

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From

Period start date

Day
1

Month
Sept

Year
2024

T
o

Period end date

Day
31

Month
Aug

Year
2025

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

Central Methodist Church

Other names charity is known by

Lune Street Methodist Church

Registered charity number (if any)

1131157

Charity's principal address

Lune Street

Preston

Postcode PR1 2NL

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev Jane Wild	Minister/Chair		
Roberta Malone	Church Steward		General Church Meeting
Ruth Millward-Hopkins	Church Steward		General Church Meeting
Julia Blackett	Church Steward		General Church Meeting
Susan Burgess	Church Steward		General Church Meeting
Olwen Swindlehurst	Pastoral Secretary		General Church Meeting
Paul Blackett	Treasurer		General Church Meeting
Peter Johnstone			General Church Meeting
Maureen Abson			General Church Meeting
Peter Abson			General Church Meeting
Richard Billingham			General Church Meeting
Sheena Rhodes			General Church Meeting
Naseerah Patel	Secretary		General Church Meeting
Valerie Waterhouse	Secretary		General Church Meeting
Geoff Tyson	Safeguarding Officer		General Church Meeting
Sarah O'Halloran	Safeguarding Officer		General Church Meeting

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name

Dates acted if not for whole year

None

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser

Name

Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Deed of Union 1932

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Appointed annually by the General Church Meeting

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Central Methodist Church forms part of the Preston Ribble Methodist Circuit, which falls under the governance of the North West England Methodist District. Nationally Central Methodist Church is part of the Methodist Connexion.

The church was governed by the church council which consisted of 16 elected members from across the life of the church. The Church Council met 4 times in the year.

A resources committee was responsible for overseeing the property and finance with recommendations made to the church council for approval. Separate committees met to oversee church life and the pastoral care of the congregation and adherents.

Church stewards are appointed annually at the General Church Meeting to have oversight with the minister of the whole life and mission of the church.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

‘Loving God, Serving People, Changing Lives’.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Loving God

- We offer public Christian worship on Sundays at 10.30am and Wednesdays at 1pm which is inclusive and diverse and aims to engage a wide range of different people. Other public worship is offered during the Christian seasons such as Holy Week and Christmas. Our Sunday worship is available online via zoom for those unable to be with us in person.
- We are also involved with our ecumenical partners in offering worship in the city centre on Remembrance Sunday, Advent and Good Friday
- We provide opportunities for prayer, Bible study and learning
- We are open 5 days a week when possible, offering opportunities to share the love of God with others throughout the week, including through the community coffee shop.

Serving People

- Our building serves the local community in a number of ways – the Olive Grove Community Coffee Shop is open 4 days a week, offering a space for friendship, support and inclusion. The continued employment of our Coffee Shop Project Manager by the Preston Ribble Methodist Circuit ensures that the building is available to community groups such as the Preston Macular Society, Preston Friendship Group, Peer Talk (mental health support group) and many others. The local charity The Foxton lease the lower floor of the building and are instrumental in helping those who find themselves in difficult housing situations or who are homeless.
- We continue to build good relationships with the local shops and businesses, through visits, church newsletters and offering prayer and support.
- We also serve the congregation, the coffee shop customers and the local community through social media, our website and various publications.

Changing Lives

- We support one sponsored child in Colombia
- We remain committed to recruiting, training and supporting volunteers across the whole range of the charity’s activities

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The church and Olive Grove Coffee Shop are staffed almost entirely by volunteers. During the year there were approximately 50 people volunteering across the range of the church's life and ministry. Volunteers undergo interviews and DBS checks as required for the roles and have safeguarding training.

The Minister, Project Manager and Cleaner received remuneration from Preston Ribble Methodist Circuit.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The main achievements were:

- Continued our support of Ribbleton Avenue Methodist Junior School. The church continues to raise funds for vulnerable families at the school.
- Christmas 'shoe boxes' filled with gifts for children and young people in poorer countries were provided and delivered by the International Aid Trust charity.
- With the help of our Project Manager, we have increased the use of our building to the local community/charities and visiting groups.
- Continuation of the good work we do with the Olive Grove Community Coffee Shop and providing a service in the city centre. Providing an open warm space during winter months was welcomed by many.
- We continued to be good stewards of the building to ensure that the life and mission of the church will continue into the future, taking measures to provide a safe access and a safe place to be.
- Pastoral care for all volunteers and members was continued via phone, email and post with some face to face visits.
- The Olive Branch Gift shop offers a range of Fair Trade and Christian related books and gifts not available nearby.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

In the absence of any income, the sum identified to pay necessary assessments, insurances and utilities payments over a 6 month period has been identified as £39,000. This reserve will be sufficient to enable Central Methodist Church to maintain an effective city-centre ministry in the heart of Preston during times of financial stress.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Income is gained through two principal sources, a notional surplus from the operation of the Olive Grove Coffee Shop and the direct giving of the membership and adherents.

The expenditure supports the mission statement of the church through the 'circuit assessment payments' to Preston Ribble Methodist Circuit. Maintenance, insurance and ongoing utility payments are required for the upkeep of the premises.

The church currently holds general funds in the current account and further funds are on call at the Central Finance Board and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above on 28th January 2026 at the Church Council Meeting.

26th February

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Paul H. Davis

Full name(s)

Rev Paul Davis

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Date

26 Feb 2026.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Preston Central Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

Preston Ribble	Circuit	Circuit no.	21/11
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1131157

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

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

Minister:

Revd Jane Wild

Church Stewards:

Ruth Millward-Hopkins

Susan Burgess

Julia Blackett

Roberta Malone

Treasurer:

Paul Blackett

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	20,605		20,605	23,985
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2,235		2,235	1,898
a4	Lettings	19,436		19,436	29,109
a5	Other receipts	123,334	3,789	127,123	71,106
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	165,610	3,789	169,398 (a7)	126,098

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	22,391		22,391	43,271
b3	Donations	682		682	682
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	17,730		17,730	45,208
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	30,892		30,892	34,512
b6					
b7	Other payments	8,568	3,994	12,562	12,717
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	80,264	3,994	84,258 (b9)	136,390

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	85,346	(206)	85,140		(10,292)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		59,571	1,236	60,807	(c6)	71,099
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	144,917	1,030	145,947		60,807
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	144,917	1,030	145,947	(c8)	60,807 (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)			£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			355	1,220
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			355	1,220
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			

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 2025 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						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					(e11)	(e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	169,398 (a7)	84,258 (b9)	85,140	(c7)	60,807 (c6)	145,947 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	169,398	84,258	85,140		60,807 (x)	145,947 (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 2025**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	24,252	18,602
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	36,554	60,856
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		66,489
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	60,807 (c6)	145,947 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	60,807 (x)	145,947 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	7,304	7,258
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	7,177,492	7,309,974
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)

Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of treasurer  Date..... 

Name and address of treasurer: Paul Blackett, 60 Station Road, New Longton, Preston, PR4 4ZD

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 15th October 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd Jane Wild Date ...15.10.25....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Preston Central Methodist Church

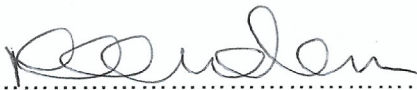
Charity Number 1131157

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Preston Central Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 1 to 3. 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

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner H. C. OVENDEN

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner MICA

Name of firm (where appropriate) H.C. BOOKKEEPING

Address 4 ROYALTY GARDENS

..... NEW LONGTON PRESTON Post Code PR4 4JW

Date 4/11/25

* delete or circle as appropriate

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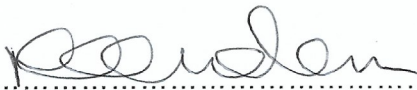
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Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner H. C. OVENDEN

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner MICA

Name of firm (where appropriate) H.C. BOOKKEEPING

Address 4 ROYALTY GARDENS

..... NEW LONGTON PRESTON Post Code PR4 4JW

Date 4/11/25

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