

BRENT METHODIST CHURCH – DARTFORD

Annual Report

And

Financial Statement

For the year ended 31 August 2021

Ministers

**Reverend Tony Graff
Deacon Elizabeth Harfleet**

Bank:

**Santander UK PLC
Bridle Road
Bootle
Merseyside
GIR 0AA**

Independent Examiner:

**Nichols & Co.
Unit 7
Mulberry Place
Pinnell Road
Eltham SE9 6AR**

BRENT METHODIST CHURCH DARTFORD - TRUSTEES REPORT

The address of the Church is Brent Methodist Church, St Vincent's Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 1XF.

Structure, Governance and Management

Brent Methodist Church forms part of the North Kent Circuit (36/21) within the South-East District and is governed by the Constitutional Practice and Disciplines of the Methodist Church.

Extracts from the Methodist Constitutional Practice and Discipline state that the church stewards are corporately responsible with the ministers exercising pastoral responsibility in relation to the Local Church for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. Such activities are managed, agreed upon and executed by the "Managing Trustees" of the local church who are all members of the Church Council. The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources form part of its responsibilities. In many cases it will appoint committees which will have authority, in their own areas of responsibility, to initiate action, co-ordinate the work done in the church, advise the Church Council and report to it, being subject to its authority and oversight.

The stewards are appointed and recruited during the annual general church meeting. Eligible voting members of the meeting nominate and present to the minister such names seven days before the meeting and these names are voted on during the meeting. Other members who want to serve as trustee representatives can also be nominated by a voting member to be voted on during the meeting. The other officers such as the treasurer, communion stewards, pastoral secretary, class leaders, council secretary and other officers or committees as the council requires are selected and approved by the church council members during church council meetings.

The members of the Church Council are the Trustees of the Church. Those who served as Managing Trustees during the year from 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 are as follow:

| Name | Role | Date Appointed/ (Resigned) |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tony Graff | Minister | September 2020 |
| Elizabeth Harfleet | Minister | September 2019 |
| Gillian Bratley | Council Member | March 2020 |
| Fiona Crowhurst | Property Secretary | March 2009 |
| Edric Davies | Council Member | March 2011 |
| Keith Dear | Council Member | (July 2021) |
| Tunde Dipita-Williams | Treasurer | August 2008 |
| Karen Dudley | Steward | April 2018 |
| Patrick Marie | Senior Steward | March 2016 |
| Sarah Adomah | Steward | (July 2021) |
| John Wilson | Council Member | March 2011 |
| Lorna Wilson | Steward | March 2016 |
| Susan Waterman | Council Member | March 2016 |
| Dele Orekoya | Pastoral Committee Sec. | March 2019 |

Finance and Property Committee is a sub-committee of the Church Council, to which it reports.

Objectives and Activities

The main objective of the fellowship is the proclamation of the Gospel of God concerning His Son Jesus Christ, the Lord, through preaching and teaching the Word of God.

The mission of the fellowship is to establish and to extend the Kingdom of God in Dartford, United Kingdom and the World.

Activities to promote the objectives of the charity and for the public benefit including missionary support, community outreach programs and youth work.

To give 10% of its income to worthwhile causes and charities as a tithe.

Public Benefit Compliance

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have regard to the guidance on public benefit as published by the Charity Commission.

Looking Back

We give praise and thanks to God for His innumerable blessings. Each year brings its own challenges, and this year has seen one not dissimilar to last year as the COVID-19 pandemic has continued. We continue to experience the faithfulness of our God even more so at times such as this. We have had some members move on and new members join in our Sunday worship to grow the Kingdom of God. The church continues to be a multi-cultural church, with members of all ages, which in itself brings diversity to worship and interactions.

We praise God for Reverend Tony Graff and Deacon Elizabeth Harfleet, for their leadership and ministry. We are grateful to our dedicated team of worship leaders, for their hard work and devotion when working with preachers and leading services. This has been even more noticeable having had to lead worship without members of the congregation being able to sing out loud due to national restrictions being in place.

It is wonderful to hear from visitors, including visiting preachers, who come to the Brent that they have received a warm welcome, enjoyed hospitality and felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in our Church.

Harvest last year was a virtual service led by our Worship Leaders.

ADVENT COURSE

Ann Matthews and Deacon Elizabeth ran an Advent Course which started on the 1st of December, 2020 for four weeks.

The course was entitled "Singing the story" an advent Bible study by John Birch. This study was a series of theological reflections based on well-known Christmas Carols listed below.

- Come Thou long expected Jesus.
- The Angel Gabriel from heaven.
- God rest you merry gentlemen.

- Let heaven and earth combine

CHRISTMAS

The annual Carol service was not able to be held this year unfortunately, but restrictions were able to be lifted temporarily to allow us to hold a service on 20th December led by Gill Gray and a traditional service on Christmas Day led by Deacon Elizabeth. After the Christmas Day service there was an opportunity for all to join in the open-air carol singing led by Fiona & Elizabeth. It was very successful. Fiona was also instrumental in organising carol singing for the elderly and housebound members within our local community.

LENT

We wish to thank Ann Matthews and Fiona for running The Lent Course entitled, " Methodist Way of Life".

A Methodist Way of Life encourages us to grow together and to explore themes focusing on Worship, Evangelism and Learning and Caring and Service. Bart Woodhouse also offered another online course during Lent entitled "Talking Jesus"

Both courses were very successful and engaged with at least 14 of our church members.

Giving

Based on the biblical principle that says "it is more blessed to give than to receive", each year we ensure we give 10% of our income as donations to worthy causes. This amount is then distributed to missions, disaster afflicted areas and charities. The proposed beneficiaries are reviewed prayerfully each year. We also have a benevolent fund, with additional monies given by the congregation following communion services, which can be used by the Minister to respond to emergency needs.

Members Spiritual Growth

The effect of COVID-19 on church life has continued to see us having to think differently about how we worship and how we ensure we continue to provide pastoral support to our members and local community.

Connexion set up online worship which is led by the Circuit and has meant we can all continue to enjoy regular Sunday worship via the internet. As part of our pastoral support a small team of volunteers have been sending weekly emails to members which include the links to the online services, prayer bulletins and "Pause for thought", a reflection on the week written by members of the congregation or Deacon Harfleet. For those members of our church who are not able to access the internet, paper copies have been delivered/posted to ensure that we keep in touch with everyone. Our Pastoral Visitors have been keeping in touch with people by telephone and our prayer chains have continued by text message.

The Oasis Fellowship Group

Our thanks go to Deacon Elizabeth & Fiona for leading this small fellowship group which regularly meets on Wednesdays at 2 pm where there is meditation on a Christian theme.

The stewards would also like to convey their thanks to various people who are contacting members by phone. This pastoral service is crucial for housebound members and others because of the provision of personal and individual "touch " of this approach.

Prayer Ministry

The Brent offers several different ways in which people are able to pray and be prayed for. During the past year much of the prayer requests have come through the telephone and text chain due to worshipping remotely.

Prayer can also be offered and said through the internet channel when attending the online Circuit services.

Evangelism

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we were not able to hold Messy Church during this year. We kept in touch with our families and posted suggestions of activities on the church website each month – ‘Messy Church at home’. The central Messy Church organisation has been very helpful by adapting materials to make them suitable for use by the families at home.

For Christmas we put together ‘Messy Christmas in a bag’ for the families, with the materials for activities and ideas for a celebration at home. It was lovely to see the families when they came to pick up the bags – they are missing Messy Church, and it was really good to see them in person. We repeated the Messy Church in a bag for Easter and for the summer holidays.

We continue to pray for our Messy Church families, that they are safe and well and know God’s love. We also pray for God’s guidance as we prepare to restart Messy Church in September.

Methodist Women in Britain

As with many of our projects within the church, MWIB has been affected by the Corona virus over the last eighteen months. We would normally be hosting two or three fundraising events each year such as ploughman’s lunch and cream teas.

Very sadly our Dear friend and Treasurer Sylvia Durrant passed away in January 2020. She was a valued member of our team and will be missed very much. Unfortunately, we are now needing to decide if we can continue with only four team members who are all in our latter years.

Dartford Foodbank

We have carried on operating outside handing out ready-made bags but with each client given the choice of 3 extra items of their choice. We have also been blessed with donations from Asda, Sainsbury Dartford and Crayford. Also been given quite a lot of money which we use every week to replace the popular items such as oil, washing powder, nappies to name but a few.

We are still seeing a lot of people and numbers vary from 50 to 75 all with some similar stories and needs.

Our team of volunteers have been amazing turning up each and every week and we were fortunate that the weather during the winter was mild and not much rain and also, we all kept Covid free.

Not sure about the future but we are hoping we will be moving to new premises.

Winter Shelter

Since the beginning of 2020 the support from Dartford Borough Council had enabled the homeless in Dartford to be temporally housed both in Gravesend and Dartford, Due to the Covid virus.

Therefore, the Brent and other churches in Dartford were not needed to provide shelter during the winter months. Our project worker Steve Ives continues his work with the support of Porchlight and DBC still providing help for the men in temporary accommodation.

Looking forward - As restrictions are being lifted due to lower risks of Covid, most of the men are now back on the streets of Dartford. We therefore may need to provide some kind of service for them during the coming winter months at the Brent.

Sunday School

During the past year because of the continuing Pandemic Sunday School has not been able to take place but we continue to support our children and young people to grow in their faith through our prayers and pastoral support to the families.

We have continued to use the resources from Roots to offer activities and worksheets to our families throughout this period when we are unable to meet in person. The church website is updated weekly with links to activity sheets and resources following the Roots theme for children and parents to be able to follow at home.

We pray for God's guidance to show us ways in which we can support our children and young people as we start to think about returning to weekly services and hope that we are able to provide Sunday School once more for our young people.

We thank the leaders and helpers for all their hard work in preparing sessions and helping with Sunday School. We continue to pray for new families to come to the Brent and join our church family.

Equipping and Training

Our Local Preachers are part of the circuit team of preachers who receive continuous training to equip them to bring God's Word to the churches. Through their preaching, members are blessed and reminded of their responsibilities as followers of Christ.

For most of the past year, we have had 2 Worship Leaders, one of whom plays guitar, but due to Covid, we have only had one other singer and no other musicians to supplement the leading of worship. In the summer of 2021, one of our Worship Leaders moved out of the area, which is a sad loss to the worship team. We now mainly use recorded music and videos to enhance our worship, occasionally led by one or two singers. Over the coming year we will be required to organise more Local Arrangement services, due to the lack of availability of preachers. Our Worship Leader and Stewards will work together with the church family to arrange these services, using and developing available gifts. The sound and projection volunteers are also a much-valued part of the support team.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, we have continued to use Zoom as another means of worshipping together, with a Maundy Thursday service, occasional worship group sessions and regular fellowship groups - one daytime and one in the evening, both fortnightly. An Advent Course was led by Deacon Elizabeth Harfleet and Mrs Ann Matthews and we were joined by friends from Spital Street Methodist Church and St Andrew's United Reformed Church.

The Worship Conference organised by Mission Worship was held online in March and a few of our members attended virtually.

Safeguarding

We are blessed with two Safeguarding officers sharing the vital role. They liaise with the Circuit Safeguarding officer to ensure everyone attends safeguarding training as appropriate. Over the last year, the team has:

- Worked collaboratively with the circuit safeguarding superintendent to provide relevant training sessions for members of the church.
- Attended Circuit information sharing workshop.
- Reviewed and approved the church safeguarding policy document.
- Ensured relevant contact details have been placed in clear vicinity for all church users.
- Collated the DBS list of post holder certificates (currently 95% are up to date).
- Relayed updated information with regards to working guidelines, support, and expectations of volunteers.

We are grateful to the safeguarding officers for their dedication to this very important role.

Flower Ministry

Because of Covid restrictions, from March 2020 the Brent was closed for worship for the rest of the Methodist year, therefore there was no need for flowers in the church. Looking forward, we are hoping to start a new Rota for flower donations in the new year of 2022 when we will be able to bring God's beautiful creations back into our church once again.

Pastoral Visitors

It has felt to be a long 12 months due to restricted services continuing throughout the pandemic, but it is great to have been able to be back worshipping and singing these past couple of months. Over the past few months, the church has welcomed a few visitors and one visitor is now a regular attendee coming to church with his children. It is so nice to hear children's laughter in church once again.

More good news - a regular worshipper at Church decided to transfer her membership from another church to the Brent.

Unfortunately, five of our dear members have died earlier in the year, may their gentle souls rest in perfect peace.

John Newton had been a member for many years and had made a great contribution to the development of the church and its members over the years. John had personally supported many families in need in the community and had been a great neighbour, on whom we could rely.

Sylvia Durrant was a very long-standing member of the church. She was always willing to actively take part in the running of the Sunday services. She had contributed to the church "local arrangement services" and until fairly recently, she was on the reading rota, a member on whom you could rely. For many years, Sylvia was also the Brent's Treasurer for 'Methodist Women in Britain'. This organisation is involved in raising funds for numerous deserving causes, one of which is providing funds for a group of destitute women in India.

Both John and Sylvia will be fondly remembered by us all.

We sadly remember Edith Lawrence who also passed away during the year. She was a lovely, quiet and dutiful member of the church, who contributed in various ways. She was a member of the prayer team, offering prayers to members of the congregation that required personal prayers after the church service. Edith also led a house group. She will be missed by everyone.

Other names that must be mentioned are Fetsum Robson and Mary Ticehurst. Fetsum passed away in January. Fetsum, affectionately called Lily, was involved, occasionally, in making meals for the Winter Shelter. Mary passed away later on in the year. She was a quiet member of the church. She was devoted in her worship and attended the services regularly. They both will be sadly missed by all.

Also, a long standing and a very active member of the church withdrew his membership from the Brent.

In the last year, the Pastoral Secretary has helped to coordinate the Pastoral Visitors and organised virtual meetings as required for the important role they play in the life of the church. The Pastoral Visitors are the first point of contact for members, who through them ensure information needing urgent attention

is passed on to the Minister. The Pastoral Visitors continue to be in contact with members/ non-members through phone calls, cards and visits.

Due to the COVID restrictions which were only recently eased, there have been no baptisms or marriages conducted in the church yet.

We hope in the coming year, as the church returns to weekly services that we will have more people joining us and hopefully some guests will decide to become members of the Brent.

Looking Ahead

As we start a new year, as a church we continue to face many changes and challenges in the way that we will worship but we are hopeful that with the reduction of national restrictions that we are able to resume weekly services. On Sunday 5th September 2021 we will move from fortnightly to weekly services and will be able to sing and worship together once more. Through the use of technology we will utilize the ability to have virtual sermons from local preachers and Ministers some of whom are still unsure as to resuming preaching in person but it will still be in the presence of God.

Deacon Elizabeth Harfleet will continue as our Minister with Rev. Tony Graff supporting as our Presbyterian. We are one of six churches that Rev. Graff has responsibility for so this will bring its own challenges to our Leadership team when planning services.

We pray that God will guide our Leadership team in the decisions being taken with regards to continuing to worship on a weekly basis with an ever-decreasing number of volunteers able to assist with all the various tasks that are required to ensure the church is open and all runs smoothly each week.

We continue to pray that our members will return to church along with new members joining and bringing a vibrancy to our church once more.

We are incredibly grateful to our members who freely give their time to support the Church in many ways, producing weekly notices, helping with the different groups and serving on committees. Their love of God is evident in their desire to serve the Church and wider community.

Ebbsfleet Community Church (ECC), as a Class of The Brent Methodist Church

Church Life Update

As the pandemic has eased, we have begun to meet in person outdoors around the community garden project. This has enabled us to meet most Sundays from June. We have continued our online prayer meeting each Sunday evening and our two Connect Groups. The Friday Connect Group has been meeting in person since the end of June. We had a successful church fellowship meal at the beginning of September and plan to make “table fellowship” a significant part of our pattern of church going forwards.

Mission Update

The Community Garden Project has continued to be a focal point for us engaging with several members of the wider community and will be the foundation of other missional opportunities going forwards now the restrictions have eased. The Ebbsfleet Development Corporation (EDC) is keen for the church to take on the management of future communal garden and allotment space within the wider development in the next 18-24 months.

We are running an Alpha Course in the Hive shopping area (Northfleet) and reaching out to the community in that area. We have gathered a group of 10 people doing the course. We are also in conversation with Rochester Prison to resume delivering Alpha there from January 2022 and plan to support Strood Methodist Church and Gravesend Methodist Church in delivering an Alpha course again in the early part of 2022. As a church plant in Ebbsfleet we will have a second “in person” course running alongside the courses at Strood and Gravesend with a view to a joint Holy Spirit Day sometime in March.

We also ran the “Talking Jesus” Course in the circuit as a Lent Course in early 2021.

We ran a successful Christmas Food Hamper give away in partnership with Manor Primary School Swanscombe in 2020, supplying 30 generous boxes of food and treats to families in need or crises linked to the school. We plan to work with the school again this year to see if a similar project is needed and can be delivered again.

Financial Update

Detailed Financial Update can be obtained by contacting Simon Pooley.

N.B. We have given £7200 into Circuit funds as a recognition of our informal membership and £1143 in various donations to predominantly Christian charities but also small amounts to those in hardship linked to the Dartford Foodbank.

BRENT METHODIST CHURCH FINANCIAL REVIEW OF YEAR ENDING 31st August 2021

Full details of the Church Accounts are contained at the end of this review.

The surplus overall for the year was £2,863.94 which represents a significant decrease of about 504% on last year's deficit of -£711.60 to a positive figure. The surplus figure is a welcome and positive development compared to what was expected in the budget. The year's budget had indicated a deficit of -£22,368.26 which was partly due to the expected renovation works at 46 Blenheim Road. However, a combination of increased income in certain giving categories and reduced expenses than budgeted in several other categories contributed to the final figure.

Looking further into this year's surplus of £2,863.94 would highlight a lot of the categories with significant changes from last year's report which would make for better understanding of the accounts by anyone interested and which can be attributed once again to the period of restricted activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The year has again seen a significant negative trend of lows in both income and expense categories. Figures from the income show a decrease in total income from last year of 5% with some of the below major changes explaining this position:

- a. Anniversary and Gift Day decreased by 100% as none received.
- b. Gift Aid Recovered from HMRC decreased by 24%
- c. Benevolence giving decreased by 81%
- d. Church Funds decreased by 100% as none received
- e. Gift Aid giving decreased by 100% as none received
- f. Playgroup Rent increased by 101%
- g. Interest income decreased by 76%
- h. Other Rent in Church Rentals decreased by 60%
- i. Phone and Photocopier Income increased by 973%

Figures from the expenses also show a decrease in total resources expended by 9% from last year with some of the below major changes explaining this position:

- a. Messy Church expenses decreased by 46%
- b. Stationery increased by 78%
- c. Flat repairs increased by 500%
- d. 10% giving decreased by 65%
- e. Ministerial expenses decreased by 75%
- f. Miscellaneous expenses decreased by 38%
- g. Photocopier rental and service costs decreased by 56%
- h. Photocopier paper increased by 50%
- i. Cleaning services decreased by 100% as none was required
- j. Cleaning materials decreased by 45%
- k. Copyright permission decreased by 66%
- l. Gardening increased by 29%
- m. Property repairs and renewals decreased by 33%
- n. Window cleaning decreased by 50%
- o. Publicity increased by 54%
- p. Treasurer's expenses decreased by 24%
- q. Church Utilities - Electricity decreased by 42%
- r. Church Utilities - Water increased by 109%
- s. Church Telephone increased by 86%
- t. Flowers and presents decreased by 69%
- u. Benevolence fund decreased by 74%
- v. Rented Houses repairs increased by 340%
- w. Rented Houses Insurance increased by 75%
- x. Rented Houses Council Tax increased by 2312%

The financial state of the Church remains healthy with positive bank and deposit balances starting the new financial year. The operational budget for the new financial year shows a surplus of £1,247 which is a positive when compared to last year's deficit budget. A factor that has contributed to this surplus is the expectation that normal services will continue weekly for the foreseeable future with the expected continued ease on the pandemic restrictions. It is also hoped that as usual, some of the other budgeted expenses might not be utilised which would in turn have a positive impact on the surplus figure. In addition, church workers and trustees with various responsibilities are always made aware to continue in their efforts to both watch and manage expenses in order to keep these at a reasonable level.

With the anticipated effective expense management and God's guidance and favour, it is hoped for another positive end to the financial year.

The Church has two main Trust Funds as follows:

Sale of House Trust Fund holding **£23,648.62** as of 31st August 2021. This money has come from the sale of one of the houses left to the Church by Mrs Westcombe in the year 2002 and also proceeds from the premium received on the leasehold extension on Colney road flat. These houses were left to us for the 'benefit, continuation and furtherance of Methodism in the Newtown area of Dartford.' The funds within this account are deemed to be restricted and Church Council has agreed that this capital fund should be used for outreach projects. TMCP have confirmed this fund can also be used for Property Schemes or for the promotion of the work of God. The interest from this account is transferred to the Deposit Account.

The Hodson Trust fund (**£1,200.00**).

This a permanent endowment fund, whereby only the interest can be used and is credited to the Deposit account. The capital sum cannot currently be spent but with the adjustment in charity law and due to the amount of the endowment fund, future consideration of it's liquidation will be looked into.

The Church has two other accounts (Current Account and Deposit Account). These accounts are used for the day to day running expenses of the Church, such as Circuit Assessment, salary of the cleaner, utilities etc.

Depreciation Policy

Church Council has agreed the following depreciation policies on new equipment:

Five years for electrical equipment at 20% for each year.

Ten years for furniture etc. at 10% for each year.

Property Valuations

The letting agent provides property valuations on the three houses and flat in August of each year. They are provided on the basis that the properties are being sold on the open market as unoccupied.

Reserves Policy

The Charity's Reserves Policy deals with:

Our General Fund (Current Account and Deposit Account)

Other Funds also held which are NOT covered by our reserves are:

-Sale of House (Westcombe Fund) CFB12815

-The Hodson Trust CFB17346

Our Reserves

Our General Fund

The trustees aim ideally to hold in reserve sufficient money in our general funds to cover six month's budgeted expenditure i.e. £46,628.00

The reason for this is fourfold this year:

- a. The church needs around one month's expenditure in reserve as working capital to cover normal monthly running costs which is £7,228 according to our current budget.
- b. To cover our commitment to the Diaconal payments of £7,500
- c. To cover six months of circuit assessment (£20,000) and emergency or unexpected repairs to the Church and the houses of (£5,000).
- d. To support the gifting of 10% of Church Income to worthy causes currently set at £6,900 for this year.

The general fund is currently sufficient to fulfil these needs.

Other Funds held for specific purposes:

Sale of House (Westcombe Fund) CFB12815

This fund holds the legacy from the Houses given to the Brent by Mrs Westcombe 'for the benefit, continuation, and furtherance of Methodism in the Newtown area of Dartford' in addition to the premium received from the leasehold extension request on the Colney Road flat. Church Council has agreed to fulfil the spirit in which the legacy was given and use this money for Outreach Projects. This is held by The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as a restricted fund. TMCP have confirmed this fund can also be used for Property Schemes or 'for promotion of the work of God in the relevant organisation'.

The Hodson Trust CFB17346

This is an Endowment Fund and therefore we can only use the interest, which is credited to the general fund.

Risks

The risks facing the church are reviewed at each Property & Finance and Council Committee meetings and include:

Loss or Damage to Buildings: This risk is addressed through insurance cover.

Personal Liability of Managing Trustees (i.e. members of the Church Council: This risk has been addressed through Trustee Indemnity Insurance.

Legal and Reputational Risks associated with working with children: The Methodist Church has a Connexional ‘Safeguarding Policy to which Brent Methodist Church subscribes. There is a continuous programme to ensure that up to date checks are made via the Disclosure and Barring Service on anyone in regular contact with young people through Church activities.

Health and Safety: The risk is addressed by members of the Property Committee carrying out regular health and safety checks. Additional precautions as a result of changes in Fire Regulations have been implemented.

Financial loss which is addressed through appropriate financial controls and procedures.

In summary, the trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the Charity’s exposure to major risks.

Investment Policy

A low-risk policy is maintained. The Deposit Fund administered by the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church is utilised to deposit any funds surplus to the Brent’s immediate requirements.

Statement of Trustees Responsibility

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a fair and true view, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

State whether applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting by Charities have been followed.

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that activities will continue.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of Brent Methodist Church and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church and the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for taking reasonable steps to safeguard the assets of the Church and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Position (e.g.
Secretary,
Chair, etc.)

Date

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Brent Methodist Church - Dartford | Church |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------|------------|-------|
| NORTH KENT 1130746 | Circuit | Circuit no | 36/21 |
|--------------------|---------|------------|-------|

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1130746

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

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

Ministers:

| |
|---------------------------|
| Reverend Tony Graff |
| Deacon Elizabeth Harfleet |

Church Stewards:

| |
|---------------------------------------|
| Patrick Marie - Senior Church Steward |
| Lorna Wilson - Steward |
| Karen Dudley - Steward |
| Sarah Adomah - Steward |
| |
| |

Treasurer:

| |
|-----------------------|
| Tunde Dipita-Williams |
|-----------------------|

| SECTION A | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Totals this year | Totals last year |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a1 | RECEIPTS | Note | | | |
| a2 | Offerings and Tax recovered | 37,585 | | 37,585 | 47,028 |
| a3 | Bank and CFB interest and Investment income | 84 | 83 | 167 | 703 |
| a4 | Lettings | 13,135 | | 13,135 | 10,056 |
| a5 | Other receipts | 42,568 | | 42,568 | 40,052 |
| a6 | TOTAL RECEIPTS | 93,372 | 83 | 93,455 (a7) | 97,839 |

| SECTION B | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------|
| b1 | PAYMENTS | | | | |
| b2 | Circuit Assessment or Share | 40,000 | | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| b3 | Donations | 3,000 | | 3,000 | 8,500 |
| b4 | Repairs and Maintenance | 13,982 | | 13,982 | 21,100 |
| b5 | Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting) | 8,158 | | 8,158 | 8,810 |
| b6 | | | | | |
| b7 | Other payments | 25,401 | 50 | 25,451 | 20,141 |
| b8 | TOTAL PAYMENTS | 90,541 | 50 | 90,591 (b9) | 98,551 |

| SECTION C | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|
| c1 | NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR | (a6-b8) | 2,831 | 33 | 2,864 |
| c2 | Total funds brought forward from last year | | 82,119 | 24,849 | 106,968 (c6) |
| c3 | Sub total | (c1+c2) | 84,950 | 24,882 | 109,832 |
| c4 | Transfers and adjustments | | 346 | (30) | 316 (c7) |
| c5 | TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR | (c3+c4) | 85,296 | 24,852 | 110,148 (c8) |
| | | | | | 106,968 (c6) |

| SECTION D | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--|-----|------------|
| FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS | | | | | |
| d | (these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above) | | | £ | £ |
| d1 | Balance brought forward from last year | | | 123 | 270 |
| d2 | Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations | | | 107 | 1,133 |
| d3 | Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations | | | 230 | 1,280 |
| d4 | BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID | (d1+d2-d3) | | | 123 |

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E****Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

| | INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS | Receipts | Payments | Net Receipts/ Payments | Adjustments | Opening balances | Closing balances |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| e1 | Ladies Leisure Hour | | | | | 665 | 665 |
| e2 | Messy Church | | | | | 40 | 40 |
| e3 | Ebbsfleet Community Church | 16,943 | 13,218 | 3,725 | | 12,441 | 16,166 |
| e4 | | | | | | | |
| e5 | | | | | | | |
| e6 | | | | | | | |
| e7 | | | | | | | |
| e8 | Sub total of Internal Organisations funds | 16,943 | 13,218 | 3,725 | | 13,146 (e11) | 16,871 (e12) |
| e9 | Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column) | 93,455 (a7) | 90,591 (b9) | 2,864 | 316 (c7) | 106,968 (c6) | 110,148 (c8) |
| e10 | TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH | 110,398 | 103,809 | 6,589 | 316 | 120,114 (x) | 127,019 (y) |
| | Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward | TOTAL RECEIPTS | TOTAL PAYMENTS | | | | |

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021**

| | | OPENING BALANCES | CLOSING BALANCES |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| f1 | Cash in hand | 16 | 16 |
| f2 | Bank Current Account | 12,375 | 30,937 |
| f3 | Bank Deposit Account | | |
| f4 | Central Finance Board | 69,729 | 54,343 |
| f5 | Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes | 24,848 | 24,852 |
| f6 | Other funds | | |
| f7 | SUB TOTAL - Church accounts | 106,968 (c6) | 110,148 (c8) |
| f8 | Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12) | 13,146 (e11) | 16,871 (e12) |
| f9 | TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH | 120,114 (x) | 127,019 (y) |

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

| | At 1 September 2020 | At 31 August 2021 |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| g1 | Investments (include Endowments) | |
| g2 | Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value) | 1,020,000 |
| g3 | Other Assets | |
| g4 | Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end | |
| g5 | Other Liabilities | |

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church: Brent Methodist Church - Dartford Charity No 1130746

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer Date.....

Name and address of treasurer

..... Post Code.....

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Brent Methodist Church

Charity Number 1130746

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Brent Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 1 to 5. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church: Brent Methodist Church - Dartford Charity No 1130746

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner ...STEVEN NICHOLS....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examinerFCA.....CTA.....

Name of firm (where appropriate)NICHOLS & CO (ACCOUNTANCY) LTD...

Address ...Unit 7 Mulberry Place, Pinnell Road.....

.....Eltham, London..... Post Code ...SE9 6AR

Date28/01/2022.....