides signposting to additional services, including enabling a member of the Citizens Advice team to be available at 4 of their busiest distribution centres. The Foodbank's Chair of Trustees writes that "[a]s we move into a new year, the financial indications show that this coming year may see even greater need and greater access to our services. Yet we trust that in all this, we would be a light that shines in our community, a light that brings hope to those who are in crisis."

We are endeavouring to include an updated list of most needed items in the weekly notice sheet; for those with smartphones, the *Bank the Food* app can keep you updated with this list and will ping your phone when you enter a supermarket that has a foodbank donation point. The app is completely free and was developed in Southend with a local charity supporting Southend Foodbank. More information on how to donate food, drop-off points, financial donations and other ways to donate are available on the Southend Foodbank website, or please speak to Anna Wratishlaw. Thank you for all you are able to give.

The Clarion Report by Judy Taylor



It has been a pleasure to be the Editor of the Clarion for another year and I would like to thank everyone who contributes whether it is monthly or ad hoc, your items are also most welcome. The Clarion is sent by post to 25 people who have requested a monthly copy and to an email group of over 30 people. Thank you to all those who send on copies of the Clarion, it is good to see how well travelled our magazine is. Here's to another successful year of sharing news/events with our church community and wider.

Thursday Call House Group Report by Isobel Wratishlaw

Thursday Call continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month, in the homes of members (we can always facilitate joining by zoom for those not able to attend in person). Each session is led by a different member, alternating the style and theme. We would always welcome anyone who feels this might be something they'd like to join. Please see Isobel Wratishlaw for details.

Thursday Lunches Report by Jane Fulford



These began in 2021 and ended in October 2023.

We had on average seven people but ranged from 4 to 15 on occasions. Miriam was organiser and cook with her friend Kate and Jane as helpers. Over this time a profit of £1, 335.46 was made for Church funds. Miriam always wanted to give her skills to the church once she retired – thank you Miriam.

She is on the rota for the sanctuary café and is happy to help with catering when available but the needs of her daughter's nursery for a good cook means Miriam is employed again.

As helper I want to thank Miriam and Kate for their friendly, professional and committed approach to the Thursday Lunches.

Time for Prayer Report by Jane Fulford Prayer



At Wesley prayer is important as it should be both for individuals and in worship with and for others. We do have a prayer chain that is in the monthly Clarion. Each month there is a prayer diary – a prayer for each day of the month. Each month is different and there are about seven people who compose them.

We also have a Wesley WhatsApp prayer chain.

In the Vestry there is a prayer book for names to be read out in our Sunday morning worship for those in need of prayer and have **requested** their name be read out.

In our sanctuary there is a prayer table, usually with a prayer tree to be able to write prayers for others and hang them on the tree. In the concourse there is a prayer board. The Fusion Youth Club have a prayer board that is used each month. Recently at an Inspire Worship members of the church wrote supportive replies of prayer for the children. There is a peace table for Ukraine and Israel and Palestine where we do on occasions light candles.

It is hoped that anyone in need of prayer will be able to use any of the above methods to pray. If you want to be added to the prayer chain or WhatsApp group, please contact

me or a steward. If you want to write a prayer diary, please contact me. If you can think of any ways, we can encourage prayer please let us know.

Time for Prayer

A Time for Prayer meets third Thursday of the month at 10.30am for quiet prayer. As in previous years we pray for members of the church, names on the prayer tree/table in the church and the Fusion prayer board.

The names are recorded and when permission is clear added to the Sunday morning Prayer book for Intercessions.

We feel it is important to pray for the needs of others as they are made known to us. The power of pray and the praying with others for individuals is a privilege and one we will continue to do.

However, the present timing is not working for people so I would like to offer a new time and possible format for September. Please do have a think and I welcome any discussion or suggestions.

Visits from Leigh North Street Primary School by Jane Fulford

Over the past three years Wesley Church has been approached by the reception class teacher from North Street Primary School to talk about Holy Week

Background

We do have a unique position with North Street Primary School as there is a gate from our car park to North Street playground. This enables classes to come to the building without going on public roads. Older children of primary age know us because of the Fusion Youth Club and in the summer months the Fusion Youth Club is allowed to use the school playground.

What happens on the visits.

Each year three reception classes have come one after the other with their teachers and teaching assistants in Holy Week. Thanks to members of the Youth Alpha and the Monday Art Group I had banners and large posters/paintings from a walk-through Easter Week for an Easter Fusion Special several years ago.

On the day, I talk to them about the days of Holy Week identifying that Holiday comes from Holy Day. On Palm Sunday we re-enact Jesus coming through the gate and shouting Hosanna – now Hooray. Then we move to the Last Supper, where twelve children become disciples and pretend to eat bread and wine. Alas one child is Judas and receives thirty pieces of silver at the font which is dressed as the Garden of Gethsemane. We look at the idea of Jesus dying on the cross but quickly go onto the Empty Tomb, (two café tables covered in black cloth) and of course the joy of Easter Sunday along with eggs and chocolate.

Must have done something correct as they are still coming.

In May 2023 a request came from Year One teachers from North Street to talk to three classes about what Christians believe – rather a tall order for five-year-olds so I talk more about what we do: singing hymns, reading scripture and saying prayers – having a chat to God. That is why I put a plea for children's Bibles and may be doing so again this May. The 'star' of the show though was the church organ with all its stops, pedals and pipes. Rory, generous with his time, was available and could play and explain how it works. Our last activity was to sing to the tune of the wheels on the bus; -

The pedals on the organ go up and down, up and down.

The pipes on the organ go hoot, hoot, hoot.

The stops on the organ go in and out, in and out.

The keys on the organ go tap, tap, tap.

All great fun and reassuring that they can come into our church and learn 'something' of faith

The children are a delight, and their teachers and teaching assistants clearly know their pupils and are attentive, watchful, and caring.

Warm Hub Report by Geoff Fulford

This winter we ran the Warm Welcome for the second year, again on Tuesdays and Thursdays from November to March.

We had money left over from last year's generous grant from The BEH District so did not need any new funding. We spent a total of £382.72 and also had some donations of £45.90 making the cost £336.82.

Over the 5 months we had 177 visitors, an increase of 53 (44%) on the 124 last winter. Again this was a very valuable service to those who came along. One change from last winter is that we offered free soup and a roll at lunchtimes and this was very well received. And again, it also served as a Community Hub, where people dropped in for a chat and a tea or coffee.

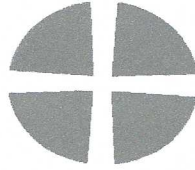
We had a number of helpers and I would like to thank: Dave Cox, Gaye Greenway, Peter Lister, Geoff Nash, Jan Pope (Belfairs), Richard King, Maureen Chambers and Rupert Bertie for their important contribution of time and conversation with our visitors.

Once more, I will leave it to the Church Council to decide if it is run next winter. However, I understand that the Methodist Connexion has now created rules for Warm Spaces (what a surprise) which we will have to comply with for winter 2024/5

WTG Report by Judy Taylor



Since the last ACM report we have put on a pantomime which was a huge success and enjoyed by cast and audience alike. Our March production "" was a complicated play with a small cast, however it was both fun to rehearse and perform. We are hoping to do another Murder Mystery evening in July 2024, which will be a one night production with a meal. As always if you fancy having a go and treading the boards or working behind stage you would be most welcome. As a Theatre group we are limited in our choice of production as our numbers decrease, it would be amazing to have some new recruits. Please contact either Judy Taylor/Isobel Wratishlaw or any of the group.



Church
Accruals Accounts
2023-2024

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TEMPLATE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2024

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

Registered Charity - Registration number (if applicable)

1130293

Circuit No

34-10

Minister

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Church Stewards

Gaye Greenway

Ian Lowe

Eileen Simmons

Judy Taylor

Anna Wratishlaw

Church Treasurer

Tina Gowers

Name of Church

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church No 34/10

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024

Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023-24 £
Income and Endowments					
1 Offerings and tax recoverable	30,694				30,694
2 Donations & Grants	6,170	0			6,170
3 Interest and investment income	5,099				5,099
4 Income from investment properties					0
5 Other income	5,960	-			5,960
6 Internal organisations		5,712			5,712
7 Other charitable activities					0
Total from charitable activities	47,924	5,712	-	-	53,636
8 Lettings	55,051				55,051
9 Other income					0
Total income and endowments	102,974	5,712	-	-	108,686
Expenditure					
10 Circuit assessment or share	42,307				42,307
11 Grants and donations					0
12 Property maintenance	4,703				4,703
13 Insurance, utilities etc	23,790				23,790
14 Provisions					0
15 Depreciation					0
16 Office expenses	272				272
17 Other expenditure	6,914	134			7,048
18 Salaries & pensions	20,289				20,289
19 Internal organisations		4,158			4,158
Total charitable expenditure	98,276	4,292	0	0	102,567
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments					0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties					0
22 Net income/(expenditure)	4,699	1,420	0	0	6,119
23 Transfers between funds	- 4,749	925	3,824		0
24 Other gains/(losses)					0
25 Net movement in funds	-50	2,345	3,824	0	6,119
26 Total funds brought forward	101,334	10,141	0		111,475
27 Total funds carried forward	101,283	12,486	3,824	-	117,594

Name of Church

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church No 34/10

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

Notes to the
Accounts

		General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
Fixed Assets							
Church building and other property	insured value	6,032,761				6,032,761	5,282,669
Investment properties						0	
Investments						0	
Total fixed assets		6,032,761	0	0	0	6,032,761	5,282,669
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments						0	
Loans by the Churches						0	
Investments with TMCP						0	
Central Finance Board Deposits		96,939	10,000	3,824		110,763	85,964
Cash at Bank and in hand		4,345	2,486	0		6,831	25,511
Total current assets		101,284	12,486	3,824	0	117,594	111,475
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)						0	
Grants payable within 2017-18						0	
Total current liabilities		0	0	0	0	0	0
Net current assets/liabilities		101,284	12,486	3,824	0	117,594	111,475
Total assets less current liabilities		6,134,045	12,486	3,824	0	6,150,355	5,394,144
Long term liabilities							
(due after more than one year)							
Grants payable						0	
Loans to the Church						0	
Net assets		6,134,045	12,486	3,824	0	6,150,355	5,394,144
Funds of the Church							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		101,284				101,284	101,334
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		12,486				12,486	10,141
Total Unrestricted Funds						113,770	111,475
Restricted Funds			3,824			3,824	
Endowment Funds						0	
Total Funds		113,770	3,824	0	0	117,594	111,475
Internal Organisations							
	Opening balance		Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Closing balances
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0
External Charitable Organisations							
Bal Fwd 01/09/2023		23					
Income		3047					
Expenditure - Passed to Charities		2958					
Bal c/fwd 31/08/24		112					

Signed

Church Treasurer

3/9/24

Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting

2024	2023
£ 4247	5576

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

9	8
---	---

Nature of the expenses

General church expenses

If there are no payments to Trustees, please record no expenses were paid.

Total amount paid

£ 4,247	5,576
---------	-------

Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

£ nil	nil
-------	-----

Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor

£ nil	nil
-------	-----

Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind

£ 20,541	18,282
----------	--------

Employer's National Insurance costs

£	
---	--

Pension costs

£	
---	--

Total staff costs

£ 20,541	18,282
----------	--------

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

4	4
---	---

Leigh Wesley Methodist

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group*.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

3/9/24

Name of Treasurer

Mrs Tina Gowers

Address

17 The Crest, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. SS9 5NJ

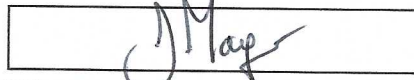
Presentation to the Church Council / ~~Members' Meeting~~ / ~~Leadership Group~~* for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2024 were, or will be* presented to the **Church Council** / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group* at its meeting on

9/10/24

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

Revd Stephen Mayo

Date 9/10/24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2024

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Church's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary 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.

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning 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. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(3) 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.

Name of independent examiner

HEATHER SIMS

Signature of independent examiner

Heather Sims

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

1A GROVE ROAD RAYLEIGH ESSEX
SS6 8PH

Date

26/9/24

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning 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. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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Name of independent examiner

HEATHER SIMS

Signature of independent examiner



Relevant Professional qualification or body

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

1A GROVE ROAD RAYLEIGH ESSEX
SS6 8PH

Date

26/9/24

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

LEIGH WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1130293

Accounts



Picture from Coronation Lunch at Wesley

Taken by Anna Wratishlaw

Annual Church Reports 2023

ACM MINISTER'S REPORT – WESLEY METHODIST 2023

This has been a very different year for me at Wesley and has probably felt different for you too. Over the years I have always strived to be a proactive pastoral visitor, but over this last year, due to the approximately 20 hours a week I have to commit to my presbyteral training, I have become a reactive pastoral visitor. This at times, has been a real struggle, trying to balancing church, student and home life. Shortly, I will be coming to the end of my 2nd year of training, and in September I will commence my 3rd and final year. I will then be a probationer for 2 years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your patience, understanding and support as I fulfil God's calling upon my life to become a presbyter in the Methodist church.

This has been a better year for Wesley as far as community groups and hirers are concerned, as most have returned to us after the Covid-19 pandemic.

Financially, we survived, and came through the other side, but it has been very tight. Many churches in Methodism have not been so fortunate, so we give praise and grateful thanks to God that we are still here.

Many of our activities have been very successful in the past year. Fusion Youth Club is regularly seeing over 100 children, Parent & Toddlers is thriving and Memory Worship, although slightly down in number since the pandemic, is doing excellent work in supporting those with, and without dementia.

The weekly lunches have also been successful, due to the commitment of volunteers, to whom we give grateful thanks.

Our café is doing well and is seeing new people coming every week, and the table top sales, which have coincided, as well as raising amazing amounts for charities, have also attracted new people to the church.

Throughout the colder months, Wesley opened a Warm Space, which prove to be a very beneficial outreach activity, and all those who helped are to be commended for their commitment and efforts.

Our Sunday congregation has also had a boost of new people who have been warmly received into the Wesley family, which has been great to see.

This just leaves me to say a huge thank you to all those who work to keep Wesley functioning and active within our community in whichever role you undertake. Without you, the church would not be here, or would not be undertaking the mission activities it engages in, shining God's love and light into our local community and beyond. Thank you.

I leave you with words of encouragement from the Apostle Paul: *¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your*

good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time – God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might for ever. Amen. [1 Timothy 6:12-16 NIVUK]

May God richly bless you,

Pastor Steve Mayo

May 2023

Members and their Capacity of Wesley Methodist Church- Current
as of 24/1/23

<u>Name</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
Rev. Peter Moorhouse	Superintendent Minister
Pastor Steve Mayo	Minister (Chair of Council)
Judy Taylor	Church Secretary/ Safeguarding/Circuit Rep
Gabrielle Greenway	Co-ordinating Steward/Outreach /Circuit Rep
Ian Lowe	Serving, Inclusion and Justice in the Circuit Community/Circuit Steward
Anna Wratishlaw	Communication/Deputy Circuit Rep for GG
Eileen Simmons	Pastoral Co-ordinator
Emma Hearn	Youth
Sanya Strachan	Worship and Mission
Geoff Hawkins	Church Rep
Helen Boyd	Church Rep
June Childs	Church Rep
Alex Childs	Church Rep
Rupert Bertie	Church Rep
David Cox	Church Rep
Isobel Wratishlaw	Church Rep
Alan Severne	Property Co-Ordinator (Non -voting)
Tina Gowers	Treasurer (Non-Voting)



Communication report by Anna Wratishlaw

Communications within Wesley – in all the varying forms it takes - has been very busy over the past year, as most activities have now resumed and new events have taken place. Over Christmas, Wesley featured in a local paper with a piece on our Santa's Grotto event which raised funds for the Carli Lansley foundation. Thank you to Emma, John and all the team who worked so hard on the event, and to the charity for arranging the article. It was brilliant to get such good coverage, which goes a long way to promoting and demonstrating our community involvement.

Over the last year, we have continued to promote special services over Christmas, Easter and the Teddy Bears Picnic on Mothering Sunday. These usually include the production of a banner, website & social media artwork and posts, and linking in with local 'what's on' advertising across websites, newspapers and social media wherever possible. Over Christmas we also displayed material from the Methodist Church's 'There is Room' Christmas campaign throughout the building, to help promote this important message which is closely aligned with Wesley's inclusive values. Following a Worship Consultation meeting in September, leaflets have been produced with details of the monthly worship services held at Wesley, and the dates for the connexional year. These are available at the back of the church for anyone who may be interested in attending one of these services. As we now have a growing number of promotional leaflets and information, I have purchased leaflet display stands – primarily for promoting services and events taking place at Wesley - and I am looking at options for how we display local community events.

We continue to integrate new ways of working and methods of communication brought in during the pandemic (email distributions for example), and thanks go to Judith Taylor for editing and printing the Clarion, and to Sue Hockett for updating and printing the weekly notice sheet – both are hugely important for promoting everything that goes on at Wesley.

Please continue to be mindful of GDPR regulations and our policies if you are ever in a position where you need to take, keep or use personal data of any kind, or share any photos or information in regards to our events. Over the last few months, Wesley's GDPR data consent forms have been sent out to all those we hold data for (this includes contact information). We are required by law to have obtained your consent in order to use and store this information. If you have not returned this form, the church will no longer be able to contact you or hold this information. We do have forms available should you require a copy, and we are more than happy to assist if you would like help with these - please speak to myself or Judith Taylor if you have any questions on GDPR or data protection within the church context. Thanks to all who help create, proofread and distribute our communications in all their forms.

Circuit Report by Ian Lowe – Leadership Team (Service)

Service – a place in the community, a place for justice



Circuit News

Circuit Mission Planning Day

As an advocate of local church, Rev. Pete is hugely proud that the Circuit has come out of the pandemic with the same amount of churches that it entered it with – sadly this is not the same for other Circuits. However, the Circuit is reaching a critical mass in some areas with not enough people to fulfil necessary jobs and it is estimated some churches will not stand a chance of surviving past the current generation.

A Circuit Mission Planning Day was held on 18th June at Belfairs and the aim of the day was to develop a plan for the way forward. The plan will be an ongoing exercise and input from all churches is encouraged. The day was lead by the District Discipleship Enabler (Angela Brydon) and we now have a number of proposals for where we would like the Circuit to be.

Out of the planning day was developed a Mission planning toolkit, which many churches completed to enable a Circuit Mission plan to be developed. Anne Bryant has produced a user-friendly version of the Discipleship Pathway document, which churches used to score themselves on each aspect - what areas churches can improve on and what are their strengths.

The Experience Project at Whittingham Avenue Mission Centre

Work continues as usual and thanks was given to Ocado for enabling the project to run a very extensive food bank. The project regularly receives more donations than they can handle. This surplus has meant 16 ecumenical partners across the local area are being supported with food that would otherwise have gone to landfill. The existing funding for the project is due to run out in 2023. Therefore, in order for this valuable work to continue Circuit Meeting approved a grant of £30k over 3 years. A District grant has been applied for on a match-funded basis. Rev. Peter Moorhouse advised that various external grants had also been applied for, such as The National Lottery.

Warm Spaces

The response to Warm Spaces has been mixed. Churches were not overwhelmed & people came for the company not necessarily warmth. For Hockley, it had been an unexpected opportunity for the congregation to come together in the spirit of co-operation. For many the crisis had been around food & not warmth. Rev. Pete Moorhouse thanked the churches for responding fast to an unexpected mission.

Ministerial Stationing 2023/24

The Circuit will welcome back Heather Simmons in the next Connexional year. Pastor Steve Mayo will also be back full time in 2024. Rev. Calvin Samuels is on sabbatical from 1st March through to May 2023. Rev. Pete is due a sabbatical in 2024.

Appointments

With the sad passing of Kathy Burrell, the many roles that she held within the churches, Circuit and across Connexion are being reviewed. There is no one person that has all the knowledge and experience of Kathy and can take on all that she did – she will be greatly missed.

Pamela and Patrick Smith have both resigned from their roles as Circuit Steward / Manses & Property Co-ordinator and Circuit Co-Treasurer respectively. The Superintendent has thanked them both for the work they have put in over the years in their various roles.

his has left the Circuit with some immediate gaps that need addressing. The Circuit needs to look for more volunteers to fill these roles.

Some roles are filled:

Ian Lowe is now the longest serving Circuit Steward, so becomes Senior Circuit Steward. Anne Bryant, and Mike Spauld continue as Circuit Stewards

Keith Norman is now Circuit Meeting Secretary

Rev. Zena Smith is now Synod Secretary

Adrian Nunn is now the sole Treasurer.

The Circuit Office staff will minute Circuit Meeting, Circuit Leadership Team meetings and other meetings in the Circuit. They will also co-ordinate Manse and Property matters.

Other roles, e.g. convening the Circuit Invitation Committee and Sabbatical Support group etc. are vacant and will need to be appointed, when necessary, by Circuit Meeting.

The Mission with Forum & Young Person' Rep roles remain vacant.

Cost of Living Crisis

The cost of living crisis is also influencing mission plans in ways we hadn't considered back in March 2022. Some churches have raised hire costs, while others have struggled to maintain the same level of lettings. Some churches are changing where they worship in order to heat less of their buildings, while others opened more in order to provide 'warm spaces' for the local community. Some churches are reviewing their contracts with energy suppliers & moving to fixed rates deals. Hockley organised all their church activities/meetings on the day of the 'warm space' in order to reduce their costs.

The cost of living crisis is also affecting the Circuit finances. Owing to inflation, increases in stipends/wages and on-costs, as well as other rising prices (e.g. energy, maintenance etc.) in the Circuit and across the Connexion, a shortfall is expected in the Circuit budget by the end of the year. Looking ahead to next year churches' assessments would have needed to be raised substantially, which is unfeasible. A budget committee was formed to look at the forecast and see if there were any areas of movement – this committee consisted of Adrian Nunn, Rev. Pete Moorhouse and Ian Lowe. The Circuit Meeting accepted the proposals from the committee and the Circuit budget for the next Methodist year will be the same as this year. This is very good news given inflation is over 10%. However, some churches are struggling to pay their assessments. The Circuit Treasurer will meet with the Church Treasurers on May 4th 2023 to determine the formula for how the budget is divided up. If some of the struggling churches pay less, it will inevitably mean those churches who are in a better position will need to pay more.

Grants

Circuit Meeting has reminded churches that grants are intended to kick-start Mission projects that churches wouldn't have otherwise considered. Grants are an incentive which serve as a reminder that we are a Circuit and not isolated churches. A number of churches have received grants. There is still money left in the Elm Road fund and future applications for grants for Mission are still encouraged.

Bible Month

Will be in July this year on the Book of Revelation. For the next plan churches and local preachers will be contacted to see if they want to participate that month; it is understood some churches can't participate due to united services and other prior arrangements. Generally only half the churches in the Circuit participate each year, but the Circuit Leadership Team wishes to keep Bible Month up as it offers Scriptural lessons to the wider membership.

Matters Referred by Conference or District

Rev Calvin was congratulated on his appointment as Deputy Chair of Missions Committee.

Sabbaticals are beneficial for all concerned and allow Ministers to recharge and refresh. Circuit Meeting approved a proposal to pay Supernumeraries to cover Sabbaticals. The pay would be approx. one 1/3 of a stipend.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Training

Conference has passed down the requirements for EDI training that will affect ministers, employees, circuit reps, local preachers, church stewards and many others across Circuit and church life. This involves unconscious bias training, an EDI online course and a personal development project. This is going to be a huge amount of work

for the Circuit Office to co-ordinate, and the Superintendent still needs to get to grips with the requirements.

The Circuit has agreed that EDI is an important issue that we need to work on, but did note that it was going to be a vast task and would be difficult to get many church members who are already under a lot of pressure to complete more work. It has been suggested that we should approach it positively as an addition to safeguarding, and that if churches offered a day course for the whole congregation to work through it together this would be the best approach.

The Superintendent and the Circuit Office are to meet in the near future to put a plan together so we can show the District we will complete the training in a realistic time.



Finance Report by Tina Gowers

Negative Points

I'd like to point out the huge difference in our Circuit Assessment figure and the total income from direct giving and weekly offerings. £5,000 has already been transferred from the General account and the only reason I've not yet transferred more from the CFB account is because the Internal Organisations balance is offsetting the Circuit balance. This doesn't mean I'm using the Organisations money, it just means that there's enough in our Current account to cover this deficit. And, whilst money can stay in the CFB account, it's earning interest.

There is also a deficit between income from lettings and property related expenditure. However, as we enter the Summer months, we won't be spending so much on the utility bills.

The predicted end of year deficit is over £12,000 but is offset slightly, by the internal organisations, who also make donations to the church general fund periodically.

Positive Points

I'm about to claim our Gift Aid back which should be around £6,300 of which, about £4,800 will go into the Circuit account.

The Sanctuary Café income has exceeded the predicted budget figure and is proving a very worthwhile Community Outreach facility. At the end of the year, profits go into the church General fund which, as you can see, has helped to pay the assessment this year.

Both Fusion and Parent & Toddler are flourishing and there have been no issues with the money coming through the Church accounts.

Our Electricity prices are fixed until November 2025 and our Gas prices are fixed until November 2024. Contracts are negotiated 11 months before the end date, so I'll be looking at new Gas prices in December 2023. However, this will depend on the price we're offered as it may be worth our while to hold off on a new contract until later in the year, to see if prices fall.

FUSION Youth & Kids

Report by *Emma Hearn Fusion Youth Leader*

Fusion Youth & Kids meets once a month on a Thursday night at 6pm and has up to 100 children attend of primary school age. The children enter through the church and then go through to the back where there are a number of different activities set up – board games, sports, xbox, karaoke, hairdressing, lego, dressing up and lots more! The last half an hour we come into the Church space for our 'worship' where we sing songs, have a 10/15minute talk lead by me and then some group games and prayers from our prayer board to round the evening off.

Since stepping down from running the Club on a weekly basis, Judy Taylor has taken over the running particularly the administration side, organising the craft and games whilst I continue to do the talk and lead the singing and prayers. We have found that monthly meetings are still popular so we will continue until September when Judy and I will meet again to discuss the future of Fusion.

We have just had our Easter Special with 115 children attend. Lots of fun throughout the 2 hour special with an important element of sharing the Easter Story with the children.

We always have a theme to our regular evenings and an important part is to share our love of Jesus with the children through stories, videos, singing, short plays etc. It really is a joy to see the children learn about Jesus and hopefully, whether it be now or in the future, come to want to know more.

Our Team

We are truly blessed to have our righthand ladies - Sam and Clare who work tirelessly for Fusion and have continued to stay on with Fusion once a month. Also recently joining the team regularly we have Sammy and Trudi along with her daughter Hope.

Rose a mum of children who have attend the clubs also attends with a watchful eye, beautiful singing voice and generally wonderful person to have around.

From our Church family we have the wonderful Gaye, Jane, Isobel, Anna, Alex and June who regularly help out. We were blessed to have the fabulous Joss with us on many occasions along with her brother Benedict. It goes without saying Joss is a sad loss to us all at Fusion and we miss her sweet soul around the place.

Alan clears all the chairs for us every month and my brother Matthew comes monthly to help out with whatever needs doing and the lovely Angie and my sister in law Sue who come along to help with Special events.

Our very own Steve Mayo who may not be able to attend regularly due to his many other commitments, has and continues to be, a massive support to the youth of our church and community.



GDPR Report by Judy Taylor

In line with the circuit requirements Wesley has recently undertaken a Data Protection Audit which included the completing of Data Consent Forms.

The audit is in line with requirements for the Circuit Office and has to be completed by 31st May 2023.

Those people who declined to complete a Data Consent form for Wesley have now been removed from the Church list of people to contact. This decision was made at the Church Council on Wednesday 26th April 2023. All completed forms are kept in a locked filing cabinet in the office in line with GDPR guidance.



Pastoral Report by Eileen Simmons

Last August Pastor Steve took a baptism within our morning worship and a couple not known to me were sitting immediately behind the baptismal contingent. I approached them after the service and welcomed them and asked if they were part of the baptismal group. I was told no, but of course I continued to chat as they had coffee with me. As they were leaving I said it would be lovely if they chose to join us on another Sunday. As they left, Steve was at the door and he asked me if I knew she was the new circuit minister, Rev. Agnes Sam. As I did not I rushed to the car park and told them they would always be welcome, but doubly so, as she was joining the circuit. Since then she and I have a great relationship and she reminds me every now and then how brilliant Wesley is at welcoming newcomers.

I think this example shows just how welcoming we are and what fantastic teamwork we have; from Linda Lister's volunteers who welcome all at the door, to the unofficial spotters inside who note anyone new, gives one of us the nod and they join them to chat. There are too many of us to mention names, but recently we have added three sets to our Community Roll helped by the warmth of our welcome and follow up.

Dara Jones and Jay, Jeannie Brooke and Ursula Warwick. Dara and Jay are in the Metropolitan police and Dara tells me she is on duty near Buckingham Palace on Coronation day. I shall look very carefully for her on TV !

At this point I need to pay tribute to the hard working team of Pastoral Visitors, who work so cooperatively together with me. We each have our own group, but happily phone each other with news of each other's individuals in such a supportive way.

Wesley has so many lovely traditions including one of giving plants after Easter Sunday service, which are so much welcomed by the recipients. Here I need to thank Annette Charnock, who does such lovely creative work in making up these floral gifts.

Every member of Wesley has a Pastoral Visitor, but not all on the Community Roll. Anyone who worships with us is invited to talk to me about supporting our Pastoral work, whether a member or on the Community Roll. This already happens, but we can never have too many of us willing to meet, chat or phone each other in a supportive way.

I used to have my own designed Welcome Form for those starting to worship with us, but since GDPR I have changed, and now use that form, plus a form welcoming just giving my own contact details and those of Pastor Steve.

All newcomers come into my own Pastoral group to start with, but then one of the other visitors may take over certain individuals if they have a connection.

I welcome all information and with the individual's permission include their details of illness or other news for my monthly Clarion Pastoral News.

I love my role as Wesley's Pastoral Coordinator and regard it as a real privilege to be so.
Eileen Simmons

Tel : 472521 email: eileen.kester.simmons@gmail.com

Property Report by Alan Severne



Quinquennial Inspection

Since the last CC meeting we have had a Quinquennial inspection. In general this is much in line with what we expected. I am pleased to report that the surveyor does not consider any of the cracks to be significant structurally.

The surveyor has indicated that in the current climate it is more difficult for him to produce accurate long-term estimates and in conversation said recent experience reflects the difficulties in obtaining estimates in general making it unlikely that three quotes will be found for a project.

The report provides estimates under the section “Works of Repair”. For convenience I have inserted the items and estimates below.

E.1 Of utmost urgency

1. Complete proposed damp proofing works to entrance lobby. S
2. Remove sections of old cast iron rainwater goods from flat roof areas. I
3. Secure frame to fire escape door in nursery. C
4. Provide ventilation to nursery office. U
5. Relevel manhole covers in concourse floor. I
6. Remove lift oil from intake cupboard. C

Estimated Costs £2,000 C=complete, I=incomplete, S=scheduled, U=unstarted

E.2 Essential within the next twelve months

1. Undertake continuing repair and clearance of rainwater goods.
2. Undertake external redecoration work and joinery repairs.
3. Undertake repairs to all defective stone/concrete sills.
4. Continue with maintenance and repairs to flat roof areas and remove moss and other debris.
5. Remove items wedged between nursery wall and back boundary.
6. Investigate areas of damp to first floor level and check corresponding roofs and mend accordingly.
7. Cut back Ivy to rear of building.
8. Repair all defective render and seal concrete frame to Wesley Hall stairwell.
9. Label and manage all asbestos as detailed.
10. Repair soil vent pipe.

Estimated Costs £10,000

E.3 Essential within the next five years

1. Undertake on-going pointing and repair to brickwork and stonework.
2. Continue maintenance and repairs to church roof slopes and all flat roofs.

3. Continue on-going repairs to church windows and older remaining hall windows.
4. Undertake ceiling repairs and general plasterwork repairs prior to redecoration.
5. Continue programme of internal redecoration work.
6. Continue replacement of defective cast iron gutters and downpipes and replacement of asbestos rainwater goods.
7. Refinish older wooden floors.
8. Continue with maintenance of boundary treatments and surfaced areas.
9. Regularly review energy efficiency.

Estimated Costs £40,000-£50,000

E.4 Advisable

1. Repaint white edging to steps.
2. Provide hot water to first floor basins.
3. Cap and vent chimney.
4. Cost out fitting snow guards to church roof slopes.
5. Insulate roofs.
6. Resolve organ air pressure issue.
7. Reinstate wall and ceiling vents to sanctuary space

No estimate made.

As well as its coverage of the building condition the full report includes recommendations on obtaining specialist advice on addressing areas of damp plasterwork, obtaining a professional fire risk assessment and reviewing PAT testing – HSE have issued new guidance on this.

Sanctuary

Internally the Sanctuary is generally still in good order, with minor issues only.

Externally some of the pointing should be replaced soon, and there are a small number of broken segments within the stained glass windows. I am trying to obtain a cost for the window repairs, not so much for functional reasons but because broken windows can attract further unwanted attention.

Organ

The organ is currently (9th April) playable following some adjustments by our normal tuner. The new combined Finance & Property group are taking some exploratory steps to see if there are viable options for a more extensive overhaul.

Manse Garden

The Quinquennial Surveyor has expressed concern about the practicalities of incorporating this into the vehicle-accessible areas. See report from the combined finance/property group.

Lighting and Electrical

Church main lighting is still presenting some issues. The problem is caused by faulty controllers which are expensive to replace. By implementing a second layer of switching which will take the major load away from the controllers it is intended that a more robust system will be created. This will be installed shortly.

The outside bollard lights around the church will be addressed once the damp works are complete.

Some of the oldest internal lights in other parts of the building are obsolete and will need to be replaced in the not too distant future. Following the success of the emergency LED units in the Youth Hall and the Concourse it seems prudent to consider where similar units might also be used instead of fluorescent devices.

Sanctuary Porch Damp

Paul Wolton, Contracts Manager for the firm that carried out the original refurbishment came down to see us and provided some insight into the detail works and how they might have led to the damp. He recommended a damp treatment company (Maljon) who will shortly begin remedial works.

Halls

David Cox's daughter Louise has been kind enough to arrange a volunteer who has begun plaster repairs.

Boilers

Both the main boilers and the new water heater are working well. Controls still have room for improvement but are adequate.

Safeguarding Report by Judy Taylor



Safeguarding Training has been on going and Wesley has received a session for those who could attend. Another training session is being planned for after a church service at Wesley to enable more people to attend.

There is also a Circuit Safeguarding Audit being completed at present and Wesley is at present fully compliant.

It has been announced at Circuit Meetings that Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Training is now being included in the mandatory training, which could in the future be added to the Safeguarding training. We will be kept abreast of any changes by Rob Gray the Circuit Safeguarding Officer.

Reports from other Church Groups:

ADVISORY GROUP ON FINANCE (formerly the Finance Advisory group) By Geoff Nash

Meeting in advance of Church Council, to whom we report, the group has met three times.. The group is made up of Pastor Steve (Chair), Tina Gowers John Hearn, Alan Severne, Ian Lowe, Rupert Bertie and Geoff Nash.

With mutual agreement it seemed appropriate to combine the Property and Finance Groups, so Judy Taylor, June Childs and Alex Childs have joined those above, as members of the **FINANCE & PROPERTY GROUP (FPG)** .

The current accounts are presented at each meeting, noted and the need for any action discussed. To retain our hirers, we have not raised our charges to them during this Methodist Year, but they have been given notice that we will be reviewing them in September. New utility contracts have to be negotiated in the not too distant future and these are likely to be much higher than we currently pay.

A number of projects are under consideration. The organ has been serviced and further work is under consideration, work is due to start in mid-April in the porch. A new proposal is to be considered for the area behind the old manse

Wesley always has pressing financial needs, so the group wishes to support any fund raising. We encourage people to contribute on Gift Day and to consider leaving the church a legacy in their wills.



Afternoon Tea Report By Janet Whiddett

It was good to welcome everyone back for Afternoon Tea and Cakes last year. We all seemed more confident being out and about and meeting together in the one room. We thank all who made or contributed cakes and biscuits for us to share. For Pam and Linda who continue to serve our refreshments and clear up afterwards-great teamwork.

My thanks to Maureen Chambers who has kindly offered to be a Listening Ear during these afternoons. Anna has designed some pocket sized leaflets with all the dates throughout the year, which is very helpful. We start again at the end of April and look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones. All ages most welcome.

Cameo House Group Report By Jane Fulford

This house group is a mixed group of members from Wesley and Rochford. We usually meet once a month on a Wednesday in the afternoon. There is no set agenda for the year we decide each meeting the time before – so a mix of topics can be reviewed varying from Scripture to current local and national concerns. This year we have been looking at the Lord's Prayer. We number about 8 and any newcomers are very welcome.

The discussion is always thoughtful and deepens one's faith.

Thank you to those who have attended.



Clarion by Judy Taylor

Thank you to all those who are part of the process of preparing the Clarion for print, Terry Harper is invaluable as proof reader. Thank you to all those who write items and articles each month and share the events happening with in our church.

Creative Worship Report by Jane Fulford

This more usually a more meditative and creative service on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 8pm. It is always different, and I thank Sue Hockett and Isobel Wratishlaw for their wonderful contributions.

The numbers are small but those who come appreciate what is offered. On a couple of occasions, we have had new people join us.

Perhaps with renewed advertisement we may gain more support.

All are welcome

Inspire Report by Judy Taylor

This service is alternative to a worship service on a Sunday morning and is attended by a small but faithful group of people. The once a month services are led by Pastor Steve Mayo, Sanya Strachan and Judy Taylor. Each session has a different style and content which makes them all unique and hopeful there will be something for all.

Services start at 5:30 with coffee and cake and in a relaxed atmosphere the service continues for about an hour in length. Why don't you come along and join us to experience new ways of worship.



Memory Worship Report by Julie Peek

Why Memory Worship?

How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? (Psalm 137:4)

After attending a Methodist study day in June 2016, entitled 'The spiritual needs of older people and those living with dementia', I was drawn to the difficulties for people living with dementia in expressing and connecting with their own spirituality. I came away with the conviction that, as churches, we should be doing more. Worship is an important channel for recalling the past and we all have a continuing need to worship and experience a loving encounter with God, but for people living with dementia it can become increasingly difficult to make these connections.

Music

Music is a powerful trigger for memory recall and can take people back to a time when they felt safe and held by God. So, stimulus can be introduced in the form of music,

Bible stories, the Lord's Prayer, and other familiar liturgy. Many times, during Memory Worship I have seen examples of the power of music creating a sense of spiritual fulfilment. A familiar hymn has the ability to awaken feelings of wellbeing and memory for words without the need for a hymn sheet. Our opening song, chosen by our team is an uplifting song that raises our spirits: 'Bring Me Sunshine', famously sung by Morecombe and Wise.

Memory Box

Repetition is key in Memory Worship and nowhere is this more evident in the liturgy opening the Memory Box. We unpack it in the same way each service and it contains a red cloth, a cross, a little prayer bear, a candle and a Bible. Firstly, we take out the red cloth with the words: "We shake out the red material, red for love, remembering that God loves us." This cloth then dresses the table. We take out the cross and give it to a member of the congregation addressing them by their Christian name saying: "We remember that Jesus died on the cross and we remember that it is a sign of forgiveness." We take out the prayer bear and hand it to another person saying "This little prayer bear reminds me that I can take all my worries and all my fears to the Lord in prayer" We take out the candle and give it to another person saying: "We remember that Jesus came as the light of the world." Then we take the Bible and give it to another person saying: "We remember that the Bible is the word of God, and we remember that through the Bible, God speaks to us."



Lighting The Flame

The person leading the service slowly returns to each person to retrieve each of the items and places them one by one on the table. "We remember that the cross is a symbol of hope and we remember that Jesus is alive and with us today." Then we return the candle, saying: "We remember that we all have dark times, but nothing can

extinguish Gods light" This is where we come to what I find to be the most profound part of the service; lighting the Memory Worship candle. The person leading the service addresses the congregation: "And God said: 'Let there be ...'" No matter how badly we struggle with memory, everyone remembers God said: "Let there be Light," Lastly, the Bible is returned, and we then consider: "What are we reading from scripture today?"

A programme of monthly services was devised with a regular pattern of welcome, well-known hymns, familiar scripture and saying the Lord's Prayer together. After worship, carers can talk with Memory field professionals and meet with others in the same situation. We plan sensory stimulating games and crafts around the theme of the service that are fun and simple in form.



Covid

For people living with dementia the Covid pandemic was devastating. The personal stories of folks that used to come to Memory Worship, not being able to access shopping deliveries, no respite for carers and the terror of a loved one admitted to hospital unable to accompany them felt unbearable. That's really why I started Memory Worship "at home" to reassure that God is with us where ever we are; whether we feel worthy or not. Thank goodness the need for YouTube services came to an end. As much as it was helpful it didn't reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation. Two years on and Memory Worship "at home" has been watched at home and in care homes over 3,000 times.

Very sadly I lost my Dad in May 2022; he was always my greatest advocate and in June Rev Julia Monaghan also passed away. I decided in August to step away from employment with the Methodist Church with the intention of volunteering instead. In this way I continue to support the initiatives I remain called to.

It is lovely to see that churches continue to set up Memory Worship services. It is my hope in the future to set up a charity that supports a website offering all the tools a church or care home needs to set up a Memory Worship service.

Memory Worship 2pm-4pm on the 3rd Monday of the month at **Wesley Methodist Church**

Memory Worship 2pm-4pm on the 1st Monday of the month at **Thorpe Bay Methodist Church.**

Memory Worship 2pm-4pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month at **Rayleigh Methodist Church**



Parent and Toddlers Report by Georgina Paveling

The group continues to be busy every week and we see many new faces coming through our doors. The word has spread of the cakes Becca bakes fresh every week and a good coffee. Plus the effort we put in with our seasonal activities.

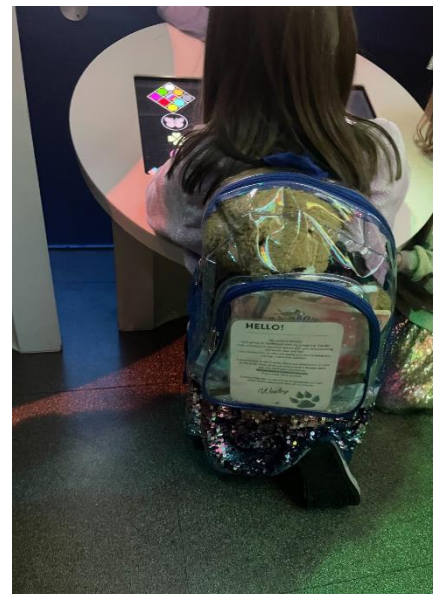
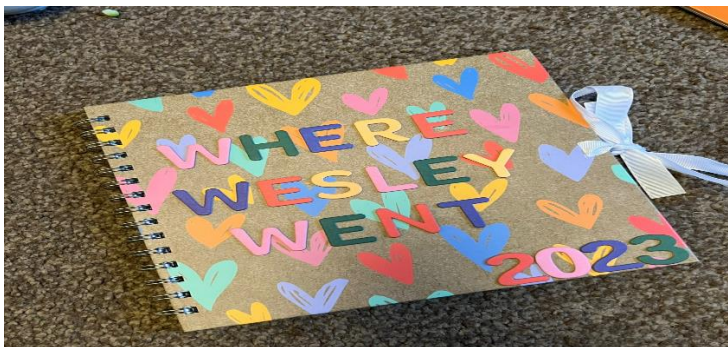


We have seen a change to our team of volunteers from March this year. Sadly Charlotte who volunteered has returned to work full time and isn't able to commit to Wednesdays. So I'd like to thank her on behalf of Wesley for all the work and time she gave us over the past year. This means we are in need of volunteers who can take on an active physical role within the group. We did advertise through our own social media but sadly no one has come forward as yet. But Becca, myself, June, Gaye make it work between us.



We have kept the same structure of the playgroup the same as last year, free play, tidy time, story time and ending with singing, parachute and bubbles.

Wesley our mascot continues to go home each week to share adventures with our children who attend. We now are on our 2nd book of pictures & stories of those adventures which we share each week with the group. He's a well-loved lion with a big heart.



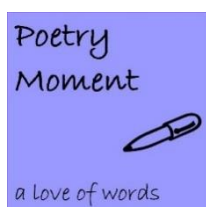


We have also added a new initiative called 'Wesley's little swap shop'. We have a box which we invite our members to bring along any children's clothes and shoes that are in good condition that their own children have grown out of to put in the box. We then invite them to take anything out they would like. We came up with the idea because we know how fast children grow out of things and it is also a way of helping families save money in these expensive times. It's also great for the environment!



The group has become such a positive welcoming, supportive space for all to enjoy. Something I'm very proud to of taken on and continue the hard work of Majorie and her team.

All that's left to say is a big thank you to Becca, June, Gaye for all their hard work and continued support in making the group the success it is.



Poetry Report by Joan Hawkins.

Talking Poetry meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays from 2.30 to 4 pm and we currently have 11 members with an average attendance of 7 .

We have a programme of poets or subjects and we each read our chosen poem followed by shared discussion and often a few laughs as some poets are easier to understand than others. Our session ends with friendly chat over tea/coffee and biscuits . If you are interested please contact Joan by email joanh838@icloud.com or on 07871 180 644

Sanctuary Café Report by Emma Hearn

The Sanctuary Café continues to be very popular and busy run on a Friday and Saturday morning. The Cafe welcomes a wide range of people not only from our church family but from the wider community. Many are now regular visitors with whom we have got to know and whom have become part of our wider church family.

It really has been wonderful meeting and getting to know new people in our community. Jane is often on hand should someone want to spend time with her in private prayer, Gaye too always with a kind listening ear to anyone wanting that solace. We have a fabulous volunteer team of tea and coffee servers, and it has been great to welcome new people (not previously connected with the Church) that help on a Friday and Saturday mornings.

Thank you to our wonderful cake makers who keep the customers coming back! We still need more volunteers to make cakes and help to serve so please come and have a chat with me if you think this is something you could help with.

Throughout the year we have run several charity coffee mornings – Containers of Hope and MacMillan. Hugely successful not only financially for the charities but brilliant at bringing the community together.

The café financially is holding its own and supporting the teas and coffees after Church services. We are still hoping to improve our serving station and coffee machines soon and have been grateful to the Coop with extra funds to help with this.

Thank you to all that support the Sanctuary Café.



Southend Foodbank Report by Anna Wratislaw

Wesley continues to collect donations for Southend Foodbank and deliver these to the warehouse. A collection bin is available at the back of the church sanctuary, and all donations are very gratefully received. At the time of writing, the foodbank is giving out around 3 and a half tonnes of food a week, and the amount of people needing food parcels has risen around 80% from March 2022 to March 2023. Whilst donations have not dipped, the Foodbank is having to buy food every week to keep up with this need, and have spent £30,000 this year so far in order to keep the food parcels going out of the door. They have less than a week's stock on their shelves for most of the food they pack into three-day parcels.

We are endeavouring to include an updated list of most needed items in the weekly notice sheet; for those with smartphones, the *Bank the Food* app can keep you updated with this list and will ping your phone when you enter a supermarket that has a foodbank donation point. The app is completely free and was developed in Southend with a local charity supporting Southend Foodbank. More information on how to donate

food, drop-off points, financial donations and other ways to donate are available on the Southend Foodbank website, or please speak to Anna Wratishlaw. Thank you for all you are able to give.

Thursday Call House Group Report by Isobel Wratishlaw

Thursday Call continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month, and over the past year has moved back to meeting in the homes of members (we can always facilitate joining by zoom for those not able to attend in person). Each session is led by a different member, alternating the style and theme, with recent meetings looking at passages from the book of Proverbs and a discussion on prayer. We would always welcome anyone who feels this might be something they'd like to join. Please see Isobel Wratishlaw for details.



Thursday Lunches Report by Jane Fulford

The Thursday Lunches started in Dec 2021. They have raised just over £1000 so far for church funds.

Thank you for Miriam and Kate who prepare and serve the food for their time and thoughtfulness. You prebook as this keeps costs down and prevents wastage of food

It is a very friendly group, and all are welcome.

Thank you



Time for Prayer Report by Jane Fulford

The opening of the Sanctuary Café on Saturdays and the resulting change in the ambience of the church during the time of the café's operation prompted a rethink of the nature and purpose of the Time for Prayer for 2022. The group is intended to provide a quiet space of both communal and private prayer with a focus on general, healing, and personal matters. To avoid the inevitable busyness of the Sanctuary on Saturdays, weekday meetings were trialled in April and May 2022, but this proved inconvenient for a number of the regular attendees. It was therefore decided to revert to a Saturday date from June 2022, but with an earlier start time of 9.30am, in order to allow for a period of quiet contemplation prior to the opening of the Café. However this proved inconvenient for some people and numbers regularly attending have fallen. Ideas on how to maintain the purpose and accessibility of this group would be welcomed. Please contact Jane Fulford. (Email: fulford.family@btinternet.com)

Warm Hub Report by Geoff Fulford

Due to the increase in energy costs, it was decided to start a Warm Space at Wesley for the benefit of the community. This started in November 2022 and ran until the end of March. The Warm Space was open from 10.00 am to 4.00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We provided newspapers and free tea and coffee.

We were very fortunate to receive a grant of £1,000 from the BEH District. Because there are considerable books and games resources at Wesley, we have spent only £222 of this grant.

Over the 5 months we had 124 visitors. This may not seem a lot but to those who came, it was a very valuable service. The Concourse also served as a Community Hub, where people dropped in for a chat and a tea or coffee.

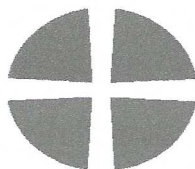
We had a number of helpers and I would like to thank: Dave Cox, Gaye Greenway, Peter Lister, Geoff Nash, Jan Pope (Belfairs) and Janet Whiddett for their important contribution of time and conversation with our visitors.

Whether this is continued next winter, I leave to the Church Council to decide.



WTG Report by Judy Taylor

The Group has had another successful year and look forward to another year of treading the boards and entertaining audiences. We are always on the lookout for new members, both those who would like to work behind as well as on the stage, all would be welcome. We rehearse on a Monday evening from 8pm in Wesley Hall.



Church
Accruals Accounts
2022-2023

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TEMPLATE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2023

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

Registered Charity - Registration number (if applicable)

1130293

Circuit No

34-10

Minister

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Church Stewards

Gaye Greenway

Ian Lowe

Eileen Simmons

Judy Taylor

Anna Wratishlaw

Church Treasurer

Tina Gowers

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments						
1 Offerings and tax recoverable		30,104				30,104
2 Donations & Grants		6,727	0			6,727
3 Interest and investment income		2,007				2,007
4 Income from investment properties						0
5 Other income		43,863	-			43,863
6 Internal organisations			4,000			4,000
7 Other charitable activities						0
Total from charitable activities		82,701	4,000	-	-	86,701
8 Lettings		51,317				51,317
9 Other income						0
Total income and endowments		134,018	4,000	-	-	138,018
Expenditure						
10 Circuit assessment or share		42,830				42,830
11 Grants and donations						0
12 Property maintenance		10,611				10,611
13 Insurance, utilities etc		22,451				22,451
14 Provisions						0
15 Depreciation						0
16 Office expenses		76				76
17 Other expenditure		8,871	0			8,871
18 Salaries & pensions		18,878				18,878
19 Internal organisations			3,835			3,835
Total charitable expenditure		103,717	3,835	0	0	107,553
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0
22 Net income/(expenditure)		30,301	164	0	0	30,465
23 Transfers between funds						0
24 Other gains/(losses)						0
25 Net movement in funds		30,301	164	0	0	30,465
26 Total funds brought forward		71,033	9,977	0		81,010
27 Total funds carried forward		101,334	10,141	0	-	111,475

Name of Church

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church No 34/10

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Church building and other property	insured value	5,282,669			5,282,669	5,282,669
Investment properties					0	
Investments					0	
Total fixed assets		5,282,669	0	0	5,282,669	5,282,669

Current Assets

Debtors and prepayments					0	
Loans by the Churches					0	
Investments with TMCP					0	
Central Finance Board Deposits		85,964	0	0	85,964	56,957
Cash at Bank and in hand		15,370	10,141	0	25,511	24,053
Total current assets		101,334	10,141	0	111,475	81,010

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)					0	
Grants payable within 2017-18					0	
Total current liabilities		0	0	0	0	0
Net current assets/liabilities		101,334	10,141	0	111,475	81,010

Total assets less current liabilities		5,384,003	10,141	0	5,394,144	5,363,679
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)						
Grants payable					0	
Loans to the Church					0	
Net assets		5,384,003	10,141	0	5,394,144	5,363,679

Funds of the Church

General Fund (Unrestricted)		101,334			101,334	71,033
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		10,141			10,141	9,976
Total Unrestricted Funds					111,475	81,010
Restricted Funds			0		0	
Endowment Funds					0	
Total Funds		111,475	0	0	111,475	81,010

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Closing balances
Internal Organisations						
						0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

External Charitable Organisations

Bal Fwd 01/09/2022	0
Income	2238
Expenditure - Passed to Charities	2216
Bal c/fwd 31/08/23	23

Signed



Church Treasurer

Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting

2023	2022
£ 5576	4540.4

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

8	6
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Nature of the expenses

General church expenses

If there are no payments to Trustees, please record no expenses were paid.

Total amount paid

£ 5,576	4,540
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Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

£ nil	nil
-------	-----

Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor

£ nil	nil
-------	-----

Paid employees**Staff Costs paid during the year were:**

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind

£ 18,282	16,093
----------	--------

Employer's National Insurance costs

£	
---	--

Pension costs

£	
---	--

Total staff costs

£ 18,282	16,093
----------	--------

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

4	4
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Leigh Wesley Methodist

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group*.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

01-Sep-23

Name of Treasurer

Mrs Tina Gowers

Address

17 The Crest, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. SS9 5NJ

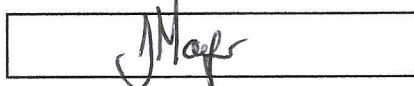
Presentation to the Church Council / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group* for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2023 were, or will be* presented to the **Church Council** / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group* at its meeting on

11-Oct-23

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2023

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Church's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary 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.

** Please delete or circle as appropriate*

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning 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. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(3) 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.

Name of independent examiner

Mrs Heather Sims

Signature of independent examiner



Relevant Professional qualification or body

N/A

Name of firm (where appropriate)

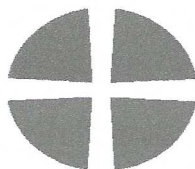
Address

1A GROVE ROAD RAYLEIGH SS6 8PU

Date

19/9/23

* Please delete or circle as appropriate



Church
Accruals Accounts
2022-2023

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TEMPLATE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2023

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

Registered Charity - Registration number (if applicable)

1130293

Circuit No

34-10

Minister

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Church Stewards

Gaye Greenway

Ian Lowe

Eileen Simmons

Judy Taylor

Anna Wratishlaw

Church Treasurer

Tina Gowers

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022-23 £
Income and Endowments						
1 Offerings and tax recoverable		30,104				30,104
2 Donations & Grants		6,727	0			6,727
3 Interest and investment income		2,007				2,007
4 Income from investment properties						0
5 Other income		43,863	-			43,863
6 Internal organisations			4,000			4,000
7 Other charitable activities						0
Total from charitable activities		82,701	4,000	-	-	86,701
8 Lettings		51,317				51,317
9 Other income						0
Total income and endowments		134,018	4,000	-	-	138,018
Expenditure						
10 Circuit assessment or share		42,830				42,830
11 Grants and donations						0
12 Property maintenance		10,611				10,611
13 Insurance, utilities etc		22,451				22,451
14 Provisions						0
15 Depreciation						0
16 Office expenses		76				76
17 Other expenditure		8,871	0			8,871
18 Salaries & pensions		18,878				18,878
19 Internal organisations			3,835			3,835
Total charitable expenditure		103,717	3,835	0	0	107,553
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0
22 Net income/(expenditure)		30,301	164	0	0	30,465
23 Transfers between funds						0
24 Other gains/(losses)						0
25 Net movement in funds		30,301	164	0	0	30,465
26 Total funds brought forward		71,033	9,977	0		81,010
27 Total funds carried forward		101,334	10,141	0	-	111,475

Name of Church

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church No 34/10

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Church building and other property	insured value	5,282,669			5,282,669	5,282,669
Investment properties					0	
Investments					0	
Total fixed assets		5,282,669	0	0	5,282,669	5,282,669

Current Assets

Debtors and prepayments					0	
Loans by the Churches					0	
Investments with TMCP					0	
Central Finance Board Deposits		85,964	0	0	85,964	56,957
Cash at Bank and in hand		15,370	10,141	0	25,511	24,053
Total current assets		101,334	10,141	0	111,475	81,010

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)					0	
Grants payable within 2017-18					0	
Total current liabilities		0	0	0	0	0
Net current assets/liabilities		101,334	10,141	0	111,475	81,010

Total assets less current liabilities		5,384,003	10,141	0	5,394,144	5,363,679
--	--	------------------	---------------	----------	------------------	------------------

Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)						
Grants payable					0	
Loans to the Church					0	
Net assets		5,384,003	10,141	0	5,394,144	5,363,679

Funds of the Church

General Fund (Unrestricted)		101,334			101,334	71,033
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		10,141			10,141	9,976
Total Unrestricted Funds					111,475	81,010
Restricted Funds			0		0	
Endowment Funds					0	
Total Funds		111,475	0	0	111,475	81,010

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Closing balances
Internal Organisations						
						0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

External Charitable Organisations

Bal Fwd 01/09/2022	0
Income	2238
Expenditure - Passed to Charities	2216
Bal c/fwd 31/08/23	23

Signed



Church Treasurer

Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting

2023	2022
£ 5576	4540.4

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

8	6
---	---

Nature of the expenses

General church expenses

If there are no payments to Trustees, please record no expenses were paid.

Total amount paid

£ 5,576	4,540
---------	-------

Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

£ nil	nil
-------	-----

Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor

£ nil	nil
-------	-----

Paid employees**Staff Costs paid during the year were:**

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind

£ 18,282	16,093
----------	--------

Employer's National Insurance costs

£	
---	--

Pension costs

£	
---	--

Total staff costs

£ 18,282	16,093
----------	--------

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

4	4
---	---

Leigh Wesley Methodist

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group*.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

01-Sep-23

Name of Treasurer

Mrs Tina Gowers

Address

17 The Crest, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. SS9 5NJ

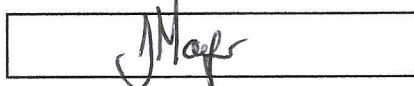
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Name of the Chair of the meeting

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Date

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Name of independent examiner

Mrs Heather Sims

Signature of independent examiner



Relevant Professional qualification or body

N/A

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

1A GROVE ROAD RAYLEIGH SS6 8PU

Date

19/9/23

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

LEIGH WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1130293

Accounts



**Reports for the Annual Church Life Meeting of Wesley Methodist church,
Leigh-on-Sea 26th June 2022**

ACM MINISTER'S REPORT – WESLEY METHODIST 2022

I have been the minister at Leigh Wesley for just over 4 years now, and boy, have we been through some stuff in that time! In some ways it feels like we've had a couple years chopped out of history, as most activities were put on hold because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

We have lost some dear church members and friends over the past couple of years, and our hearts still go out to those whose loved ones have died, and yet were unable to celebrate their lives in the way they would have wished to due to Covid restrictions. We remember these departed heroes with love and fondness.

My gratitude goes out to our pastoral visitors, and especially their coordinator, Eileen Simmons, for their support to us through phone calls, e mails and cards over this difficult period, and which they still continue to provide.

Even though these times were very difficult for us as a church, and as individuals, we have managed to come out of the other side, and in this past year we have seen some real positive signs of new mission and growth.

- We have had new friends attending Sunday worship.
- We have started a new café venue, which is seeing regular and new people every week.
- Parent and toddlers is under 'new management', and is flourishing once again.
- Our fusion Youth club has now surpassed its pre-Covid numbers.
- Our Memory Worship service has restarted, and although we lost a number of dear friends during lockdown, is gaining in numbers once again.
- The tea and cake afternoons have been as popular as ever.

And many of our other activities such and the Wesley Theatre Group and table tennis have restarted and are thriving.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who lead and support the activities at Wesley. This is not taken for granted. So, thank you!

For me, life and ministry has changed as I come to the end of my first year as a student presbyter/minister. My time is split between my Pastor/Preacher role, and being a student, attending monthly study weekends and 'Easter school' at the Queen's Foundation College in Birmingham, participating in weekly online seminars, doing huge amounts of preparatory and background reading, and completing assignments, as well as attending and participating in placement churches both in the South Essex circuit, and in Harlow. This has been a challenging time, not least as it restricts the amount of time I can give to my pastoral ministry, but also a very rewarding time, as I develop and widen my theological skills both practically, and academically.

I ask for your prayers, support and patience, as I continue to study for the next 2 years.

A prayer for the future...

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for all that You have provided for us in a time when the future looked so bleak. Let us never forget that our citizenship is in heaven, and that no matter what happens in our lives, while we remain on earth You are in control, and You have promised to care for all Your children.

Help us to live our lives in a manner that is pleasing to You in this ever-changing world, and help us not to put our hope and trust in the leaders of this world, nor the things of this world that are passing away, but may we always remember that our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus and His righteousness. For this we praise and thank You Lord.

Thank You, Father, that You know the end from the beginning, and that You are truly in control of all that happens. Not only in our lives but in every corner of the world.

Guide, protect and supply for the needs of all Your children and thank You Father that we know our future is secure in You, no matter what may take place in the world.

We praise Your name, and thank You for Your loving kindness. Amen.

May God richly bless you,

Pastor Steve Mayo

May 2022



Mission and Outreach Report by Gaye Greenway

As we have progressed through the pandemic, our Worship has returned to more usual numbers and this has been reflected in numbers attended our many diverse mission activities.

As a result of numerous ideas produced at the Worship and Mission Consultation meetings, two informative and attractive postcards were produced and delivered around local streets. They are available at our popular Sanctuary cafe and of course to worshippers.

Our most recent Consultation meeting highlighted our need for consolidation of our varied activities which cater to all age groups in our community. As a result you will have received a leaflet "All You Can" which we hope will produce a good response and enable us to continue our Mission work.

In addition various fund raising events are planned, the Jubilee lunch, 2 table sales and Orpheus concert, all of which bring people in to our building widening community interaction. Please support these events if you can, as well as the ongoing program of events at Wesley.

Pastoral Report by Eileen Simmons

On the Wednesday of this week we held our Pastoral Visitors' meeting. Pastor Steve commented that he thought the system worked very well indeed and people felt known and cared for. We hold two such meetings a year. Some Pastoral Visitors were unable to attend, but had either phoned me or emailed details of individuals in their group. It is always so interesting to hear about significant events in the lives of our Wesley Family.

Unfortunately we do not have full coverage of all those on the community roll, but between us few things get missed.

I regard Pastoral care as covering the complete range of events and it so lovely to learn about the birth of children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, new jobs as well as sad news of illness.

When the pandemic set in we did a full analysis of who might need help with food shopping etc. and ensured full coverage in this case.

There is a lot of overlap e.g. one man has kept in touch weekly with his church friend since March 2020. We can never have too much pastoral linking and although to become a Pastoral Visitor with a group one

needs to be a member, we have some very supportive individuals on the community roll who do the work with perhaps one or two individuals and then link with a Pastoral Visitor

Please if you think you could volunteer for this invaluable task talk to me about it. People do so appreciate visits, cards, telephone conversations and chats before and after church or at the Sanctuary Café, community lunches, afternoon tea and cakes and so on. We are all God's children and to care for each other is one of the greatest privileges in life.



Safeguarding Report by Judith Taylor

This year has seen an increase in the number of circuit trainers which will mean that Safeguarding Training will be able to be offered more regularly. This training will be either

in face or online and is a requirement of the Methodist Church for specific volunteers and employers. Our Safeguarding Policy is reviewed every year by Church Council and a copy is provided to all hirers to ensure they are aware of the protocol. Safeguarding remains a high priority and DBS checks are completed to help safeguard all.



Service – a place in the community, a place for justice Report by Ian Lowe

Circuit News

Methodist Way of Life and Circuit Mission Planning Day

The Methodist Way of Life is underway with Sunday services and weekly studies on this theme throughout the Methodist Church. The District Discipleship Enabler (Angela Brydon) has surveyed the whole District to identify how we approach evangelism and the need to engage. We have had a Circuit Mission planning day where the Circuit Leadership team and representatives from the Churches met. Facilitated by Angela, we looked at our strengths and challenges, as well as starting to dream dreams for our Churches and Circuit in the future. Also at the event was Steve Watson, the new District Property Secretary; the remit of this role has been extended to take an overview of Mission and buildings.

Now the conversation will continue in the Churches who are working through the 8 stage planning process. We have agreed a follow up day on Saturday 18th June to then agree some priorities and a Circuit Mission plan for 'Reimagining the Southend and Leigh Circuit'. Everyone is invited to get involved in the process

in your Churches as much as you can and share your hopes and dreams. Also pray for this process, our Circuit, our Community and that we can share the good news of Christ in Southend and Leigh.

Town Centre Ministry

Circuit Meeting (CM) agreed that this work should now be called the **City Centre Ministry** as Southend has gained City status. The work progresses well – Deacon Sarah and Clive continue to progress the work and to seek chaplains to work with them. The last “Chaplaincy Everywhere” course identified 9 people, of whom 3 shadowed the work for some time, but circumstances mean they are now working elsewhere. The team is still seeking people to shadow them and are planning to run a further course in the autumn.

The group is creating a new logo based on the city status and ideas are welcome. Plans are also in hand for Synod to meet in Southend so they can get a feel for the work.

The Experience Project at Whittingham Avenue Mission Centre

The work started 2 months before the pandemic and it gives testimony to the power of prayer that it continues to develop. There was a change of direction in June 2020 triggered by the level of food donations coming from Ocado. Some 13 different enterprises and foodbanks are being supplied with food, in addition to the families on the estate. The project works with its team leader, Simon Matthews, 2 part time staff members and 11 volunteers.

The project has plans for the future to develop the work, but much of the food collection and delivery relies on the donations on one local businessman. This level of work cannot be supported in full financially by the Circuit, although funding is in place until 31st January 2023. The plan is to establish The Experience Project as a “Charitable Incorporated Organisation” (a CIO). This status will allow the project to apply for external funding on the basis of its own accounts and funds and not linked to those of the Circuit. The CIO, once formed, will have 5 trustees, at least one of whom will be the Circuit Superintendent. Currently the Project is seeking CIO status, an ongoing contribution from the Circuit of £7,500 per annum and use of the Whittingham Avenue premises for some 10 years, preferably at a peppercorn rent. Much of this detail requires further work, due diligence and negotiation, together with an understanding of who appoints the trustees and what the role entails and requires.

The Circuit Meeting agreed in principle to applying for CIO status whilst the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) undertake the necessary due diligence aspects regarding leases (peppercorn rent/full repairing lease/licence and trustee appointments).

Pastoral Oversight and Stationing

From 1st October 2021, Pastor Steve Mayo relinquished oversight of Belfairs to achieve the reduction in his hours required, whilst he is in training, by MCPOC (Ministerial Candidates and Probationers Oversight Committee). Rev. Clifford Newman took pastoral oversight of Belfairs for this period.

Rev Zena Smith will assume pastoral oversight of Hadleigh Methodist Church from 1st September 2022 – she will have oversight of all 4 Castle Point churches.

Rev. Peter Moorhouse had oversight of 5 churches, the Experience Project and his role of Superintendent, which is not acceptable for his well-being or that of the churches and Circuit. The Circuit entered Stationing for 2022 with a profile to include Thorpe Bay and UMC churches. The Circuit Meeting discussed the recommendation, notably the additional costs of some £50K per year which would be required via the assessment primarily. The budget had been reduced in 2020/21, but churches need to be aware that it would increase from 2022/23 and should start planning for this. The Circuit was successful in the Stationing process and probationer presbyter Agnes Sam will join the Circuit on 1st September 2022 working at UMC and Thorpe Bay and input to the City Centre ministry.

Conference 2021

Presidential theme for 21/22

The Rev Sonia Hicks, President of Conference, set as the theme for her Presidential Year “God’s Table – an invitation to all”.

Conference confirms resolutions on marriage and relationships

Following prayerful consideration by the whole Church, the Methodist Conference voted to confirm provisional resolutions on the principles or qualities of good relating, understanding of cohabitation and same sex marriages conducted on Methodist premises or by Methodist office-holders.

A report on marriage and relationships, ‘God in Love Unites Us’, was received by the Conference in 2019 and the local District Synods were asked to consider the provisional resolutions and report back to this year’s Conference. The Conference received a report on the results of the local conferring which showed that 29 out of the 30 Synods confirmed support for the provisional resolutions. The Methodist Church included other denominations and Methodist Churches across the world in the process of listening and consultation, with written submissions from ecumenical partners to the ‘*God In Love Unites Us*’ report and workshops with global Methodist partners.

Following the vote on the provisional resolutions the Rev. Sonia Hicks said: "The debate today and our wider conversation has been conducted with grace and mutual respect. As we move forward together after

this historic day for our Church, we must remember to continue to hold each other in prayer, and to support each other respecting our differences."

Following this resolution from Conference, each Church Council has to vote on whether they will apply for a licence to marry same sex couples in their Church. Wesley voted in favour of this in January 2022.

Conference votes on banning of conversion therapy

The Methodist Conference has decided that no conversion therapy can take place in its name and called on the UK government to ban the practice without delay. The Conference also moved to support the 'Memorandum of Understanding on Conversion Therapy in the UK' definition of conversion therapy, which offers the most significant and widely supported definition, with up to 20 health, counselling and psychotherapy organisations having signed up to it, including the Association of Christian Counsellors. The text of the agreed reply to the Memorial to the Conference, which was brought by the Birmingham Synod, is as follows:

The Conference agrees:

- (1) to support and adopt the 'Memorandum of Understanding on Conversion Therapy in the UK' definition of conversion therapy as quoted above,
- (2) to call on all Methodists to refuse to offer or participate in offering conversion therapy in any form.
- (3) that no conversion therapy can take place in the name of the Methodist Church.

The Conference directs the Methodist Council to consider, draft and publish a policy on 'Conversion Therapy' in light of points (1) to (3) of this response. The Conference calls on the UK Government to ban 'Conversion Therapy' without further delay and, therefore, also directs the Methodist Council to consider further the most appropriate way in which to engage with the government on this issue.

A ban on Conversion Therapy was included in the Queen's Speech in May 2022 with the expectation that a Bill will be laid before Parliament in this session.

Trustee numbers

Since 1933 the minimum number of members required to form a Methodist Society (church) has been 6, with the facility for Circuits to appoint people to help local churches not reaching that number. Conference 2021 amended the Standing Order and the number now required is 12 and Circuits may no longer appoint members to assist – effectively closure is required. This is proving controversial in many areas.

Communications Report by Anna Wratishlaw

COMMUNICATION



Communications within Wesley – in all the varying forms it takes - has been very busy over the past year, as church life has adapted to the changes to Covid guidance, and many activities have (re)started. Whilst many of the regular pre-

covid jobs remain (creating worship posters, publishing the Clarion, updating the website etc), we have also integrated new ways of working and methods of communication brought in during the pandemic (email distributions for example). Thank you to Judith Taylor for ensuring that the Clarion and any additional notices are emailed and/or posted to all those we have contact details for - this has been invaluable in keeping in contact with our community.

We have also had new initiatives to advertise, such as The Sanctuary Café; promoted special services over Christmas, Easter and the Teddy Bears Picnic on Mothering Sunday; and completed a project to create informational postcards on Worship and Community activities at Wesley. 1000 of each type of postcard were printed and the distribution within our local area started; there are cards still available if you are able to distribute these, or if the supply in the sanctuary runs low.

I have been working with Sue Hockett to update and re-format the weekly notice sheet; at the time of writing, we will be looking to restart this in the next few weeks. Thank you to Sue for volunteering to produce this each week. I am also looking at how we display our communications and purchasing some leaflet stands for the church sanctuary – this should make it easier for everyone to know where to find information and where to signpost others.

There are a couple of ongoing projects within the area of communications, including the updating of the church website to reflect the change in hirers and activities since the pandemic, and the rollout of new data consent forms as part of GDPR compliance. Please continue to be mindful of GDPR regulations and our policies if you are ever in a position where you need to take, keep or use personal data of any kind, or share any photos or information in regards to our events. Please speak to myself or Judith Taylor if you have any questions on GPDR or data protection within the church context.

Thanks to all who help create, proofread and distribute our communications in all their forms.

Worship and Mission and Outreach by Sanya Strachan

Worship at Wesley June

- Sun 5th** 11am All Age Worship with Holy Communion
- Thurs 9th** 6pm Fusion Youth & Kids
- Sun 12th** 11am All Age Worship
- Thurs 16th** 6pm Fusion Youth & Kids
- Sat 18th** 9.30am Time for Prayer
- Sun 19th** 11am All Age Worship
5.30pm Inspire - Contemporary Worship
- Mon 20th** 2-4pm Memory Worship
- Thurs 23rd** 6pm Fusion Youth & Kids
- Sun 26th** 11am All Age Worship
- Tues 28th** 8pm Creative Worship
- Thurs 30th** 6pm Fusion Youth & Kids



www.wesleymethodist.org.uk



Worship at Wesley July

- Sun 3rd** 11am All Age Worship
- Thurs 7th** 6pm Fusion Youth & Kids
- Sun 10th** 11am All Age Worship
- Thurs 14th** 6pm Fusion Youth & Kids
- Sat 16th** 9.30am Time for Prayer
- Sun 17th** 11am All Age Worship with Holy Communion
5.30pm Inspire - Contemporary Worship
- Mon 18th** 2-4pm Memory Worship
- Sun 24th** 11am All Age Worship
- Sun 31st** 11am Worship at
Highlands Methodist Church
Sutherland Boulevard, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 3PT



www.wesleymethodist.org.uk



Worship at Wesley August

- Sun 7th** 11am All Age Worship with Holy Communion
- Sun 14th** 11am All Age Worship
- Mon 15th** 2-4pm Memory Worship
- Sun 21st** 11am All Age Worship
5.30pm Inspire - Contemporary Worship
- Sun 28th** 11am All Age Worship



www.wesleymethodist.org.uk



Worship Consultation

All are warmly welcome to this meeting. Help contribute and bring ideas for the worship life of our community here at Leigh Wesley Methodist Church.

Wednesday 7 September, 2022

8-9pm online (link to be circulated at a later date)

Church Council Members as from 5th May 2022

Name:	Capacity	Elected to role	Completed 6 years	Re-election required for one year.
Rev. Peter Moorhouse	Superintendent			
Pastor Steve Mayo	Minister in charge (Chair of Council)			
Judy Taylor	Church Secretary/ Safeguarding	2014	2020	√
Gaye Greenway	Co-ordinating Steward Circuit Rep Outreach	2014	2020	√
Ian Lowe	Serving, Inclusion and Justice in the Circuit community. Circuit rep for Wesley.	2014	2020	√
Anna Wratishlaw	Communication. Deputy Rep for GG.	2016	2022	√
Eileen Simmons	Pastoral Co-ordinator	2015	2021	√
Sanya Strachan	Worship and Mission	2021	2027	
Emma Hearn	Youth		2024	
Geoff Hart	Property Link Officer		2019	√
Geoff Hawkins	Church Rep		2019	√
Helen Boyd	Church Rep		2019	√
June Childs	Church Rep		2021	√
Alex Childs	Church Rep	2021	2027	
Rupert Bertie	Church Rep		2022	√
David Cox	Church Rep		2024	

Advisors to CC
Tina Gowers/Alan Severne

The Sanctuary Café Report by Emma Hearn

The Sanctuary Café has been running for over a year now and I am incredibly proud of its success and the volunteers who have made it so.

What does the café do? – well it's an important part of our community bringing people, that might not have otherwise, into our beautiful church for conversation, friendship, comfort, laughter, to be listened, to be welcomed – a place where they can have a sense of belonging.

We see people from all walks of life– a single parent with their child, widowers meeting to chat, a lady who is on the road to drug rehabilitation and welcomed the church environment as a safe place where discussions of her new found faith can be sort, friends meeting regularly for chats and a good coffee, church members, families, retired couples, regular customers who come from afar especially for our café – the list goes on.

It really has been wonderful meeting and getting to know new people in our community. Jane is often on hand should someone want to spend time with her in private prayer, Gaye too always with a kind listening ear to anyone wanting that solace. We have a fabulous volunteer team of tea and coffee servers, and it has been great to welcome new people (not previously connected with the Church) that help on Friday and Saturday mornings. We also have a young lady doing her DofE and volunteers on a Saturday as part of her award.

A mention to our cake makers – we thank you so much! Amazing cakes which the customers love and keeps them coming back.

We have run several charity coffee mornings – Containers of Hope and MacMillan. Hugely successful not only financially for the charities but brilliant at bringing the community together. We were privileged to have had Sir David Amess support our MacMillan coffee morning 2 weeks before his untimely death.

The café financially is holding its own and supporting the teas and coffees after Church services. We are hoping to improve our serving station and coffee machines soon and have been grateful to the Coop with extra funds to help with this.

However..... we need more support with the café.

We need:

Cake makers – once a month, once every 2 months anything that you can help with. Perhaps you have a neighbour who is a great cake maker, and you could pay for them to make the cakes and donate them to the café every few months?

Servers – can you spare a couple of hours on a Friday or Saturday? Could you go on the rota?

Listening ear – can you spare a couple of hours to just be present when the café is on? Just be there to chat!

If you can please do get in touch with me as we really do need more support.



Memory Worship Report by Julie Peek

Back in 2016 Rev Julia Monaghan and I set up a monthly church service for people living with dementia; we called Memory Worship. The afternoon takes a regular pattern of welcome; singing well known hymns, reading familiar passages of scripture, and saying the Lord's Prayer together the formal part of the service is 30 minutes before leading into a craft activity and hospitality, providing an opportunity for conversation to reinforce the theme of the service. Our dedicated team of volunteers are always on hand with tea, lovely homemade cake and Methodist fellowship. This style of worship has proved really helpful and quickly has been replicated by churches all over the country. Most close to home with our friends at Thorpe Bay Methodist Church. So, every month there are two Southend & Leigh Methodist circuit churches offering a Memory Worship service one on the 1st and one on the 3rd Monday of the month. There are plans also afoot in Rayleigh with a joint venture between Rayleigh Methodist Church and Christ Church URC.

All stopped in March 2020 when COVID 19 stopped the world. This forced me to rethink and put together a 'Memory Worship at Home' service to be viewed on YouTube. Initially intended for the people that had been attending services at Wesley and Thorpe Bay but grew to connect with care homes and isolated individuals all over the country. This became a valuable way to remain connected for 15 months locally to LWP Westerley. You can view here by pasting this link into your browser –

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmdLC8_ZDnic6cCDsbtbIVQ

Our first Memory Worship service in person took place Monday 19th July with the theme of 'In God's name we pray' and as Methodists we sing our prayers. It was very moving to be able to sing in church for the first time in over a year.

Since returning to worship at Wesley in person we have had several visits from the Methodist Connexional team and on the last occasion in Oct they kindly put together a film to explain the benefits of Memory Worship. [Memory Worship - Leigh-on-Sea - YouTube](#)

On 30th Nov I was privileged to be asked to speak at a Methodist Connexional webinar entitled "Making Our Churches More Dementia Friendly". The webinar can now be viewed on Methodist website in its entirety here: www.methodist.org.uk/safeguarding/webinars/making-our-churches-more-dementia-friendly-webinar-tuesday-30-november-2021/

The photographs below illustrate a few of the friends that have popped in to be with us at Memory Worship. It is proven that animals, children and music have the ability to make special connections; stimulate feelings of wellbeing.



We also had Year 1 Clams class from West Leigh Infant school sing to us in April and Rev Margaret Deans shared communion at our Easter Monday service. All of the above result in moments of spontaneous spiritual connection.

Lastly, I would really like to thank all our wonderful Memory Worship helpers who without whom we couldn't deliver this service.

FUSION Youth & Kids Fusion+

Report by *Emma Hearn Fusion Youth Leader June 2022*

FUSION Youth & Kids AND Fusion Youth & Kids meet on a Thursday night at 6pm and have up to 100 children attend of primary school age. The children enter through the church and then go through to the back where there are a number of different activities set up – board games, sports, xbox, karaoke, hairdressing, lego, dressing up and lots more! The last half an hour we come into the Church space for our 'worship' where we sing songs, have a 10/15minute talk lead by me and then some group games and prayers from our prayer board to round the evening off. Fusion+ is for senior school children and runs from 7.30pm until 9pm straight after Fusion. The tone and vibe of Fusion+ is very different to Fusion but the principle is the same. It is an opportunity for us to share our love of Jesus, provide a safe and secure place for the children to hang out. The evenings at Fusion+ run similar to Fusion with games being left out for them to use such as the pool table, xbox, basketball but mostly they like eating, playing music and playing hide and seek! 15 minutes before the evening ends we come into the Church space for a time of reflection over the past week. I then call us to prayer and read out any prayers left on our cactus (can be seen at the side of Church under the clock!). Over the last couple of months I have been unable to run this due to work commitments however hopefully this will be back up and running soon. We had a fantastic 2 hour Easter Special with 100 children attending – lots of fun had by all with inflatables, games, food all ending with the Easter Story.

Just before Christmas I told Pastor Steve that I would be stepping down as Leader of Fusion from Easter and this was written in my report Church Council in January 2022. Unfortunately, nobody has come forward or been found to run it so I have agreed to continue for a few more weeks until a replacement can be made. I have dedicated my time to Fusion for the last 7 years giving up every Thursday often to the detriment of my family and feel I need to take a little step back from the weekly running of it. I will of course continue to be part of the Fusion Team of helpers on a rota basis. Our Team We have sadly lost a number of volunteers due to Covid concerns, ill health and retirement. Geoff Fulford – also known as 'Fruity Geoff' as he would bring fruit every week cut up for the children to eat, hung up his apron and on his last evening with us he served burgers and ice-cream to everyone. We also have lost Geoff Nash – 'Register Geoff' who helped with the register once a month with Fusion+. We thank both Geoff's for their support and help with Fusion. Steve Hockett – 'Sporty Steve' has also stepped down from helping once a month running the sports and we greatly

miss him but thank him also for his support and help with Fusion. Due to Covid unfortunately Rupert Bertie has been unable to attend. Rupert could normally be found with a table tennis bat in his hand. He continues to be in our prayers and we are thankful for his love and support for Fusion. Due to ill health John Hearn has been unable to help out much this year but hopefully will be back on the team running a game of dodgeball or football soon. I still have my righthand ladies - Sam Rogers and Clare Raker who work tirelessly for Fusion although they will be stepping down later in the year when I do. Rose a mum of children who have attend the clubs also attends with a watchful eye, beautiful singing voice and generally wonderful person to have around.

From our Church family we have the wonderful Gaye, Jane, Iso and Anna who regularly help out. Gaye spending time with the children whilst doing their crafts and Iso again providing much support and guidance. Alan and Judy clear all the chairs for us every week – this is such a massive help and I am so grateful for the support they provide ensuring the safety of running both youth clubs. Our very own Steve Mayo who may not be able to attend regularly due to his many other commitments, has and continues to be, a massive support not only to me personally, but to the youth of our church and community. Last but by no means least, our wonderful Youth Team (around 12 of them) are of senior age and come each week to help set up and help run activities.

We are extremely blessed to have these people working with us at Wesley however we are in desperate need of more volunteers with the loss of so many of our team. Please come along if you able to help out in anyway – once a month, in the kitchen, taking the register, sitting chatting with the children – whatever your ability, whatever your age, there is a place for you at Fusion and will be a massive contribution. If you would like to have a look around one Thursday, please let me know and we would be happy to have you. I am pleased to confirm that, Fusion Youth & Kids and Fusion+, has recently received its second payment from the Co-op Local Community Fund of £2,244.38. Making an incredible total from the Co-op of £3,603.01 which has already gone towards much needed new equipment and fund special projects for the youth of our church and community.

Reports from other church groups:



Clarion report by Judy Taylor

It has been another busy year with the Clarion and I am grateful for all the lovely comments from people who have received the month Clarion and Prayer Diary through the post. I would like also like to say a huge thank you to Terry Harper who proof reads the Clarion and Prayer Diary every month. The Clarion is for the church to use so please if you have an article/poem/information you would like included please email me or leave a note at church.

Flower Room report by Annette Charnock



Firstly, I would like to send my thanks to those members who have so generously contributed to the flower fund regularly over the years and also more recently for the Easter flowers.

Due to the Covid restrictions, sadly, it was no longer possible to provide flowers that were given in memory of loved ones or in fact, any flowers at all. The restrictions made it hard for me to shop, collect money etc.

I have also found it difficult being on my own, arranging the flowers regularly, although I am very grateful to Marjorie for helping me from time to time.

I made the decision to change from fresh flowers to silk as this is a solution to ensure that whenever there is a service, there would be a colourful display in church for those that attend and this also makes it easier for me to manage. Since restrictions have been lifted, I have decided that they will remain for the most part, silk flowers with the exception of certain occasions. I have purchased a varied selection of flowers to match the changing seasons and am thinking of new ways to decorate the church.

ADVISORY GROUP ON FINANCE (formerly the Finance Advisory group) By Geoff Nash

Meeting in advance of Church Council, to whom we report, the group has met three times.. The group is made up of Pastor Steve (Chair), Tina Gowers John Hearn, Alan Severne, Ian Lowe, Rupert Bertie and Geoff Nash.

The current accounts are presented at each meeting, noted and the need for any action discussed. An update on the Sanctuary Café is also received.

We will be reviewing the charges to hirers at our June meeting as some have been paying the same fee for up to four years. A number of projects are under consideration and grant or grants towards the refurbishment of the organ are being investigated.

Wesley always has pressing financial needs, so the group wishes to support any fund raising. We encourage people to contribute on Gift Day and to consider leaving the church a legacy in their wills.

Finance Report for Annual Church Meeting 2022 by Tina Gowers

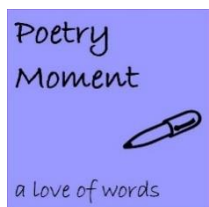
Things seem to be getting back to normality now and we currently have £14K more than we did this time last year. However, as we all know, utility bills have gone up, and will go up again in October and our circuit assessment will be going up too as we welcome an extra, much needed, Minister. Also, no major repairs and maintenance has been done on the church for some time and the car park area, behind the old manse, must still be levelled and tarmac'd.

The offerings currently do not meet the circuit assessment by around ££2,500 so a predicted end of year deficit will be £3,800 however, a Gift Aid claim for £4,500 will cover this and this is probably the first time in years that Wesley's' giving has covered the assessment which is brilliant news. A total Gift aid claim of £6,800 has been made with some going to external charities.

The income from the Sanctuary Café, Afternoon Teas and weekly lunches is helping to cover other expenditure. None of these activities are provided for profit, the sole purpose of these groups is outreach and serving our community but, the income means that these groups, and others can continue and, in turn, we can continue to serve the people in our neighbourhood.

The income from lettings isn't currently covering all property expenditure but it does cover all the regular expenditure i.e., utilities, cleaning, insurance, staff and some for repairs and maintenance.

All in all, I think Wesley is in pretty good shape this year and I thank those people who volunteer, at the various outreach groups, as they are continuing to serve both the people in our community and their church.



Talking Poetry Report by Joan Hawkins

Talking Poetry has enjoyed a successful return to our fortnightly meetings since September last year . We currently have 11 members with an average attendance of about 7. Reading our chosen poem by a given poet and sharing thoughts about a wide variety of poets keeps our sessions fresh and enjoyable.

We meet every two weeks on a Wednesday from 2.30 - 4 pm and if you are interested please text Joan on 07871 180644 or email joanh838@icloud.com

Charity Report from Tina Gowers

Money raised, for Charities, since 1st September 2021. These amounts include Gift Aid received which is claimed from 6th April 2021 to 5th April 2022.

TearFund	£166.04	(more raised in previous financial year)
Action for Children	£54.27	(Gift aid only)
MHA	£15.10	(Gift aid only)
MacMillan	£590.44	
Southend Foodbank	£53.75	
Storehouse / Vineyard	£100.00	
MusicMan Project	£146.52	
Childrens Society	£159.77	
Nkanfoa Methodist School	£143.75	
Hope International	£625.25	
Ukraine Appeal	£401.80	
World Missions	£150.45	
Christian Aid	£57.15	(more coming in)

NB from Eileen Simmons.

Tina has kindly included the gift aid she has claimed as at April 22.

Some collections have set dates eg I am now planning for the collection for Action for Children Sunday, which is on July 10th 2022.



The Zone on Sunday Report by Anna Wratishlaw

The Zone on Sunday has sadly not met since the start of Covid, however we now facilitate activities within the church sanctuary for the children and young people to take part in during worship. If anyone would like to help prepare these activities (e.g. craft), please speak to Anna Wratishlaw.

Report on Lunches by Jane Fulford.



Many, many thanks to Miriam Gifford and her friends for this new venture. Every Thursday except the third week of the month Miriam offers a baked potato with three choices, a dessert and tea or coffee for a suggested donation of £7. We have any number from 4 to 12 people. We hope it is serving a need and all are welcome. Any money raised has been given for church funds.

Thank you again to Miriam

Creative Worship Report by JANE FULFORD

For a time, we did not hold this more meditative and creative service but coming out of Covid we decided to offer it again on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 8pm. It is always different, and I thank Sue Hockett and Isobel Wratishlaw for their wonderful contributions

The numbers are small but those who come appreciate what is offered. On a couple of occasions, we have had new people join us.

Perhaps with renewed advertisement we may gain more support.

All are welcome

TODDLER Group REPORT by Georgina Paveling



The group reopened its doors in September last year, much to the delight of parents/carers and children who visit. The group runs every Wednesday 10-12, we extended the time as we know as mothers ourselves it can be hard to get there on time and it be worthwhile going if you're late.

We invested in a coffee machine and we bake fresh cakes each week, which has enabled us to ask for an increased donation of £2 (most of the group's members feel we should charge more it's such good coffee and cake).

Most weeks attendance is high ranging from 17-35 parents and children depending on holidays. We also run through the holidays as we know other groups close in this time. The people who come to group are a mix of grandparents, carers, mums and we get a few daddies too which is nice. And now the group has become more established we have our regular members and see great



relationships developing and a real sense of support of the group and each other. Which is invaluable for any parent Carer and children who attend.

As well as offering good coffee and cakes we have introduced some new features to the playgroup. We now have a dressing up rail, home corner with kitchen and table and chairs, ironing board etc and a cozy corner with soft rugs and cushions and books to read.

We structure the playgroup time every week with free play, tidy time, then a story followed by singing with the parachute and bubbles. Which the children and parents love.

In addition to the usual playgroup structure, we do have crafting activities set up for seasonal events such as Christmas, Halloween, Easter, Mother's Day etc. We also set up a tuff tray when we have a theme and that has lots of sensory fun things for the children to get stuck into. The group also has a mascot called Wesley. Wesley the lion has his own bag and pyjamas & passport. We encourage the children to each take a turn to have Wesley for week at home and take pictures and tell us about their adventures with him This all goes in the book 'Where Wesley went' and includes pictures which we share with group around story time. It's become very popular and Wesley is a much loved character by the group.



The playgroup now has its own Instagram and Facebook groups. These are closed groups and invite only. But allows us to interact with the playgroup members and keep them up to date of any events/activities we have planned etc. It's also a great tool to promote any events happening in the church too.

The volunteers Becca, Charlotte, June and Gaye all work so hard in running the group. Giving their time and energy which I know is so appreciated by those who come to the group. And we continue to welcome new members.



Property Report from Alan Severne

Old Manse Garden

The company previously selected have not responded positively to communications and I am now looking for alternatives.

Electrical Works/Inspection

The remedial works to rectify the faults etc identified by our last inspection, which were authorised by CC at the last meeting have now been carried out. This uncovered some surprising issues with the computer suite room which added to the time required.

However the electricians were unable to fully resolve the problem with the outside bollard lights to the front. This is thought to be due to water entering the cabling underground and they believe that the solution will involve disassembling the front steps – the faulty section lies between the upper two bollard lights and the lower ones. The section has been isolated so that the remaining lights can work. The upper section bollards which are faulty will be swapped with the lower ones at the next visit.

The outside light over the fire exit door has been replaced with a new LED unit which provides good illumination over the area. A similar unit is to be installed lighting the Youth Hall fire exit.

The defective control unit in the Sanctuary has been replaced, but two further channels have failed. We are waiting for replacement units to become available. Electricians will also install secondary relays in an additional enclosure – this will reduce the load on the control units. If a more robust solution is found using different equipment before the replacement units become available then we will follow electricians advice on this. The demand for this type of control is very limited and alternatives likewise. I have recently found that some of the other control equipment is now discontinued, though at present there are no known faults with this.

I am seeking further quotes for replacement of some fluorescent lighting.

Pat testing will be carried out before the end of summer holidays.

Roofs/soffits/gutters

Although there are no obvious current leaks, it is likely that some areas of flat roofing will require repair soon and we should consider if any can / should be reroofed rather than more make-do-and-mend should funds permit. I believe we should investigate soffit etc condition and consider if replacement is practicable; replacement has been deferred for a significant time.

I hope to have the flat roof areas inspected professionally in the near future.

Two tiles are known to have come off the church roof during the high winds. Quotes to replace these (the tiles are cheap, but the access may not be) will be obtained at the same time as the flat roofs.

General

We are now in that part of the buildings' maintenance cycle where higher costs can be expected. Exterior decorating is due and some items which have been deferred will need to be addressed very soon. The Annual Property Return is due soon and I intend to present it to CC at this meeting.

Sanctuary

Internally the Sanctuary is generally still in good order, with minor issues only. Under certain unusual weather conditions rain can penetrate the roof.

Externally some of the pointing should be replaced soon, (I am currently looking for someone to address part of this) and there are a small number of broken segments within the stained glass windows.

Sanctuary Damp

Damp in the porch to the sanctuary is still to be permanently resolved.

Halls

Internally some parts of the Halls are very overdue for decorating, though this does not seem to overly concern our Hirers. Externally coated areas are due for retreatment, and some window cills and cracks in render need to be addressed. Damp has appeared over two windows in the canteen room, source as yet unknown. The roof has some small blisters but no visible cracks – water may be travelling some distance.

Boilers

These appear to be working well. Annual Service is due during June.

Plumbing/drains

The water heater in the youth hall toilets appears to be incapable of heating water to a level appropriate to kill legionella. This is a safety feature from the point of view of scalds burns and small children but needs to be managed.

Drains have blocked once, possibly due to historically accumulated old fat migrating with the increased kitchen use.

Wesley Table Tennis Club 60's+Report by K. & M. Charnock.



We continue to meet on a Friday afternoon from 2pm - 4pm, in Wesley Hall, term only. Our price has been increased to £3.00.

Due to Covid 19, age, health and, sadly, four members passed away, our numbers have dropped. However, those friends who still regularly attend enjoy an afternoon of Table Tennis, refreshments, social chat and the friendship and fellowship we extend to them.

There is always a warm Wesley Welcome.

We would like to thank the church for the encouragement, support and prayers given to our group, which is very much appreciated.

Peace and Blessings,

Keith & Marjorie Charnock

Time for Prayer /Time for Healing by Jane Fulford



The monthly Time for Healing meeting was suspended in 2020 and much of 2021 in line with the Government's Covid restrictions. The successful opening of the Sanctuary Café on Saturdays and the resulting change in the ambience of the church during the time of the café's operation has prompted a rethink of the nature and purpose of this small prayer group. It is now being offered as Time for Prayer, a group intended to provide a quiet space of both communal and private prayer with a focus on general, healing, and personal matters.

Meetings restarted in Autumn 2021 with no meetings being held in January or February 2022. To avoid the inevitable busyness of the Sanctuary on Saturdays, weekday meetings were trialled in April and May, but this proved inconvenient for a number of the regular attendees. It was therefore decided to revert to a Saturday date once again from June 2022, but with a start time of 9.30am, in order to allow for a period of quiet contemplation prior to the opening of the Café. Hopefully this will be convenient for everyone.

Other ideas on how to maintain the purpose and accessibility of this group would be welcomed. Please contact Jane Fulford. (Email: fulford.family@btinternet.com)

Wesley Theatre Group report by Judith Taylor



It has been wonderful to be back treading the boards and entertaining people. A big welcome to Christine and Rob who have joined us, great to have you on board.

We look forward to working on A Murder Mystery with meal for our July production and further details will follow in the Clarion. We would like to thank our loyal audiences who carry on supporting us, with out you there would be no show.

We are hoping this year to look at replacing some more of the older lights on the stage to bring them up to modern standard of lighting for a performance area, this will be after the lighting rig has undergone a stress test to ensure that it is safe.

Next year will be our panto year, and we would welcome anyone who is interested in joining us for this production as part of the cast or crew ,you would be most welcome, experience is not required. If you have any questions or would like any further information please contact, Judy Taylor, Isobel Wratishaw.



Afternoon Teas Report by Janet Whiddett

It was good to begin a full programme of Afternoon Tea and Cakes in April 2022 and many people came, pleased to be back together.

Last year we managed to open in July. August and September, each afternoon was well attended and after several requests we ran a Christmas Afternoon Tea in December, which proved very popular. After uncertain times during the pandemic having a chat in person with old friends over a cup of tea seemed like luxury – a simple normality we had almost forgotten. How lovely to hear the buzz of good conversation and much laughter coming from the Canteen Room again.

With many thanks to all who attend and support these afternoons. Our special thanks to Pam and Linda, a great team making our refreshments AND clearing away each time; for all the bakers bringing different cakes to taste and for all who donate shop bought treats. We all enjoy them and usually there is a slice or two to take back home

House groups -Cameo Report by Jane Fulford

This housegroup is a mixed group of members from Wesley and Rochford. We usually meet once a month on a Wednesday in the afternoon or evening. There is no set agenda for the year we decide each meeting the time before – so a mix of topics can be reviewed varying from Scripture to current local and national concerns. This year after not meeting because of Covid we have followed suggested discussions of A Methodist Way of Life. We number about 8 and any newcomers are very welcome.

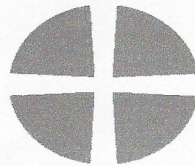
Thank you to Eileen who has been our host for several meetings. Thank you to those who have attended.

Thursday Call Report by Isobel Wratishlaw

Thursday Call continues to meet on the third Thursday of the month, and over the past year has continued to meet on Zoom, although we have recently moved back to meeting in the homes of members (we can always facilitate joining by zoom for those not able to attend in person). Each session is led by a different member, alternating the style and theme, with recent meetings looking at passages from the book of Proverbs, and covering the Lent course based on the film *Chocolat*. We would always welcome anyone who feels this might be something they'd like to join. Please see Isobel Wratishlaw for details.

- **Appendix Audited accounts**

copy



Church
Accruals Accounts
2021-2022

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TEMPLATE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2022

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

Registered Charity - Registration number (if applicable)

1130293

Circuit No

34-10

Minister

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Church Stewards

Gaye Greenway

Ian Lowe

Eileen Simmons

Judy Taylor

Anna Wratishaw

Emma Hearn

Sanya Strachen

Church Treasurer

Tina Gowers

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021-22 £
Income and Endowments						
1 Offerings and tax recoverable		30,542				30,542
2 Donations & Grants		5,033	0			5,033
3 Interest and investment income		234				234
4 Income from investment properties						0
5 Other income		8,806	-			8,806
6 Internal organisations			8,275			8,275
7 Other charitable activities						0
Total from charitable activities		44,615	8,275	-	-	52,890
8 Lettings		52,013				52,013
9 Other income						0
Total income and endowments		96,627	8,275	-	-	104,902
Expenditure						
10 Circuit assessment or share		32,549				32,549
11 Grants and donations						0
12 Property maintenance		9,039				9,039
13 Insurance, utilities etc		18,778				18,778
14 Provisions						0
15 Depreciation						0
16 Office expenses		368				368
17 Other expenditure		6,832	0			6,832
18 Salaries & pensions		16,503				16,503
19 Internal organisations			3,466			3,466
Total charitable expenditure		84,069	3,466	0	0	87,534
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0
22 Net income/(expenditure)		12,559	4,810	0	0	17,368
23 Transfers between funds		624	- 625			-1
24 Other gains/(losses)						0
25 Net movement in funds		13,183	4,185	0	0	17,367
26 Total funds brought forward		57,850	5,792	0		63,643
27 Total funds carried forward		71,033	9,977	0	-	81,010

Circuit Collections UR	£25,949.53	Gift Aid UR	£4,592.76		
General Donations UR	£4,770.84	Property Donations UR	£262.00	Assoc: Memory W Des	£0.00
CFB Int UR	£202.20	CFB Inno Int UR	£31.33		

Property Fundraising UR	£0.00	Assoc: Benevolent DES	£0.00	General UR	£7,975.25	Property Other UR	£830.80
Assoc: WTG DES	£2,897.71	Assoc: Fusion DES	£3,586.16	Assoc: Memory W Des	£351.81	Assoc: Parent & T Des	£1,439.53

Property Lettings UR	£52,012.50
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Total Income agrees with FRS102

Circuit Assess UR	£32,549.00
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Prop R & M UR	£9,038.84		
Property Utilities UR	£13,403.04	Property Ins UR	£5,375.28

General Office UR	£368.16								
Property Cleaning Supp UR	£2,111.97	Property Other UR	£224.25	Assoc Benev DES	£0.00	Circuit Other UR	£0.00	General UR	£4,495.57
Property Cleaners UR	£7,203.00	Property co-ord: UR	£5,070.00	General Treas UR	£2,310.00	Circuit Organist UR	£1,919.50		
Assoc WTG DES	£1,098.94	Assoc: Fusion DES	£1,343.25	Assoc: Memory W Des	£73.90	Assoc: Parent & T Des	£949.53		

Total Expenditure agrees with FRS102

Net figure agrees with Bank A/c

Total Funds carried forward agree with Bank A/c's		
Excludes Charities	£0.00	81,009.81

Name of Church

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church No 34/10

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

Notes to the Accounts						General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2022	Totals 2021
						£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets											
Church building and other property	insured value	5,282,669				5,282,669					4,923,236
Investment properties						0					
Investments						0					
Total fixed assets		5,282,669	0	0	0	5,282,669					4,923,236

Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments						0	
Loans by the Churches						0	
Investments with TMCP						0	
Central Finance Board Deposits		56,957	0	0		56,957	45,798
Cash at Bank and in hand		14,076	9,976	0		24,053	17,844
Total current assets		71,033	9,976	0	0	81,010	63,642

Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)						0	
Grants payable within 2017-18						0	
Total current liabilities		0	0	0	0	0	0
Net current assets/liabilities		71,033	9,976	0	0	81,010	63,642

Total assets less current liabilities		5,353,702	9,976	0	0	5,363,679	4,986,878
--	--	------------------	--------------	----------	----------	------------------	------------------

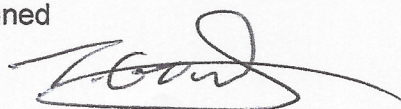
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2017-18						0	
Loans to the Church						0	
						0	
Net assets		5,353,702	9,976	0	0	5,363,679	4,986,878

Funds of the Church							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		71,033				71,033	57,850
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		9,976				9,976	5,792
Total Unrestricted Funds						81,010	63,642
Restricted Funds			0			0	
Endowment Funds						0	
Total Funds		81,010	0	0	0	81,010	63,642

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Closing balances
Internal Organisations						0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

External Charitable Organisations	
Bal Fwd 01/09/2021	406
Income	2834
Expenditure - Passed to Charities	3241
Bal c/fwd 31/08/22	0

Signed



Church Treasurer

Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting

	2022	2021
£	4540.4	764.47

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

6	3
---	---

Nature of the expenses

General church expenses

If there are no payments to Trustees, please record no expenses were paid.

Total amount paid

£	4,540	764
---	-------	-----

Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

£	nil	nil
---	-----	-----

Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor

£	nil	nil
---	-----	-----

Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind

£	16,093	15,603
---	--------	--------

Employer's National Insurance costs

£		
---	--	--

Pension costs

£		
---	--	--

Total staff costs

£	16,093	15,603
---	--------	--------

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

4	4
---	---

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning 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. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(3) 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.

Name of independent examiner

HEATHER SIMS

Signature of independent examiner

Heather Sims

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

1A GROVE ROAD RAYLEIGH SS6 8PU

Date

20/9/22

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

Leigh Wesley Methodist

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group*.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

2/9/22

Name of Treasurer

Mrs Tina Gowers

Address

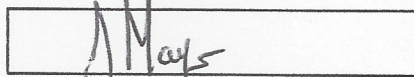
17 The Crest, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. SS9 5NJ

Presentation to the Church Council / ~~Members' Meeting~~ / ~~Leadership Group~~* for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2022 were, or will be* presented to the **Church Council** / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group* at its meeting on

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2022

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Church's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary 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.

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning 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. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(3) 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.

Name of independent examiner

HEATHER SIMS

Signature of independent examiner

Heather Sims

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

1A GROVE ROAD RAYLEIGH SS6 8PU

Date

20/9/22

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

Accounts

Reports for the Annual Church Life Meeting of Wesley Methodist church, Leigh-on-Sea 25th July 2021



ACM MINISTER'S REPORT – WESLEY METHODIST 2021

This last year has been a tough year for all of us. Our church has been closed for great swathes of time which has affected each of us personally. Since the beginning of Covid I have engaged with technology to provide a weekly YouTube service which many have appreciated.

Lettings have been minimal or non-existent, which has financially drained our church resources.

But the good news is that on Easter Sunday morning we were allowed to re-open our church although under tight Covid restrictions.

Some of our lettings have returned giving us much needed income.

Sadly, our Parent and Toddler group closed as Marjorie Charnock and her team retired after many, many, years of service to the church and God's Kingdom. Our grateful thanks to them.

Fortunately, June Child's daughter, Georgina, and a friend, have offered to restart the Parent and Toddler group as from September after the required checks etc. are completed. This group will run on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Another mission venture, which has been greatly delayed due to Covid, is the opening of the new Sanctuary Café. The opening Saturday was a great success, and we pray for many more to come.

Particular thanks to Emma and John Hearn who undertook the vast majority of the setting up.

The pastoral team has been busy staying in contact with us under the leadership of Eileen Simmons, and I am hoping to now resume my pastoral visitation.

Although we have lost some saints in the past year, who will be sadly missed, we have also had some new faces in worship for which we give God the praise.

A prayer for this time...

Almighty God, we know that everything is in Your sovereign control. We ask that You keep this coronavirus from continuing to spread. Give government officials the ability to safely handle people arriving from other countries. Help people decide to stay home instead of travelling or going out needlessly. Holy Spirit, remind people to wash their hands properly. And while it may be heart-breaking, comfort families as they decide to keep their distance from elderly or other high-risk family members.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea ...

Psalm 46:1-2 (NIV)

May God richly bless you,

Pastor Steve Mayo

Some highlights by Eileen Simmons

1. Wesley service on September 6th, 2020.

This was our first service after lockdown.

In preparing that service I had invited Isobel and Anna Wratislaw to record a song/ hymn. They chose:

The Lord's my Shepherd by Stuart Townend.

Tim Wratislaw did the recording and it came out as a full choir and was just wonderful. With their permission I play this at other churches and always get amazing feedback.

2 The team of stewards who prepare and follow up all the Covid requirements that allow us to worship safely at Wesley, when not in lockdown. Our church is welcoming and Covid compliant.

3. The team of Pastoral visitors who have kept in touch with our Wesley family all through these difficult times.

4. All the preparations for Christingle, and the instant responses to lockdown 2, which meant that Christingle in a kit could be distributed for home use.

5 The beauty of the service to celebrate the life of Marian Rumble led by Pastor Steve on May 28th at Wesley, with the cross superbly decorated. The best of technology was in use so that we saw and heard from Marian's daughter, Sue Fox in Capetown as well as the presence of her son Mike Rumble and some of his family.



The Sanctuary Café Report by Emma Hearn

The Sanctuary Café opened for the first time on Saturday 22 May 2021. The morning was a great success with around 100 people coming through the doors of our Church to enjoy refreshments.

The environment of the Sanctuary provides a relaxed open space for the whole community to enjoy; with a play area and buggy park for those with young children, a quiet space for private reflection and prayer, and a social space to meet up.

The café is run by a group of volunteers and cakes baked by Church Members and Friends.

Since opening the café, it has welcomed many new families and individuals who would never otherwise had stepped into our Church. It has given us as a Church to provide a listening ear to those in need, a chance to share the services and activities on offer at Wesley and provide moments of private prayer too.

The Sanctuary Café is open Fridays 8.30am-12pm and Saturdays 9am-12pm, serving a selection of coffees, tea, hot chocolate, soft drinks and homemade cakes.

Church Council Members as from 21st Jan 2021

Name:	Capacity	Elected to role	Completed 6 years
Rev. Peter Moorhouse	Superintendent		
Pastor Steve Mayo	Minister in charge (Chair of Council)		
Judy Taylor	Church Secretary/ Safeguarding	2014	2020
Gaye Greenway	Co-ordinating Steward Circuit Rep Outreach	2014	2020
Ian Lowe	Serving, Inclusion and Justice in the Circuit community. Circuit rep for Wesley.	2014	2020
Anna Wratishlaw	Communication. Deputy Rep for GG.	2016	2022
Eileen Simmons	Pastoral Co-ordinator	2015	2021
Sanya Strachan	Worship and Mission	2021	2027
Emma Hearn	Youth		2024
Geoff Hart	Property Link Officer		2019
Geoff Hawkins	Church Rep		2019
Helen Boyd	Church Rep		2019
June Childs	Church Rep		2021
Alex Childs	Church Rep	2021	2027
Rupert Bertie	Church Rep		2022
David Cox	Church Rep		2024

Advisors to CC

Tina Gowers
Alan Severne

Worship and Mission and Outreach Report by Sanya Strachan

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission

Worship

Sunday worship continues in line with both the Government and Methodist Church guidelines. There are plans for a bigger banner outside the church to show that we are reopen.

Memory worship resumes on 21 June

Informal worship will be left until September, unless it has already been advertised.

Inspire resumed in May. The service on 27 June will have singing, if within the Government and Methodist Church guidelines.

Private Prayer continues, particularly with the Sanctuary Café up and running on a Saturday.

Time for Healing this is not happening at the moment.

Time for Prayer this is not happening at the moment.

Fusion there are hopes for a holiday club week commencing Monday 9 August. If not, it is hoped sessions can recommence in September.

Worship Survey

Please refer to the survey findings circulated with this paper.

In order to produce a promotional postcard, the proposed copy is shared with this meeting for approval before going to print. Print run 2,000 copies with a letter drop within the community in August.

The survey called for us to look at our music in worship and to think about families.

Mission and Outreach

We are working through the Mission Planning Workbook and Community Questionnaire. It is hoped that these tools will enable Wesley to develop a mission plan.

The Sanctuary Café is going well but we desperately need more volunteers.

Survey results from 'Church Questionnaire's at 1st Feb 2021 compiled by Anna Wratislaw

- Total of 16 respondents, 15 online, 1 over the phone
- Percentages given below are insights from the online survey, '+' indicates phone respondent's answers. Percentages are rounded up/down to nearest %
- I've tried to amalgamate similar answers per question – denoted with a '/'

Do you attend church?

77% + Attend church and access online

15% Do not attend church, but do access online

8% Attend church but do not access online

What would make church more appealing?

Update the content

Short talk for the children/young people at the start followed by a modern song that they would know

Earlier start time e.g. 10.30am

Shorter services – 30/40 mins

Tea/Coffee in the church sanctuary after the service

More informal and relaxed / Likes small groups and non-traditional services

Midweek midday services / more times and days

Expand Inspire & Contemporary worship

Happy with the times of services / Offer a range of services which all appeal

More hymns

No time constraints

To be fun

Most important things in regard to a church? - This was multiple choice so it is % of respondents that chose this option as one of their choices

Church community - 87%

Inclusivity - 80% +

Involvement in community - 80%

Service content & style - 60% +

Youth provision - 60%

Biblical teaching - 53% +

Church culture - 40%

Location - 27%

Service length - 7%

Other – to ensure that church politics and “cliques” do not become endemic; more community giving eg bereavement support, meals for older people, parent & toddler, need to attract younger people to achieve this; preachers from outside Methodist church occasionally; Good worship songs.

Type of worship most appealing? - Multiple choice as above

Contemporary – 87%

Family focused – 80% +

Informal – 67%

Holy Communion – 67%

Formal – 47%

Youth-led – 47%

Meditative – 40% +

Contemplative – 40%

Traditional morning worship – 40%

Participatory – 33%

Traditional Liturgy (eg from service book) – 27%

Small group – 27%

Discussion based – 20%

Creative/Craft-based – 13% +

Other – 7% - suggestion of occasional open air services to attract local community, appreciate visual aids in services

Music - Multiple choice as above

Mixture of styles – 93% +

Contemporary music & worship songs – 53%

Traditional hymns – 47%

Songs remembered from school – 27%

Other – 13% - suggestions of Gospel music, and ratio of 40% trad to 60% modern/hillsong styles

Children & Youth – Multiple choice as above

Interested in family-focused services & events – 92% +

Interested in services aimed at adults with childcare/youth provision – 33%

Childcare/youth provision is important to me – 17%

Interested in services aimed at adults with no childcare/youth provision – 0%

Need a crèche – 0%

Other comments – Feel it is good to offer childcare

Current view of Wesley

The church strives to be part of the community, has a village feel

Doing a good job / Working hard to make the church relevant and meet needs, which is difficult when up against modern day lifestyle changes / Doing best at a difficult time

Lost direction before covid

Focused mainly on trad Sunday morning services to cater for existing congregation. Other styles are tolerated rather than embraced by some, as long as the trad service isn't impacted / Leans to the traditional / Outdated

Difficult to attract numbers, if don't the numbers will go down faster / Need to attract and widen reach within community – adults, children and families / Love the church but it isn't growing / Need to appeal to families / Need face to face image in the community / Continue to work with the local community

Trying to please all the people all the time – need to accept that not every service is going to suit everyone / One size fits all has failed

Online is important – need to continue this post-covid for those not able to attend

Need to support those in decision-making positions

Very clicky, not everyone is welcoming / Could be more inclusive and encourage participation and involvement, sense of segregation

Struggles with a shared minister – worship needs to vary to cater to different parts of community. Need consistent minister to aid delivery and continuity.

Need more Sunday services – 2 a week, trad and non-trad

Live worship bands would be good

Sunday services can be boring

Worship is good

Strategic financial planning needed so as not to be dependent on lettings

Other comments

Continue to explore ways in which we can be seen as having a central role in the life of our community.

Consider how to continue with online services post covid for those who have joined worship online but have not attended a physical church service.

Need to appeal to more children and families

Miss worshipping in person but get a lot from the various online options (including national Methodist offer)

Online services at home can be interrupted by the phone/doorbell etc so it is good to come to church to remove yourself from distractions

We offer quite a lot of styles which is good / Very pleased with what we do offer – a variety

Sundays work fine but can see that this will not be good for other people

Memory Worship Report by Julie Peek

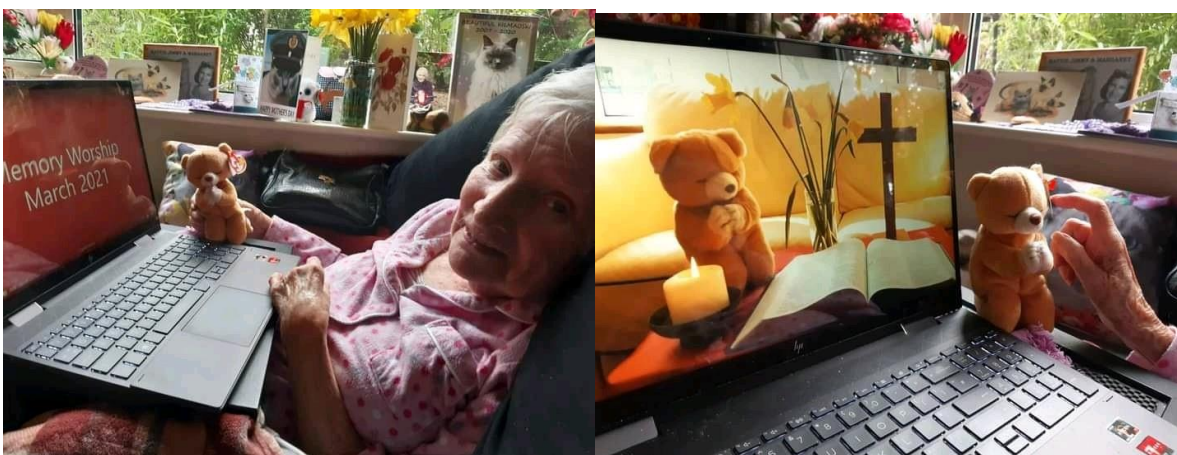
Back in 2016 Rev Julia Monaghan and I set up a monthly church service for people living with dementia; we called it Memory Worship. Pre COVID 19 the afternoon would take a regular pattern of welcome; singing well known hymns, reading familiar passages of scripture, and saying the Lord's Prayer together the formal part of the service would last 30 minutes before leading into a craft activity and hospitality, providing an opportunity for conversation to reinforce the theme of the service. Our dedicated team of volunteers were always on hand with tea, lovely homemade cake and Methodist fellowship. This grew very quickly and was then replicated by our friends at Thorpe Bay Methodist Church. So, every month there were two local church services on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month.

This all stopped in March 2020 when COVID 19 gripped the world. This devastating blow compelled me to put together a 'Memory Worship at Home' service to be viewed on YouTube, initially, for the people that had been attending monthly service at Wesley and Thorpe Bay. 15 months on and Memory Worship at home YouTube service is watched at home and in care homes every month locally at LWP Westerley and Admiral Court carehomes and all over the country. These monthly services have been viewed nearly 3,000 times.

You can view here by pasting this link into your browser -

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmdLC8_ZDnic6cCDsbtbIVQ

This is Margaret watching Memory Worship at home in Bedale, Yorkshire supported by her amazing carer daughter Heather. Pre COVID Bedale Methodist Church had set up their own monthly Memory Worship 'Silver service' that Margaret and Heather used to attend together.



The exit out of COVID 19 restrictions for the people that used to attend Memory Worship at any of the churches needs to be very slow and steady but is very much needed. We have all struggled mentally and physically with isolation.

It would be wonderful to see as many Wesley church members on the date of our first Memory Worship service which is Monday 19th July at 2pm. The theme of our service is 'In Gods name we pray' and as Methodists we sing our prayers. Not being able to sing as part of worship for over a year has been very sad so this opportunity to raise the Wesley rafters is long overdue.

In parallel to this return to physical church worship at Wesley I am undertaking as part of my older people worker role employed by Highlands Methodist Church to maintain a Memory Worship at home service on YouTube at least to the end of 2021 for all those people and care homes that are too far away to attend services in person.



Wesley **Methodist** Church 

Mission and Outreach Report June 2021by Gaye Greenway

During 2020 Wesley's Outreach efforts were directed towards developing an online presence of Worship via U Tube and Zoom, and through our website and social media platforms.

As time went on, we resumed our Worship and Mission Consultation meetings on Zoom to which everyone was invited. As a result of these meetings, it was suggested that Wesley took part in the District Mission Planning Training which began after Easter.

This training helps a church develop a planning strategy designed to increase the awareness of God in the Community and grow our church whilst identifying and then forming a plan to meet the needs of the Community.

The training points out that the church in lockdown went from a church dealing with fear and feeling overwhelmed to one which found alternative ways to contact people, acquire new skills, experiment with new media and we had to recognise that everyone was doing their best in a bad situation. Our aims now are to discover new ways of connecting with the Community and finding a new rhythm of worship and service and ways to meet the needs of our neighbours.

The Mission Planning Steps are.

- 1 Decide on a Process
- 2 Do a Community Audit
3. Conduct a Church Review
4. Dream Together
5. Choose Priorities
- 6 Identify Actions
- 7 Consider the Fruit
- 8 Set a Date for a Review

I have gathered some information on the Community audit. At Wesley we have already conducted a survey regarding Worship and activities at the Church. This has provided useful information but I have reproduced a very short questionnaire for use with users of the Wesley building and members of the Community surrounding the Church building. In this way we hope to gain more information to make our plan more effective.

So, our Mission Plan is underway.

At Leadership Team and at the Consultation meetings we felt that we could not wait for this process to be completed before beginning our long-held desire to open the church sanctuary to the community and so The Sanctuary Cafe for the Community was launched on 22nd May as soon as the Covid guidelines allowed. Details are covered elsewhere. From a Mission point of view, we now need to assess our priorities for addressing any needs we identify in our area. We are already looking at making an information point to direct people towards the relevant help they may require. Another area for discussion is that of improving our quiet area for individuals and groups to use whilst the cafe is open.

If you have views on any of the above, please do attend the next Consultation on Worship and Mission on Monday 2nd August 7.30pm on Zoom (unless rules change)

All are warmly welcomed to attend, please come, we cannot grow Wesley church without you!

Our wonderful Youth Team

Report by *Emma Hearn Fusion Youth Leader April 2021*

FUSION Youth & Kids

FUSION Youth & Kids AND Fusion Youth & Kids meet on a Thursday night at 6pm and have 50 to 80 children attend of primary school age. The children enter through the church and then go through to the back where there are a number of different activities set up – board games, sports, xbox, karaoke, hairdressing, lego, dressing up and lots more! The last half an hour we come into the Church space for our 'worship' where we sing songs, have a 10/15minute talk lead usually by me and then some group games and prayers from our prayer board to round the evening off. Fusion+ is for senior school children and runs from 7.30pm until 9pm straight after Fusion. Numbers vary from week to week but the most we have had is an incredible 30! The tone and vibe of Fusion+ is very different to Fusion but the principle is the same. It is an opportunity for us to share our love of Jesus, provide a safe and secure place for the children to hang out. The evenings at Fusion+ run similar to Fusion with games being left out for them to use such as the pool table, xbox, basketball but mostly they like eating, playing music and playing hide and seek! 15 minutes before the evening ends we come into the Church space for a time of reflection over the past week. I then call us to prayer and read out any prayers left on our cactus (can be seen at the side of Church under the clock!). Our Team When the weather is good, we are lucky to have the use of North Street School playground. The children love the sports activities run by John Hearn, Steve Hockett, Matthew Stanford and Hayden Stanford. In addition to our sports volunteers, we have another 11 made up of mums from North Street and Belfairs School, Church members and my family! My righthand ladies are a mum from Belfairs School, Sam Rogers and a mum from North Street, Clare Raker who work tirelessly for Fusion. Clare is a great link with the children and other parents at North Street and can generally be found sorting out the registration when the children come in. Sam, with her extension experience in catering, ensures the children are feed and watered each week and provides food for our large special events. She organises and collects the food donations from the Coop and Waitrose and has often been found cooking up a special meal for a young youth helper who has rushed to come set up without eating first! Rose a mum of children who have attend the clubs has a super watchful eye, beautiful singing voice and generally wonderful person to have around. Our very own Geoff Fulford is our fruit and snack man ensuring the kids have a delicious bowl of fruit once a month. Jane Fulford, with copious amounts of experience with children, provides a cool and calm

presence and offers, personally to me, much support and guidance. Rupert Bertie can be found playing a game of ping pong with the kids and Steve Hockett not only runs a sport once a month but takes the talk too (gives the kids a break from listening to me!). Lovely Gaye, Iso and Anna regularly help out – Anna after work getting to help clear up! Gaye spending time with the children whilst doing their crafts and Iso again providing much support and guidance. Geoff Nash and Alex Child come on later in the evening to help out with the older children at Fusion+ - Geoff registering the children in and Alex a calm eagle eye on proceedings. Alan and Judy clear all the chairs for us every week – this is such a massive help, and I am so grateful for the support they provide ensuring the safety of running both youth clubs. Our very own Steve Mayo who may not be able to attend regularly due to his many other commitments, has and continues to be, a massive support not only to me personally, but to the youth of our church and community. Last but by no means least, our wonderful Youth Team (around 20 of them) are of senior age and come each week to help set up and help run activities. What a team!! How blessed are we have these people working with us at Wesley. Sadly, both our youth clubs have been closed for a whole year due to the COVID19 pandemic however we are looking at opening a Holiday Club for the week of 9th August. Subject to Government go ahead, we will look to run from 10am to 12pm Fusion and then from 12pm to 2pm Fusion+. We are continually being asked when we are coming back and hopefully, we will be able to resume full Thursday evenings in September. On a positive note, I am pleased to confirm that, Fusion Youth & Kids and Fusion+, has recently received its first payment from the Co-op Local Community Fund of £1,358.63. This is an incredible amount and will go towards much needed new equipment and fund special projects for the youth of our church and community. We cannot wait to get back to our usual Thursday nights and have lots of new ideas and activities planned for our children. If anyone would like to volunteer to help out on a Thursday (doesn't need to be every week) or would like to come and talk to the children, knows of anyone that would like to help out or run an activity then please get in contact with me as we are always looking for extra help and support. Emma Hearn Fusion Youth Leader Contact details: 0776 658 8877 fusionyouth@btinternet.com



Service – a place in the community, a place for justice Report by Ian Lowe

Circuit News

Coronavirus

Obviously, the main topic for the last year in the Circuit has been how we adapt during and following the pandemic.

Owing to the Coronavirus and Government advice on social distancing measures, as with other religions and denominations, all church services, meetings, groups and events were suspended from the first lockdown.

This meant that Conference, Synods, Circuit Meetings and Church Councils were also suspended. As buildings were closed, only essential work could be carried out (provided workers could work while socially distancing) and the Circuit Treasurer advised that there should be limited expenditure at this time, which should come from reserves (hence, why churches should have a reserves policy).

As time went on services, housegroups and social events have been provided on-line e.g. YouTube and Zoom, the pastoral network operated by phone, and business meetings moved to Zoom. The Circuit agreed a Circuit-wide co-ordinated approach to re-opening of churches following lifting of restrictions and then closure again during the second and third lockdowns. We continue to follow the Government's roadmap as a Circuit and at each stage assess the gradual lifting of restrictions and look forward to when we can fully re-open.

This pandemic has led to the topic of 'Hybrid Church' being discussed at Circuit Meetings (CM). Information had been circulated prior to the meeting identifying some background reading and noting that this topic raises two issues: 'Church' which for Methodists has four emphases: Worship, Learning and Caring, Service and Evangelism, and 'Hybrid' which takes for granted that on-line is already part of the equation and will remain so in future. Much has happened in churches as a result

of the pandemic and many new avenues have been explored and used to take forward the work via on-line tools and other activities whilst face to face has not been possible.

CM completed two polls with results as follows:-

Over the past year have you “attended worship” using your computer
computer/iPad/phone/TV/radio/books/newsletters/bedroom/sofa?

Very often 85% Monthly 5% Occasionally 8% Seldom 3%

Over the past year have you engaged in Learning and Caring, Service and/or Evangelism using
your computer/iPad/phone/TV/radio/books/newsletters/bedroom/sofa?

Very often 41% Monthly 31% Occasionally 5% Seldom 23%

CM moved into breakout groups to discuss: “Over the last year we’ve done very well in finding new ways of worshipping online, but for Methodists this is only one part of our calling, so what might we do to develop the other aspects of our calling – Learning & Caring, Service and Evangelism both online and in person?” After the sessions feedback was received from each group and these findings will be the basis of a series of discussions in the local churches. It is hoped that Church Councils, Church Leadership Teams and Annual Church Meetings begin to explore the possibilities and then feed the thinking back to the Circuit Leadership Team and CM.

Stationing – A new presbyter will be joining the Circuit staff from 1st Sept 2021 - the Rev. Zena Smith. Her Circuit Welcome service is scheduled for Tuesday 31st August 2021 at 7.30pm – the preacher will be our District Chair, the Rev Dr David Chapman. The farewell service for the Rev. Chris Sandy is to be on 18th July at 4pm at Trinity.

The Experience Project at Whittingham Avenue Mission Centre. Despite Covid impacts the project continues to proceed well along the six strands of work – e.g. Community Meals; Food parcel delivery; the work of 6 community champions; a summer village event is in planning stage; working with Ocado – for food distribution and with “BenQ” for the augmented reality video kit. The project now has 15 regular volunteers, Patrick Smith has joined the Management Committee, but Rev. Norman Hooks has stood down from the pastoral oversight role. The person who has been providing

the van for the food collections has decided to continue this provision, so there is no longer any urgency to purchase a van. CM noted that any funds already given for this have to be ring-fenced and not used for other purposes. Ocado has increased the food being provided to around £8K per

week, which is being distributed on the estate. Funding for the project effectively ceases in August and a bid writer has been employed to seek further funding going forward.

Town Centre Ministry. Deacon Sarah McDowall is now responsible for this work. She has gathered background and met with Mike Churchyard (Love Southend) and Clive Baguley (Retail stream) and made ecumenical contacts with the Salvation Army. Sarah has been working particularly with one of the young people at Adventure Island – the fun park is closed presently.

Winter Night shelter. Covid advice from Government and Local Authorities meant dormitory style shelters, such as we usually run, were not acceptable in the pandemic, so it was confirmed that the Night shelter would not function this winter.

“Meet the Minister” This is an initiative to help people get to know the Circuit staff. It is an opportunity, initially quarterly, to meet together, share in music and light refreshments and to hear a staff member’s (minister, pastor) story and to question them.

Health & Well Being Ministry. These meetings resumed in October via Zoom. They were being run internally, but returned to external, professional speakers from January. They will continue on each 4th Wednesday of the month.

Circuit Prayer Breakfast. This resumed in September, seeing in the Methodist Year of Prayer. As people could not meet at The Elms, attendees have to make their own breakfast and then Zoom in to eat, have fellowship and pray together. All are welcome 1st Saturday every month, 8.30am.

Finance – Circuit accounts are now being produced monthly. In the current climate a one-off 50% reduction in a quarter’s assessment has been offered to the churches. CM approved the draw-down from centrally held funds of £47.5K on 1st April to cover this. This comes from the Elm Road Manse fund. Going forward the Circuit would like to use this fund for ‘Mission Opportunities’ in churches as restrictions ease, rather than general maintenance. Wesley has applied to this fund for matched funding for the new coffee shop venture as this is a missional opportunity at Wesley.

Conference 2020

Conference met virtually via Zoom, followed a shortened agenda, completed all essential business and deferred items needing face to face input, e.g. “God in Love unites us”, to next year. Conference did:-

- Endorse the report from the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion group.
- Identify the need to treat the Report “Oversight and Trusteeship of the Methodist Church” as a “Deferred Special Resolution” – so the proposed change to the Model Trust to revise how ecumenical partners may use our premises for worship will come to all Church Councils, Circuit Meetings and Synods for discussion, voting and report back to Conference.
- Approve the Evangelism and Growth Strategy from Rev Trey Hall and team. It outlines a way to allow us to prioritise discipleship, our own and new disciples.
- Declare Connexional Year 2020/2021 to be a “Year of Prayer” – reflections led by the Connexional Team on-line are every Tuesday at 12.45pm.
- Conference Business Digest available on <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-conference/conference-2020/the-conference-business-digest/>



Safeguarding Report by Judith Taylor

As always Safeguarding has remained high on the list of priorities over this difficult period. DBS checks are up to date which I thank everyone for, especially those who had to use zoom to carry out the document check. We have informed the circuit that we all need update Safeguarding training at Wesley. I am hoping to do my training to become a trainer asap as it can be arranged as the circuit is desperately short of trainers. The Safeguarding Policy was referred at Church Council and approved, a copy is displayed on the notice board by the Office in the foyer. Should anyone wish a copy I can print one off or email it out. Covid restrictions have been monitored and I would like to thank the Leadership Team and Alan Severne for their hard work in endeavouring to keep every safe during this trying time. If you wish any further information about Safeguarding at Wesley, please feel free to contact me via email or telephone. Judy Taylor: 01702-714581 email judy@wesleymethodist.org.uk

Communications Report by Anna Wratislaw

COMMUNICATION



Over the past year our communications have changed focus, and now have a greater emphasis on engaging with people at home, and ensuring we use a variety of means to provide information to our community and maintain connections.

Over the Easter period this included posting out Palm Crosses where we were able, and my thanks to Jane for placing a cross outside the church building for the Easter weekend. We also shared the story of Holy Week with daily Bible passages on our Facebook page, detailing the events of that week and sharing the story of Easter, as these may not be familiar to everyone in our community. If you are able to share our posts on social media, please continue to do so as it can increase our reach greatly.

Over Christmas, Christmas cards were designed and sent out along with membership cards and inserts with Christmas service information. The online booking system for the Christmas services was set up, banner made, website and social media pages updated with information and Wesley's gmail account monitored for Christingle @ Home orders. We also updated our 'Worship @ Wesley' leaflet with specific information for Christmas, and my thanks to Gabrielle Greenway and Judith Taylor for sharing and posting our service flyers to schools and our local community.

Following the decision to cancel the Christmas services in light of Southend's move to Tier 4 restrictions, we had to move quickly to update our advertising and get in touch with all those who had booked to attend the services. My thanks to all those who assisted with the phone calls on a Saturday night and in the few days before Christmas to inform everyone of the cancellations – this was a team effort involving many emails cross-checking attendee lists, at short notice and at a difficult time for everyone, and I know it was appreciated by our community.

Much of our Christmas and subsequent communications work has shown the extent to which communications and mission/outreach work hand in hand. This has been especially true since the cancellations at Christmas and the subsequent need to increase pastoral-based communications and messages. Having had to cancel the Christingle service, we converted these bookings to 'Christingle @ Home' packs which were given out on Christmas Eve. Nearly 60 Christingles were given out to 24 families and were very much welcomed. This initiative enabled us to offer something positive within our cancellation information and became an opportunity for outreach and to communicate our message. We've also taken this opportunity through our Christmas decorations,

which included a nativity scene and bible quote drawn onto the glass doors into the sanctuary. This quote from John 1 was left on the doors into the start of this year to remind people throughout the third lockdown that there is light in the darkness.

In the long term, the pandemic has provided the opportunity to evaluate our provision, and I worked with Emma Hearn to produce a Community Survey that was available in a variety of formats for both attenders and non-attenders to answer, to ascertain any areas we could look to change/improve within our offering as a church. This covered everything from the types of services we offer to how the church is viewed. The answers were taken to a Worship Consultation and Mission & Outreach Meeting and will be used to inform plans going forward.

Our website has been updated throughout the year to reflect the changing situation with regards to the opening and closing of the building and the impact on worship and activities. We currently have a page dedicated to information on reopening, and another for Worship at Home resources and information. We appreciate that not everyone is comfortable returning to worship at the moment, and that we need to use the website to signpost people to the variety of in-person and at home options available.

Thank you to Judith Taylor for her work on the Clarion throughout the year, and especially for ensuring its continued distribution by email and post throughout the current situation. Thanks also to all who help create, proofread and distribute our communications in all their forms.

Please continue to be mindful of GDPR regulations and our policies if you are ever in a position where you need to take, keep or use personal data of any kind, or share any photos or information in regards to our events when they are back up and running. Please speak to me or Judith Taylor if you have any questions on GPDR or data protection within the church context.

Please do get in touch if you have any queries, suggestions, or ideas for ways we can continue to improve our communications.

Pastoral Report by Eileen Simmons

In 2020 Wesley produced the annual Report, but as we were in lockdown, we were not able to hold the Annual Church Meeting. It is usual practice for us to stand as the names of those PROMOTED to GLORY since the last ACM are read out. The following were included in the 2020 report:

Barbara Redman, Lenny Berwick, Marjorie Rockley and Percy Pritchard.

Promoted to Glory since that report are:

Dennis Tubby, Jim Mavin, and Marian Rumble.

I need to pay tribute to the team of Pastoral Visitors, who have found innovative ways of keeping in touch in COVID times. Doorstep calls have been helpful and whilst telephone contact may not be particularly innovative it has been useful in keeping up to date with individuals. As Wesley, we thank them warmly for their commitment.

Careful checks were made to ensure that all individuals and families had someone who would do food shopping if needed. We had volunteers willing to help, but on the whole that was not required. Whatever our role we continue to learn by experience, and I still learn from the way Pastor Steve plays his pastoral role. Within our community there were individuals, who needed to shield, but we were able to contact by telephone.

Pastoral care is not only provided by the Pastoral Visitor team, but by informal contacts between each other. We each have our own story to tell and to have someone to show interest and to listen is helpful. Our Wesley Prayer chain underpins much pastoral work and people are asked if their names may be forwarded to that group.

Miriam Gifford has been very unwell, but although her cancer treatment has left her very tired, she is making such good progress. When I spoke to her on 23rd. May she gave permission for her name to go in the Clarion Pastoral News to thank Wesley for all the cards sent and prayers made for her recovery.

As a church community I am unaware of any COVID related deaths, which is different from other churches.

It is really good that as I write this report, we are able to go into each other's homes again and enjoy fellowship together. The need for pastoral care is unlimited so if anyone can help out in this vital work, please talk to me. People really appreciate phone calls, cards, emails, visits, prayers and other expressions of support and concern. Individuals who are fit, active and healthy also have their

own stories to tell and appreciate the personal contact pastoral work brings into their lives.

We are fortunate at Wesley, one of my own Christian friends has been really hurt at the lack of contact from her own church and feels abandoned and disillusioned.

Reports from other church groups:



Art Group Report – Annette Jarvis

Our last Art Group meeting was Monday 8th March 2020, well over a year ago. Unfortunately, the group will not meet again under my leadership. I cannot manage the responsibility. After the country being in and out of lockdown for so long, I prefer to take life calmly and quietly.

There is some money, £38.03, to be handed over to the church together with our attendance records. I am so sorry that I have come to this decision but all the Art materials in the Art cupboards belong to the church as donated by Mr. Ken Brown so if someone else would like to take it on the materials are ready to go.



WESLEY CHARITY NEWS for ACM report 2021 By Eileen Simmons & Tina Gowers

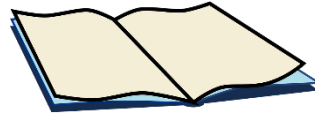
During the pandemic we have not been able to fund raise for Charity in the traditional way and bank the funds via the Church account.

During the year people have sent money directly to the charities and have given details via the Clarion.

Tina has only received £25 for Action for Children and £40 for the Children's society.

We normally have a massive Jumble Sale for Christian Hope International, but Pam and family were determined to still raise money and did a combined 500-mile sponsored walk, which raised over £1350, which was quite amazing. The money raised went to provide medicines to prevent deaths from malaria.

Currently Christian aid collections are being made and we will use the Envelopes for Action for Children before and after July 11th, which is AfC Sunday



Clarion report by Judy Taylor

It has been a pleasure to be the editor of The Clarion for another year. Through this year I believe the Clarion has become a lifeline to some of our congregation and I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the issues, with wonderful stories/poems/ updates, they have truly made the magazine a wonderful read each month. I would also like to thank Anna Wratishlaw and Michael Wilson for hand delivering Clarions each month, your help is much appreciated. Moving forward if there is anything you would like to see added as a regular monthly item, please let me know and I will do my best to accommodate your request.



Coffee Mornings Report by Jane Fulford

Over the years the coffee shop in the concourse has served hundreds of people from the local community. Over the last year COVID19 has meant we have not opened and now there is the exciting opportunity to offer something slightly different in the sanctuary.

Many, many thanks to those who have served tea and coffee and acted as a listening ear. Special thanks go to Annette Jarvis and Joy Milner for all the years of serving, listening, and chatting.

My thanks also go to Marjorie and the ladies of the Parent and Toddler Group who offered tea and coffee every Wednesday as well as attending to the children and their parents and grandparents.

Others of you, Wendy, John and Brenda, Linda Forbes and Pam Broughton Smith, Peter and Linda Lister, Janet Whiddett, Geoff Fulford and Dave Cox and anyone else who served while I was chatting will be needed again but how and when is, at the time of writing, unknown.

My last thank you goes to Pam Broughton Smith for spring cleaning the kitchen during the lockdown.

So, it is a big THANK YOU and watch this space.

Please be assured the tea and coffee was given away to those in need during the lockdown so it was not wasted, and that replenishment will not come out of church funds.



Finance Advisory Group Report by Geoff Nash

The group has met virtually three times this church year. Members of the group are Ian Lowe, Tina Gowers, Alan Severne, Rupert Bertie, Heather Swain and Geoff Nash which is chaired by Pastor Steve. We meet in advance of Church Council meetings to whom we report.

The current accounts are presented at each meeting, noted and the need for any action discussed. The group reviewed and increased some charges to hirers at the January 2020 meeting with the intention of implementing them in April 2020. However, they are only being charged now as hirers are able to return.

We are seeking to increase the use of the Wesley buildings and would welcome enquiries.

Finance Report for Annual Church Meeting 2021 by Tina Gowers

At the 2020 ACM, life was very uncertain due to the Coronavirus pandemic. We'd had 6 months of running our church "normally" and we were in the midst of our first lockdown. Little did we know how long it would last, or what impact it would have on our lives and our finances.

As everything was put on hold, this meant that our expenditure went down. Lower utility bills, a hold on repairs and maintenance and other general expenditure. Our congregation also rose to the challenge of making regular offertory giving via bank standing orders and bank transfers and therefore, despite no income from hiring our premises, we managed to have an income higher than our expenditure.

The 2020/21 accounts are not looking as good. These accounts will see the whole financial year in lockdown or under restrictions and we also had to pay for the replacement boilers that had been installed in 2019/2020. By the end of this financial year, we will have lost approximately £60K in hirers revenue due to Covid-19. Unfortunately, we were not eligible for any council grants as we had not lost 25% of our TOTAL income which includes all the lovely donations that members have given to keep the church afloat. It didn't help that the council required accounts from April to March whereas ours are September to August. Therefore, when comparing the 2019/2020 accounts to 2018/19, the reduction was only 16% and the income was higher than our expenditure. I am going

to re-apply at the end of this financial year, but the grant money may have run out by then and the criteria may have changed too.

Currently (20th May 2020) we have a deficit of £37K but £27K is attributed to the boiler invoice. Obviously, a £10K deficit is still not ideal but we have a Gift Aid claim of just under £7,000 due and we will also be holding our annual Gift Month in July.

Considering what the last year has brought us, our finances are not too bad. However, I welcome back all our hirers, as and when they are able to return, so that we can start to carry out some much-needed repairs and maintenance again.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support, both financially and emotionally. Specifically, I would like to thank Alan, for helping me to count the money when we have been able to, and for carrying out minor repairs and maintenance himself. Also, to Geoff Nash who deals with the letting's invoices, especially as we get back to contacting everyone for return dates, and to Eileen for her Pastoral cards and plants, it has been really nice to get cards of good wishes in the post. I would also like to thank all the money counters, for their past help, as I know that you will not be returning to the role.



PARENT AND TODDLER REPORT by Marjorie Charnock.

Parent and Toddler has been a part of the Wesley Church family for many years but, when lockdown happened in March 2020, it became apparent that we could not carry on.

Looking to the future, with all the possible restrictions which may be necessary, I sensed the time had come for me to retire as Leader of Parent and Toddler. Sadly, a decision, which wasn't easy, was made that we would not continue.

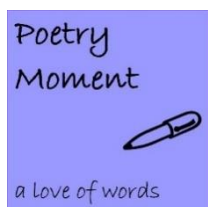
Sincere thanks must be given to Pam Caton who has also been a long serving member of the team, for her commitment and dedication to the group. In recent years Pam Woodhouse, Pauline Webber, Beryl Hart have given their support and help each week, and grateful thanks must be expressed to them.

To have been such a successful organisation for so long must be entirely due to all those Wesley members and friends in the past, who willingly gave their time, love and devotion to the children and families.

A very happy time was spent on a Wednesday morning, in the canteen room, with the children, parents, grandparents and carers. Playtime for the toddlers to have fun with the toys, singing at the end of the morning, celebrating birthdays also. The adults enjoying refreshments, and an opportunity to socialise and make new friends.

Once lockdown ends, and life returns to normal, I hope that Parent and Toddler will be able to continue under a new leadership.

Thank you to the Wesley Church family for the support and prayers given to us all.



Talking Poetry Report by Joan Hawkins

What a difficult year it has been, but we have kept in touch with each other and are looking forward to restarting poetry in September after what we all hope will have been an enjoyable summer.

The plan is to spend most of our first meeting chatting and catching up with our usual tea and cake enabling us to appreciate what we value most - relating together whilst enjoying poetry.

Property Report from Alan Severne

This year has been a rather odd one, with the Church and Halls being used much less than usual due to Covid-19. I am pleased to say that we've been able to support those activities that were permitted, and the new boilers have worked well throughout the winter.

Members, especially those using the car park, will have seen that (for security reasons) we have removed the remaining fence sections surrounding the land transferred to us from the old Manse Garden. Although it is well-marked with hazard tape, please take extra care near the raised edges of the drive. Please also bear in mind police advice not to interact with any young people who are on-site without authorisation but to let them know. Please also tell me.

We are now in that part of the buildings' maintenance cycle where higher costs can be expected. Exterior decorating is due as is the electrical safety inspection, and some items which have been deferred will need to be addressed soon.

Internally the Sanctuary is still in good order, with minor issues only. Externally some of the pointing should be replaced soon, minor works are required on lighting, and a couple of roof leaks have occurred under particular conditions. The organ, whilst playable, needs some repairs above and

beyond the normal tuning and options are being investigated. Damp in the porch is still to be permanently resolved.

Internally some parts of the Halls are very overdue for decorating, though this does not seem to overly concern our Hirers. Lighting in the Concourse and Youth Hall is being considered for replacement with LED units. Externally coated areas are due for retreatment, and some window cills and cracks in render need to be addressed. Roofs are generally leak-free but due for inspection; it is known that one or two spots at least will need addressing, and all soffits and gutters require inspection; replacement of these has been considered but deferred several times due to cost.

Alan Severne, Property and Lettings Co-Ordinator, June 2021

Wesley Table Tennis Club 60's+Report by K. & M. Charnock.



When the Prime Minister made his announcement on the 23rd of March 2020 the country went into lockdown. This was a “once in a lifetime” experience for everyone and many people have been badly affected. During this period, we have kept in contact with members who have electronic methods of communication, by providing a newsletter, birthday greetings etc. Once we receive the go ahead from the Church our intentions are to send an invitation out to all existing members, with a view to recommencing table tennis.



Time for Prayer by Jane Fulford

Pre Covid this was usually me or one other member of Wesley Church. We offer thanksgivings, pray for the needs of the individuals made known to us, the Church and the world using the Connexional yearly Prayer Book. The names are recorded and when permission is clear added to the Sunday morning Prayer book for Intercessions. Any one is welcome, but it is not open to the public. Come September 2021 I would hope to resume this prayer activity.

Time for Healing by Terry Harper and Jane Fulford



Prior to the Covid pandemic a group of us, usually numbering about 8 or 9 (occasionally more) used to meet monthly on a designated Saturday morning. We would offer our thanksgiving for situations that had been resolved and pray with, and for, individuals who needed prayer, as well as for the Church, and the wider world. The power of prayer, and praying with and

for others, is a privilege and one we would wish to continue doing. However, we have been unable to meet for over a year now leading us to consider how, and whether, the group could be taken forward in the future, given that the Sanctuary will now be in use every Saturday for the new Coffee outreach initiative. Any ideas would be welcome.

We continue to feel that it is important to pray for the needs of others as they are made known to us, and for protection for NHS, healthcare and other key workers in the continuing health emergency.

Wesley Theatre Group report by Judith Taylor



WTG cannot wait to get back and start rehearsing for our Christmas Pantomime, Covid permitting of course. The group would really like to celebrate being back and provide an opportunity for everyone to have an evening of laughter and fun, after what has been such a bleak time. If you would be interested in joining our merry band of actors, or if you would like to be part of our much-appreciated backstage team, without them show would not go on, then please contact with myself or Isobel Wratishlaw.

We look forward to continuing the long tradition of providing you with entertainment, memories, and the opportunity to celebrate the talent of our group.

We look forward to your company, dates for the Pantomime will be in The Clarion.

The Zone on Sunday Report by Anna Wratishlaw



ON SUNDAY

The Zone on Sunday has sadly not been able to meet due to the pandemic, however Zone staff have been keeping in touch with families over the past year, and we are looking forward to welcoming back our children and young people when possible.

House groups

Cameo Report by Jane Fulford

This house group is a mixed group of members from Wesley, Rochford, and Belfair's. We usually meet once a month on the third Wednesday in the evening. There is no set agenda for the year we decide each meeting the time before – so a mix of topics can be reviewed varying from Scripture to

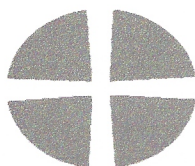
current local and national concerns. We number about 7 and any newcomers are welcome. We have not met due to Covid19 but hope to resume when allowed and feel safe meeting again.

Thursday Call Report by Isobel Wratishlaw

Thursday Call has continued to meet throughout the past year, with Zoom meetings led by different members. We moved from monthly to fortnightly sessions, to provide everyone with a regular means of keeping in touch over the pandemic. We alternate the style and theme for each session and have completed a study of the book of Ruth, discussed Christianity and racial justice, covered the Lent course on *The Greatest Showman* and we are currently working through *A Methodist Way of Life*. We would always welcome anyone who feels this might be something they'd like to join. Please see Isobel Wratishlaw for Zoom link details.

Appendix

- **Audited accounts**



Church
Accruals Accounts
2020 - 2021

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TEMPLATE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2021

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

Registered Charity - Registration number (if applicable)

1130293

Circuit No

34-10

Minister

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Church Stewards

Gaye Greenway

Ian Lowe

Eileen Simmons

Judy Taylor

Anna Wratishlaw

Church Treasurer

Tina Gowers

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020-21 £
Income and Endowments					
1 Offerings and tax recoverable	26,088				26,088
2 Donations & Grants	25,299	0			25,299
3 Interest and investment income	87		1		88
4 Income from investment properties					0
5 Other income	1,523	60			1,583
6 Internal organisations		1,677			1,677
7 Other charitable activities					0
Total from charitable activities	52,997	1,737	1	-	54,735
8 Lettings	22,910				22,910
9 Other income					0
Total income and endowments	75,906	1,737	1	-	77,645
Expenditure					
10 Circuit assessment or share	27,346				27,346
11 Grants and donations					0
12 Property maintenance	30,810				30,810
13 Insurance, utilities etc	20,352				20,352
14 Provisions					0
15 Depreciation					0
16 Office expenses	240				240
17 Other expenditure	4,889	337			5,226
18 Salaries & pensions	15,603				15,603
19 Internal organisations		300			300
Total charitable expenditure	99,239	637	0	0	99,876
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments					0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties					0
22 Net income/(expenditure)	-23,332	1,100	1	0	-22,231
23 Transfers between funds	5,937	- 4,933	- 1,003		1
24 Other gains/(losses)					0
25 Net movement in funds	-17,395	-3,833	-1,002	0	-22,230
26 Total funds brought forward	75,245	9,625	1,003		85,873
27 Total funds carried forward	57,850	5,792	0	-	63,643

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2019-20 £
Income and Endowments						
1 Offerings and tax recoverable		24,380				24,380
2 Donations & Grants		8,859	500			9,359
3 Interest and investment income		477		7		484
4 Income from investment properties						0
5 Other income		13,852	1,718			15,570
6 Internal organisations			2,805			2,805
7 Other charitable activities						0
Total from charitable activities		47,567	5,023	7	-	52,598
8 Lettings		45,783				45,783
9 Other income						0
Total income and endowments		93,351	5,023	7	-	98,381
Expenditure						
10 Circuit assessment or share		41,101				41,101
11 Grants and donations						0
12 Property maintenance		3,547				3,547
13 Insurance, utilities etc		20,519				20,519
14 Provisions						0
15 Depreciation						0
16 Office expenses		307				307
17 Other expenditure		4,528	764			5,292
18 Salaries & pensions		15,366				15,366
19 Internal organisations			2,491			2,491
Total charitable expenditure		85,367	3,255	0	0	88,622
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0
22 Net income/(expenditure)		7,983	1,768	7	0	9,759
23 Transfers between funds						0
24 Other gains/(losses)						0
25 Net movement in funds		7,983	1,768	7	0	9,759
26 Total funds brought forward		67,262	7,857	995		76,114
27 Total funds carried forward		75,245	9,625	1,003	-	85,873

Name of Church

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church No 34/10

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2021	Totals 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
insured value	4,923,236				4,923,236	4,923,236
					0	
					0	
	4,923,236	0	0	0	4,923,236	4,923,236
					0	
					0	
	45,798	0	0		45,798	68,438
	12,052	5,792	0		17,844	17,435
	57,850	5,792	0	0	63,642	85,873
					0	
					0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0
	57,850	5,792	0	0	63,642	85,873
	4,981,086	5,792	0	0	4,986,878	5,009,109

Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2017-18						0	
Loans to the Church						0	
Net assets		4,981,086	5,792	0	0	4,986,878	5,009,109

Funds of the Church

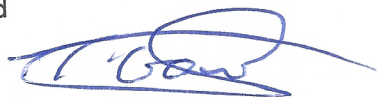
General Fund (Unrestricted)		57,850				57,850	75,245
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		5,792				5,792	9,625
Total Unrestricted Funds						63,642	84,870
Restricted Funds			0			0	1,003
Endowment Funds						0	
Total Funds		63,642	0	0	0	63,642	85,873

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Closing balances
Internal Organisations						
Table Tennis	0	0	0	0		0
Fusion @ Wesley (all in church a/c)	612	0	0	0	-612	0
Total	612	0	0	0	-612	0

External Charitable Organisations

Bal Fwd 01/09/2020	25
Income	554
Expenditure - Passed to Charities	173
Bal c/fwd 31/08/21	406

Signed



Church Treasurer

Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting

	This year 2021	Last year 2020
£	764.47	1319

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

3	7
---	---

Nature of the expenses

General church expenses

If there are no payments to Trustees, please record no expenses were paid.

Total amount paid

£	764	1,319
---	-----	-------

Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

£	nil	nil
---	-----	-----

Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor

£	nil	nil
---	-----	-----

Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind

£	15,603	15,366
---	--------	--------

Employer's National Insurance costs

£		
---	--	--

Pension costs

£		
---	--	--

Total staff costs

£	15,603	15,366
---	--------	--------

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

4	4
---	---

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning 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. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(3) 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.

Name of independent examiner

Mrs Heather Sims

Signature of independent examiner



Relevant Professional qualification or body

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

1a Grove Road, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 8PU

Date

30/9/21

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

Leigh Wesley Methodist

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group*.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

11/9/21

Name of Treasurer

Mrs Tina Gowers

Address

17 The Crest, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. SS9 5NJ

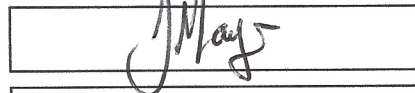
Presentation to the Church Council / Members' Meeting / Leadership Group* for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2021 were, or will be* presented to the **Church Council** / ~~Members' Meeting~~ / ~~Leadership Group*~~ at its meeting on

6/10/21

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2021

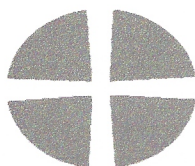
Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Church's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary 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.

* Please delete or circle as appropriate



Church
Accruals Accounts
2020 - 2021

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TEMPLATE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2021

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

Registered Charity - Registration number (if applicable)

1130293

Circuit No

34-10

Minister

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Church Stewards

Gaye Greenway

Ian Lowe

Eileen Simmons

Judy Taylor

Anna Wratishlaw

Church Treasurer

Tina Gowers

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020-21 £
Income and Endowments					
1 Offerings and tax recoverable	26,088				26,088
2 Donations & Grants	25,299	0			25,299
3 Interest and investment income	87		1		88
4 Income from investment properties					0
5 Other income	1,523	60			1,583
6 Internal organisations		1,677			1,677
7 Other charitable activities					0
Total from charitable activities	52,997	1,737	1	-	54,735
8 Lettings	22,910				22,910
9 Other income					0
Total income and endowments	75,906	1,737	1	-	77,645
Expenditure					
10 Circuit assessment or share	27,346				27,346
11 Grants and donations					0
12 Property maintenance	30,810				30,810
13 Insurance, utilities etc	20,352				20,352
14 Provisions					0
15 Depreciation					0
16 Office expenses	240				240
17 Other expenditure	4,889	337			5,226
18 Salaries & pensions	15,603				15,603
19 Internal organisations		300			300
Total charitable expenditure	99,239	637	0	0	99,876
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments					0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties					0
22 Net income/(expenditure)	-23,332	1,100	1	0	-22,231
23 Transfers between funds	5,937	- 4,933	- 1,003		1
24 Other gains/(losses)					0
25 Net movement in funds	-17,395	-3,833	-1,002	0	-22,230
26 Total funds brought forward	75,245	9,625	1,003		85,873
27 Total funds carried forward	57,850	5,792	0	-	63,643

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2019-20 £
Income and Endowments					
1 Offerings and tax recoverable	24,380				24,380
2 Donations & Grants	8,859	500			9,359
3 Interest and investment income	477		7		484
4 Income from investment properties					0
5 Other income	13,852	1,718			15,570
6 Internal organisations		2,805			2,805
7 Other charitable activities					0
Total from charitable activities	47,567	5,023	7	-	52,598
8 Lettings	45,783				45,783
9 Other income					0
Total income and endowments	93,351	5,023	7	-	98,381
Expenditure					
10 Circuit assessment or share	41,101				41,101
11 Grants and donations					0
12 Property maintenance	3,547				3,547
13 Insurance, utilities etc	20,519				20,519
14 Provisions					0
15 Depreciation					0
16 Office expenses	307				307
17 Other expenditure	4,528	764			5,292
18 Salaries & pensions	15,366				15,366
19 Internal organisations		2,491			2,491
Total charitable expenditure	85,367	3,255	0	0	88,622
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments					0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties					0
22 Net income/(expenditure)	7,983	1,768	7	0	9,759
23 Transfers between funds					0
24 Other gains/(losses)					0
25 Net movement in funds	7,983	1,768	7	0	9,759
26 Total funds brought forward	67,262	7,857	995		76,114
27 Total funds carried forward	75,245	9,625	1,003	-	85,873

Name of Church

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church No 34/10

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Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2021	Totals 2020
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	12,052	5,792	0		17,844	17,435
	57,850	5,792	0	0	63,642	85,873
					0	
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	0	0	0	0	0	0
	57,850	5,792	0	0	63,642	85,873
	4,981,086	5,792	0	0	4,986,878	5,009,109

Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2017-18						0	
Loans to the Church						0	
Net assets		4,981,086	5,792	0	0	4,986,878	5,009,109

Funds of the Church

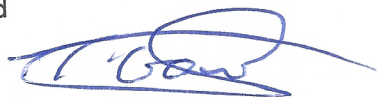
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Nature of the expenses

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Leigh Wesley Methodist

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Name of independent examiner

Mrs Heather Sims

Signature of independent examiner



Relevant Professional qualification or body

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

1a Grove Road, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 8PU

Date

30/9/21

* Please delete or circle as appropriate

Leigh Wesley Methodist

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Signature of Treasurer



Date

11/9/21

Name of Treasurer

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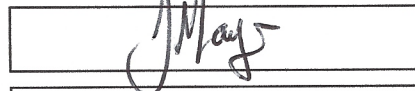
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6/10/21

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

Pastor Stephen Mayo

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Leigh Wesley Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2021

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Church's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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