

FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1133907

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-02-01

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 227 Ballards Lane
London
N3 1NB

Phone 02083461700

Website finchleymethodist.co.uk

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: 1) Holding weekly meetings which are open to the public2) Running community projects3) Organising group activities 4) Working closely with other Christian organisations.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Barnet

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£127,528	£142,580	-	-
2024-08-31	£137,338	£123,664	-	-
2023-08-31	£126,516	£121,403	-	-
2022-08-31	£140,016	£116,396	-	-
2021-08-31	£90,426	£166,033	-	-
2020-08-31	£127,814	£133,596	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Martin Wellings	Chair	
ANNU VARGHESE		2007-05-01
Barbara Heatherington		2021-08-01
Christina Luvele		2022-09-01
DR RAJAN VIJERATNAM		
David French		2021-09-30
Deborah Ayodele Henrietta Lynch-Shyllon		2017-09-01
Dorothy Moir		2021-08-01
Dr LATHA THANGARI		
Dr SARADA VIJERATNAM		
HANNAH LYNCH SHYLLON		2009-05-01
HENRY NICHOLAS OLUWOLE FORDE		2013-05-13
Lindi Lewis		2017-09-01
Mary Sylvia Campbell		1997-09-01
Rev Benjamin Twumasi		2015-09-01
Rev Shaun Leslie SANDERS		2011-09-01
TONY GOSSETT		

Accounts

Finchley Methodist Church

Circuit Number 35/35

Registered Charity Number 1133907

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 31ST AUGUST 2025

REGISTERED CHURCH OFFICE

Finchley Methodist Church
227 Ballards Lane
Finchley
London
N3 1NB

TRUSTEES

Rev Ben Tsumasi (Chair)
Rev Martin Wellings
Christine Luvele
David French (Treasurer)
Dorothy Moir
Barbara Heatherington
Deborah Lynch-Shyllon
Lindi Lewis
Henry Forde
Hannah Lynch Shyllon
Annu Varghese
Mary Campbell
Dr Sarada Vijeratnam
Tony Gossett
Dr Latha Thangari
Dr Rajan Vijeratnam

The above individuals served as Trustees during the reporting period or at the date the accounts were approved.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Evans
38 Galley Lane,
Arkley,
Herts. ,
EN5 4AJ.

BANKERS

HSBC pic
333 Vauxhall Bridge Road
London
SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025.

These have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

We're incredibly grateful to each person who contributes time, energy, prayer, or finances to the life of Finchley Methodist Church. These figures are more than numbers - they represent lives touched, worship made possible, and a community sustained.

As we look forward, we'll continue to steward these resources responsibly while seeking new opportunities to grow our impact and strengthen our mission.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Finchley Methodist Church is a constituent Society of the Barnet and Queensbury Methodist Circuit, based in the London Borough of Barnet.

The activities of the Church are governed by The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church which incorporates the Methodist Church Act 1976. The governing body is the Church Council, whose members are the ministers (presbyters and deacons) appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference, officers and representatives elected annually by the General Church Meeting, a Circuit Steward and co-opted members.

The Superintendent Minister chairs the Church Council.

The Church Council meets a minimum of twice a year and agrees on the broad strategy and areas of activity for the Church, including consideration of grant making investment, reserves and risk management policies and performance. The more detailed management of the Church is entrusted to the Church Stewards, elected annually by the General Church Meeting, and responsible with the Minister in pastoral charge for the day-to-day life and work of the Church.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal objective of the Church is 'the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of the Methodist Church' (Section 4a Methodist Church Act 1976). This is done for as many people as possible within the geographical area the Church serves. In addition, the Methodist Church Act allows for the advancement of other charitable purposes 'for the time being' of any subsidiary unit of the Methodist Church. (Sections 4b —4d Methodist Church Act 1976)

Based on the above objectives, with due consideration of the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on the charities for the advancement of religion, the Church has the following aims:

- The provision of Christian worship, spiritual development and pastoral care both to the members of the Church and to the wider community in which it is located.
- To raise funds so as to make grants to advance the Christian Faith, or for other charitable purposes as for the time being the Church Council deems appropriate, both locally, nationally and internationally.

- To support the advancement of the Christian Faith through ecumenical liaison with other Christian groups.

The majority of the aims fall within the charitable activity 'mission and ministry' (i.e. the overall advancement of the Christian Faith) with a small amount of grant funding being for other charitable purposes.

In support of these aims The Methodist Church owns property in the form of church premises, and manses for staff accommodation. The Custodian Trustees, who hold legal title to these properties are:

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ.

The Managing Trustees for church premises are the Church Council members of the local society.

Reserves policy

The Church Council has established a reserves policy that ensures that Finchley Methodist Church can continue to support its commitments in the event of a downturn in the Church's income and can support its more immediate obligations in the event of a delay in the receipt of committed funding. The policy also addresses the Trustees' responsibility for the maintenance of extensive premises, most of which are more than one hundred years old.

The Trustees have set a policy that reserves must not fall below six months operating costs. At 31st August 2024 the Trustees had no concerns about this.

Investment Policy

In common with other Methodist Circuits and Churches, funds not required for immediate use are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 'CFB'. This produces a minimal level of return while maintaining minimal risk and a high degree of liquidity.

This is reviewed annually.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Church Council regularly reviews and assesses the risks that affect the wellbeing of the Church and its finances. Action is taken to mitigate risks where appropriate. The main financial risks identified are as follows:

- Loss of income from property lettings
- Unexpected property repairs to churches resulting in an inability to pay circuit Assessment

The Church Council considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient to meet any unplanned expenditure in the event of the above and when planning the budget for future years,

TRUSTEES

The members of the Church Council are appointed in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The trustees on page 2 are those who served during the reporting year or were serving at the date the accounts were signed.

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Church, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Church Council members as induction to their role as trustees.

The Trustees are also committed to ensuring that the Connexional Safeguarding Policy is implemented in accordance with government legislation, to provide a safe environment for young people and vulnerable adults.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Finchley Methodist Church and of the results for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- ~ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ~ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ~ state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- ~ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Circuit will continue to function; and
- ~ comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice on accounting and reporting by charities issued in 2015.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements and responsibilities.

Independent Examiners Report 2023-2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024 that are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of opinion

As the trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 – The Act).

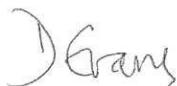
I report in respect of my examination of the Trustees accounts carried out under Section 14S of The Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given to me by the Charity Commission under section 145(3Mb) of The Act.

Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination that give cause to believe that in any material respect of:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 130 of The Act.
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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



David Evans

Date: 10th March 2026

Declarations and Scrutiny

I can confirm that these accruals based accounts for the year to 31st 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.

10th March 2026

David French

Presentation to the Trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st August 2025 ^{will be} ~~were~~ presented to the meeting of the Trustees held on 14 June 2026



Signature of the Chair of Meeting

Date: 11/5/26

Reverend Ben Tsumasi

Overview: Financial Summary

At the end of the financial year, the Church held total funds of approximately £453k, compared with £468k in the previous year.

The reduction reflects a deficit for the year of approximately £15k, where expenditure exceeded income. While this represents a modest draw on reserves, the Church continues to maintain a strong financial position, with reserves equivalent to several years of operating expenditure.

The Trustees recognise that the Church estate is old and that these reserves may be required over time for refurbishment, repair, or modernisation of the buildings. The Trustees also recognise that the Church holds a relatively high level of reserves. However, this reflects the responsibility of maintaining an older and substantial church estate, where significant repair or refurbishment works may arise at relatively short notice.

Holding adequate reserves allows the Church to plan responsibly for future building maintenance, modernisation and unforeseen repairs, without placing sudden pressure on congregational giving or operational income. In this context, the Trustees consider the current level of reserves to be prudent and appropriate. The financial resources of the Church exist to support its mission and ministry within the local community. The Trustees therefore seek to balance careful stewardship of the Church's assets with ensuring that resources remain available to sustain worship, community engagement and the upkeep of the Church's buildings.

Income & Expenditure

The following Income and Expenditure Account summarises the Church's financial activity for the year ended 31st August 2025.

Finchley Methodist Church Income & Expenditure Account Year Ending 31st August 2025		
	Year Ending 31st August 2025	Year Ending 31st August 2024
	£	£
Donations	21,696	23,278
Interest Receivable	18,501	21,224
Lettings	33,028	36,856
Rents	54,303	55,980
Total Income	127,528	137,338
Salaries	18,097	14,891
Circuit Charge	45,000	47,120
Independent Examination	950	950
Bank Charges	868	459
Bookkeeping Fees	9,000	8,772
Repairs and Maintenance	13,254	7,048
Cleaning	7,591	6,696
Estate Agents Fees	8,514	7,711
Insurance	7,472	7,281
Business Rates	1,779	0
IT Support & Telephone	6,781	4,356
Other Expenses	5,148	4,483
Payroll Fees	150	300
Utilities	17,976	13,596
Total Expenditure	142,580	123,664
Net Income	(15,052)	13,675

Total income for the year was £128k.

Income from rents and lettings continues to provide a significant financial base for the Church. However, there has been modest reduction in ad-hoc lettings income, with the majority of bookings coming from organisations who use the facilities on a more regular basis. The Trustees will continue to monitor the viability of the current lettings model and consider whether further development of these income streams is appropriate.

Donations were slightly lower than the previous year. As in previous years, giving tends to fluctuate depending on congregation patterns and one-off contributions.

Interest receivable remains a helpful source of income following the increase in interest rates in recent years, although this will naturally vary depending on wider economic conditions.

Total expenditure during the year was £143k.

The Circuit Assessment of £45k remains the largest single item of expenditure and represents the Church's contribution to the wider work of the Barnet and Queensbury Methodist Circuit, including ministry, mission and shared activities across the Circuit.

Repairs and maintenance costs fluctuate from year to year depending on the works required to maintain the buildings. Given the age of the Church estate, Trustees recognise that expenditure in this area may vary over time.

Overall, expenditure exceeded income during the year resulting in a deficit of approximately £15k, which has been met from reserves.

Some expenditure recorded during the year relates to a wider programme to address the Church heating system. Further works were planned after the year end, including replacement of boilers serving both the Church and Essex Hall and flushing of the pipework to improve system performance. As with other building-related works, these costs are treated as maintenance expenditure when incurred rather than capitalised, which reflects the Church's established accounting approach to property maintenance.

Property Accounting

The Church does not apply depreciation to its buildings in the accounts.

This reflects common practice among many churches and charitable organisations that hold property primarily for worship, ministry and community use, rather than as depreciating commercial assets.

Instead of applying an annual depreciation charge, the Church recognises the actual cost of repairs and maintenance when works are undertaken. This approach ensures that the accounts reflect the real costs of premises upkeep.

Balance Sheet

Finchley Methodist Church		
Balance Sheet for Year Ending 31st August 2025		
	<u>Year Ending 31st</u> <u>August 2025</u>	<u>Year Ending 31st</u> <u>August 2024</u>
	£	£
Current Assets		
Current Accounts	51,488	51,488
Deposit Accounts	411,094	432,792
Total Bank & Cash	462,581	484,279
Debtors	0	0
Total Current Assets	462,581	484,279
Total Assets	462,581	484,279
Current Liabilities		
Accruals	9,354	16,000
Total Liabilities	9,354	16,000
Total Net Assets	453,227	468,279
Funds Analysis		
Unrestricted Funds	451,749	465,801
Restricted - Benevolence Fund	1,478	2,478
Total Funds	453,227	468,279
Movement	(15,052)	

The Church continues to maintain strong reserves, largely held on deposit with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and in bank accounts.

These funds provide financial resilience and allow the Church to meet unexpected costs, particularly those associated with the maintenance of an older estate.

Fund Breakdown

Unrestricted Funds: £451k

Restricted Benevolence Fund: £1k

The majority of funds remain unrestricted and therefore available for general Church purposes, including maintaining the premises and supporting the work of the Church and Circuit.

A small amount of funds is held in the Benevolence Fund, which is restricted for charitable support and giving.

Year-End Movement

The year resulted in a net reduction in funds of approximately £15k.

While this represents a deficit for the year, the Church remains in a financially stable position, with reserves available to support future maintenance of the buildings and to manage any fluctuations in income.

The Trustees continue to review the Church's financial position regularly through reports presented to the Church Council, ensuring that income, expenditure and reserves are monitored throughout the year.

Financial Outlook

The Trustees will continue to monitor income, expenditure and the condition of the Church estate carefully over the coming year. Particular attention will be given to maintaining sustainable levels of income from property lettings while ensuring that the Church's buildings remain properly maintained.

While income streams such as donations and ad-hoc lettings can fluctuate from year to year, the Trustees believe the Church remains in a financially stable position, supported by prudent reserves and careful financial management.

The Trustees remain satisfied that the Church continues to operate on a sound financial footing.

Accounts

The Methodist Church
Finchley Methodist Church
Circuit Number 35/35
Registered Charity Number 1133907

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDING 31ST AUGUST 2024

REGISTERED CHURCH OFFICE

Finchley Methodist Church
227 Ballards Lane
Finchley
London
N3 1NB

TRUSTEES

Rev Ben Tsumasi (Deputy Chair)

Rev Martin Wellings (Superintendent Minister and Chair ex officio)

Christine Luvele

David French (Treasurer)

Dorothy Moir

Barbara Heatherington

Deborah Lynch-Shyllon

Lindi Lewis

Henry Forde

Shaun Sanders (Resigned 31st August 2024)

Hannah Lynch Shyllon

Annu Varghese

Mary Campbell

Dr Sarada Vijeratnam

Tony Gossett

Dr Latha Thangari

Dr Rajan Vijeratnam

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Evans

38 Galley Lane,

Arkley,

Herts. ,

EN5 4AJ.

BANKERS

HSBC pic

333 Vauxhall Bridge Road

London

SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

9 Bonhill Street

London

EC2A 4PE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024.

These have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

We're incredibly grateful to each person who contributes time, energy, prayer, or finances to the life of Finchley Methodist Church. These figures are more than numbers — they represent lives touched, worship made possible, and a community sustained.

As we look forward, we'll continue to steward these resources responsibly while seeking new opportunities to grow our impact and strengthen our mission.

One significant change during the year was the appointment of Ben Tsumasi as minister, replacing Dr Martin Wellings.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Finchley Methodist Church is a constituent Society of the Barnet and Queensbury Methodist Circuit, based in the London Borough of Barnet.

The activities of the Church are governed by The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church which incorporates the Methodist Church Act 1976. The governing body is the Church Council, whose members are the ministers (presbyters and deacons) appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference, officers and representatives elected annually by the General Church Meeting, a Circuit Steward and co-opted members.

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The Trustees have set a policy that reserves must not fall below six months operating costs. At 31st August 2024 the Trustees had no concerns about this.

Investment Policy

In common with other Methodist Circuits and Churches, funds not required for immediate use are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 'CFB'. This produces a minimal level of return while maintaining minimal risk and a high degree of liquidity.

This is reviewed annually.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Church Council regularly reviews and assesses the risks that affect the wellbeing of the Church and its finances. Action is taken to mitigate risks where appropriate. The main financial risks identified are as follows:

- Loss of income from property lettings
- Unexpected property repairs to churches resulting in an inability to pay circuit Assessment

The Church Council considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient to meet any unplanned expenditure in the event of the above and when planning the budget for future years,

TRUSTEES

The members of the Church Council are appointed in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The trustees on page 2 are those who served during the reporting year or were serving at the date the accounts were signed.

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Church, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Church Council members as induction to their role as trustees.

The Trustees are also committed to ensuring that the Connexional Safeguarding Policy is implemented in accordance with government legislation, to provide a safe environment for young people and vulnerable adults.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Finchley Methodist Church and of the results for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- ~ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ~ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ~ state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- ~ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Circuit will continue to function; and
- ~ comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice on accounting and reporting by charities issued in 2015.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements and responsibilities.

Independent Examiners Report 2023-2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31" August 2024 that are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of opinion

As the trustees of the Charity, 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 Trustees accounts carried out under Section 14S of The Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given to me by the Charity Commission under section 145(3Mb) of The Act.

Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination that give cause to believe that in any material respect of:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 130 of The Act.
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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



David Evans

Date: 28th February 2025

Declarations and Scrutiny

I can confirm that these receipts and payments based accounts for the year to 31st August 2024 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.

28th February 2025

David French

Presentation to the Trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were presented to the meeting of the Trustees held on 13th April 2025



Signature of the Superintendent Minister

27th June 2025

Reverend Martin Wellings

Overview: Financial Summary

At the end of the financial year, our total funds stood at £468k, up from £455k the year before. This reflects the church's ongoing financial stability, thanks to your support and our collective efforts to manage income and expenditure wisely.

This represents over three years expenditure.

The Trustees recognise that the church estate is old and the large reserves may be required for refurbishment or modernisation.

Income & Expenditure

Finchley Methodist Church Income & Expenditure Account Year Ending 31st August 2024		
	Year Ending 31st August 2024	Year Ending 31st August 2023
	£	£
Donations	23,278	26,502
Interest Receivable	21,224	13,547
Lettings	36,856	35,177
Rents	55,980	51,290
Total Income	137,338	126,516
Salaries	14,891	13,939
Circuit Charge	47,120	45,998
Independent Examination	950	800
Bank Charges	459	462
Bookeeping Fees	8,772	2,960
Repairs and Maintenance	7,048	10,822
Cleaning	6,696	5,040
Estate Agents Fees	7,711	7,356
Insurance	7,281	7,786
IT Support & Telephone	4,356	3,096
Other Expenses	4,483	9,834
Payroll Fees	300	300
Utilities	13,596	13,010
Total Expenditure	123,664	121,403
Net Income	13,675	5,113

Donations were down on the previous year but tend to fluctuate from year to year.

Most of our lettings income is now derived from repeat business, with ad-hoc income reducing over time. We are grateful to those organisations who continue to use our facilities and will assess the viability of continuing with the current ad-hoc lettings model.

The increase in interest receivable reflects the higher interest rates over the period.

The increase in bookkeeping fees was mainly due to the catch up in costs. During the year, we changed our bookkeeping provider.

Repairs and maintenance costs fluctuate from year to year depending on what is required. However, these remain relatively modest.

Balance Sheet

Finchley Methodist Church Balance Sheet for Year Ending 31st August 2024		
	<u>Year Ending</u> <u>31st August</u> <u>2024</u> £	<u>Year Ending</u> <u>31st August</u> <u>2023</u> £
Current Assets		
Current Accounts	51,488	79,197
Deposit Accounts	432,792	411,908
Total Bank & Cash	484,279	491,105
Debtors	0	0
Total Current Assets	484,279	491,105
Total Assets	484,279	491,105
Current Liabilities		
Accruals	16,000	36,500
Total Liabilities	16,000	36,500
Total Net Assets	468,279	454,605
Funds Analysis		
Unrestricted Funds	465,801	452,127
Restricted - Benevolence Fund	2,478	2,478
Total Funds	468,279	454,605
Movement	13,675	

Fund Breakdown

Unrestricted Funds: £466k

Restricted Benevolence Fund: £2k

These figures show that nearly all of our funds are available for general church use, with a small portion ring-fenced for charitable support and giving.

Year-End Movement

The net increase in total funds during the year was around £14,000. This positive movement highlights both strong income from lettings and control of expenditure.

Accounts



The Methodist Church

Finchley Methodist Church

Circuit Number 35/35

Registered Charity Number 1133907

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 August 2023**

REGISTERED CHURCH OFFICE

Finchley Methodist Church

227 Ballards Lane

Finchley

London

N3 1NB

TRUSTEES

Rev Martin Wellings (Chair)

Christine Luvele

David French (Treasurer)

Dorothy Moir

Barbara Heatherington

Deborah Lynch-Shyllon

Lindi Lewis

Rev Ben Tsumasi

Henry Forde

Shaun Sanders

Hannah Lynch Shyllon

Annu Varghese

Mary Campbell

Dr Sarada Vijeratnam

Tony Gossett

Dr Latha Thangari

Dr Rajan Vijeratnam

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Evans

38 Galley Lane,

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BANKERS

HSBC pic

333 Vauxhall Bridge Road

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SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

9 Bonhill Street

London

EC2A 4PE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023. These have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Finchley Methodist Church is a constituent Society of the Barnet and Queensbury Methodist Circuit, based in the London Borough of Barnet.

The activities of the Church are governed by The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church which incorporates the Methodist Church Act 1976. The governing body is the Church Council, whose members are the ministers (presbyters and deacons) appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference, officers and representatives elected annually by the General Church Meeting, a Circuit Steward and co-opted members.

The Superintendent Minister chairs the Church Council.

The Church Council meets a minimum of twice a year and agrees on the broad strategy and areas of activity for the Church, including consideration of grant making investment, reserves and risk management policies and performance. The more detailed management of the Church is entrusted to the Church Stewards, elected annually by the General Church Meeting, and responsible with the Minister in pastoral charge for the day-to-day life and work of the Church.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal objective of the Church is 'the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of the Methodist Church' (Section 4a Methodist Church Act 1976). This is done for as many people as possible within the geographical area the Church serves. In addition, the Methodist Church Act allows for the advancement of other charitable purposes 'for the time being' of any subsidiary unit of the Methodist Church. (Sections 4b —4d Methodist Church Act 1976)

Based on the above objectives, with due consideration of the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on the charities for the advancement of religion, the Church has the following aims:

- The provision of Christian worship, spiritual development and pastoral care both to the members of the Church and to the wider community in which it is located.
- To raise funds so as to make grants to advance the Christian Faith, or for other charitable purposes as for the time being the Church Council deems appropriate, both locally, nationally and internationally.
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The majority of the aims fall within the charitable activity 'mission and ministry' (i.e. the overall advancement of the Christian Faith) with a small amount of grant funding being for other charitable purposes.

In support of these aims The Methodist Church owns property in the form of church premises, and manse for staff accommodation. The Custodian Trustees, who hold legal title to these properties are:

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ.

The Managing Trustees for church premises are the Church Council members of the local society.

Reserves policy

The Church Council has established a reserves policy that ensures that Finchley Methodist Church can continue to support its commitments in the event of a downturn in the Church's income and can support its more immediate obligations in the event of a delay in the receipt of committed funding. The policy also addresses the Trustees' responsibility for the maintenance of extensive premises, most of which are more than one hundred years old.

The Trustees have set a policy that reserves must not fall below six months operating costs. At 31st August 2023 the Trustees had no concerns about this.

Investment Policy

In common with other Methodist Circuits and Churches, funds not required for immediate use are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 'CFB'. This produces a minimal level of return while maintaining minimal risk and a high degree of liquidity.

This is reviewed annually.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Church Council regularly reviews and assesses the risks that affect the wellbeing of the Church and its finances. Action is taken to mitigate risks where appropriate. The main financial risks identified are as follows:

- Loss of income from property lettings
- Unexpected property repairs to churches resulting in an inability to pay circuit Assessment

The Church Council considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient to meet any unplanned expenditure in the event of the above and when planning the budget for future years,

TRUSTEES

The members of the Church Council are appointed in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The trustees on page 2 are those who served during the reporting year or were serving at the date the accounts were signed.

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The Trustees are also committed to ensuring that the Connexional Safeguarding Policy is implemented in accordance with government legislation, to provide a safe environment for young people and vulnerable adults.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Finchley Methodist Church and of the results for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- ~ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ~ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ~ state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- ~ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Circuit will continue to function; and
- ~ comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice on accounting and reporting by charities issued in 2015.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements and responsibilities.

Independent Examiners Report 2022-23

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31" August 2023 that are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of opinion

As the trustees of the Charity, 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 Trustees accounts carried out under Section 14S of The Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given to me by the Charity Commission under section 145(3Mb) of The Act.

Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination that give cause to believe that in any material respect of:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 130 of The Act. ✶
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

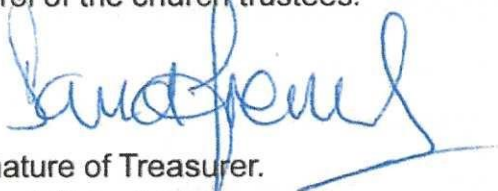
I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention needs to be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Evans
38 Galley Lane
Arkley
Herts
ENS 4AJ

Declarations and Scrutiny

I can confirm that these receipts and payments based accounts for the year to 31st August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the church and that they include all funds under the control of the church trustees.



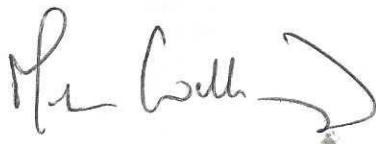
Signature of Treasurer.

Date: 15th April 2023

David French

Presentation to the Trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were presented to the meeting of the Trustees held on 22 February 2024.



Signature of the Chair of Meeting

Date 26/5/24

Martin Wellings

Finchley Methodist Church
Annual Accounts 2022-23

Given the expenditure pressures assumed for the year, the £5k surplus was a healthy position for the year. We had budgeted for an £8k deficit, so were effectively £13k better off than we had expected to be.

Finchley Methodist Church		
Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ending 31st August 2023		
	Year Ending 31st August 2023	Year Ending 31st August 2022
Donations	26,502	24,109
Gift Aid	0	18,944
Interest Receivable	13,547	1,391
Lettings	35,177	41,772
Rents	51,290	53,800
Other Income	0	0
Total Income	126,516	140,016
Salaries & Payroll	13,939	12,944
Circuit Charge	45,998	43,600
Accountancy Fees	800	800
Bank Charges	462	93
Bookeeping Fees	2,960	2,485
Repairs and Maintenance	10,822	16,031
Cleaning	5,040	5,848
Estate Agents Fees	7,356	7,194
Insurance	7,786	4,701
IT Support & Telephone	3,096	3,109
Other Expenses	9,834	7,289
Payroll Fees	300	300
Utilities	13,010	12,001
Total Expenditure	121,403	116,395
Net Income	5,113	23,621

Income

Although income was down, the previous year figure was distorted due to a back-dated gift aid claim. The issues with gift-aid are ongoing and it is one area we can tighten up. No gift aid was claimed during the financial year, but as we have four years to claim, I will look at this.

Conversely our interest earned has been much higher (due to interest rate increases), which has offset a significant drop in lettings income. It is difficult to do a year-on-year comparison on lettings as beyond our core lettings, there are a substantial number of ad-hoc bookings.

Overall though the income of £126k was exactly the same figure as budgeted.

Expenditure

The highest single item of expenditure is the circuit fees at £45k, followed by salaries at £14k and both of these were on budget.

The largest underspend was on utilities – actual cost of £13k v a budget of £29k. The budget assumes the massive increases we were seeing when the budget was set but this never materialised – partly because the government announced support packages, but probably also partly because we were very prudent when budget setting as no-one had any idea of the levels at that time.

Repairs and maintenance costs were £10k, which was much lower than the previous year – but the nature of reactive maintenance really means we cannot plan for this, and we have to spend whatever is needed, though having some prior oversight about quotes should mitigate against excessive costs.

Most of the other costs are insignificant.

Balance Sheet

The balance sheet remains very strong, at getting on for four years running costs, so no concerns at all. One benefit of having a strong balance sheet is that at last, our investments are giving us a return.

The accruals are mostly the circuit fees, which were paid after year-end.

The only other thing to note is that the benevolence fund is untouched – I would suggest utilising some of it this year.

Finchley Methodist Church Balance Sheet for Year Ending 31st August 2023		
	31st August 2023	31st August 2022
Current Assets		
Current Accounts	79,197	93,687
Deposit Accounts	411,908	398,691
Total Bank & Cash	491,105	492,378
Debtors	0	666
Total Current Assets	491,105	493,044
Total Assets	491,105	493,044
Current Liabilities		
Accruals	36,500	43,553
Total Liabilities	36,500	43,553
Total Net Assets	454,605	449,491
Funds Analysis		
Unrestricted Funds	452,127	447,013
Restricted - Benevolence Fund	2,478	2,478
	454,605	449,491
Movement	5,114	

Accounts



The Methodist Church
Finchley Methodist Church

Circuit Number 35/35

Registered Charity Number 1133907

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 August 2022

TRUSTEES

Rev Martin Welling Chair
Barbara Heatherington
Brian Coleman
Dorothy Moir
Henry Forde
Hannah Lynch Shyllon
Annu Varghese
Dr Latha Thangari
Dr Sarada Vijeratnam
Tony Gossett
Elizabeth Ogunyemi
Dorothy Crawford
Mary Campbell
Debbie Lynch-Shyllon
Lindi Lewis
David French
Shaun Sanders
Elaine French
Ben Tsumasi

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Evans
38 Galley Lane,
Arkley,
Herts.,
EN5 4AJ.

BANKERS

HSBC plc
333 Vauxhall Bridge Road
London
SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

INVESTMENT BANKERS

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester, M1 1JQ

REGISTERED CHURCH OFFICE

Finchley Methodist Church
227 Ballards Lane
Finchley
London
N3 1NB

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022.

These have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal objective of the Church is 'the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of the Methodist Church' (Section 4a Methodist Church Act 1976). This is done for as many people as possible within the geographical area the Church serves. In addition, the Methodist Church Act allows for the advancement of other charitable purposes 'for the time being' of any subsidiary unit of the Methodist Church. (Sections 4b – 4d Methodist Church Act 1976)

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The majority of the aims fall within the charitable activity 'mission and ministry' (i.e., the overall advancement of the Christian Faith) with a small amount of grant funding being for other charitable purposes.

In support of these aims The Methodist Church owns property in the form of church premises, and manses for staff accommodation. The Custodian Trustees, who hold legal title to these properties are:

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ.

The Managing Trustees for church premises are the Church Council members of the local Society.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview of Income and Expenditure

Following a period of lower letting income during the pandemic period, combined with significant expenditure on repairs and maintenance, the charity returned to surplus in 2021/22.

Utilities expenditure did not rise as much as anticipated, which was partly due to the government support to charities.

Overall, following the pandemic, it was a solid year during which total assets rose by about 5%.

Reserves policy

The Church Council has established a reserves policy that ensures that Finchley Methodist Church can continue to support its commitments in the event of a downturn in the Church's income and can support its more immediate obligations in the event of a delay in the receipt of committed funding. The policy also addresses the trustees' responsibility for the maintenance of extensive premises, most of which are more than one hundred years old.

The Trustees have set a policy that reserves must not fall below six months operating costs. At 31st August 2022 the Trustees had no concerns about this as the operating position had returned to surplus following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Investment Policy

In common with other Methodist Circuits and Churches, funds not required for immediate use are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ['CFB']. This produces a minimal level of return while maintaining minimal risk and a high degree of liquidity.

This is reviewed annually.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Church Council regularly reviews and assesses the risks that affect the wellbeing of the Church and its finances. Action is taken to mitigate risks where appropriate. The main financial risks identified are as follows:

- Loss of income from property lettings
- Unexpected property repairs to churches resulting in an inability to pay circuit assessment

The Church Council considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient to meet any unplanned expenditure in the event of the above and when planning the budget for future years will consider the need to include an element to build up the reserves.

TRUSTEES

The members of the Church Council are appointed in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The trustees on page 2 are those who served during the reporting year or were serving at the date the balance sheet was signed.

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The Trustees are also committed to ensuring that the Connexional Safeguarding Policy is implemented in accordance with government legislation, to provide a safe environment for young people and vulnerable adults,

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Finchley Methodist Church and of the results for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Circuit will continue to function; and
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The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements and responsibilities.

ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND FUTURE PLANS

Worship and prayer

Our emphasis is on providing services that will enable a wide section of the community to engage in worship. During the pandemic online worship and the circulation of printed 'Worship at Home' resources have helped people to stay connected even while buildings have been closed.

Community engagement and pastoral care

Our premises provide a significant community resource which is used by a wide range of groups such as Girl Guides, dance classes, health and fitness groups, youth and adult education groups, and learning disability support services.

We support local food banks, asylum seeker and refugee support groups and Homeless Action in Barnet. We have established links with other faith groups and belong to the Barnet Multi Faith Forum.

Ecumenical links

We have strong ecumenical links through Churches Together in Finchley.

Church Policies

The Church Council reviews its SAFEGUARDING and GDPR Policies each year, and these items are on each Church Council agenda for reporting and updating.

Mission Plan and Circuit Renewal

A comprehensive review of the Circuit, including property, fellowship, finances, worship, mission, ecumenical links etc. was completed in spring 2019. Finchley Methodist Church engaged fully in this process.

**Finchley Methodist Church
Independent Examiners Report
2021-22**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022 that are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of opinion

As the trustees of the Charity, 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 Trustees accounts carried out under Section 14S of The Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given to me by the Charity Commission under section 145(3)(b) of The Act.

Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination that give cause to believe that in any material respect of:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 130 of The Act.
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed



David Evans

38 Galley Lane
Arkley
Herts
EN5 4AJ

14th June 2023

Declarations and Scrutiny

I can confirm that these receipts and payments based accounts for the year to 31st August 2022 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: 28th June 2023

David French

Presentation to the Trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were presented to the meeting of the Trustees held on 4th December 2022



Signature of the Chair of Meeting

28th June 2023

Martin Wellings

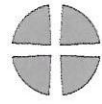
Profit & Loss for Period Ending 31st August 2022

	Year Ended 31st Aug 22	Year Ended 31st Aug 21
Income	24,109	19,095
Donations	18,944	0
Gift Aid	1,391	571
Interest Receivable	41,772	16,166
Lettings - Church Facilities	53,800	53,015
Rental Income	0	219
Other Income	140,016	89,066
Total Income		
Less Operating Expenses	12,944	13,027
Salaries & Payroll Expenses	43,600	42,700
Circuit Charge	800	800
Accountancy Fees	93	76
Bank Charges	2,485	2,485
Bookkeeping Fees	16,031	63,880
Repairs & Maintenance	5,848	4,800
Cleaning Contractor Fees	7,194	7,342
Estate Agent's Fees	4,701	4,500
Insurance Expense	3,109	2,862
IT Support and Telephone	7,289	10,928
Other Church Expenses	300	300
Payroll	12,001	10,973
Utilities- Gas, Water Electricity	116,396	164,673
Total Operating Expenses		
Net Profit	23,621	(75,607)

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2022

	31st Aug 2022	31st Aug 2021
Bank		
Current Accounts		
Deposit Accounts	93,687	33,183
Total Bank Balances	398,691	397,300
	492,378	430,483
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	666	0
Total Current Assets	666	0
Total Assets	493,044	430,483
Current Liabilities		
Accrued Expenditure		
Payroll	41,562	2,216
Paye and NI - Due	1,074	1,848
Pension Payable	789	605
Total Current Liabilities	128	(55)
	43,553	4,613
Total Liabilities	43,553	4,613
Total Net Assets	449,491	425,870
Funds Analysis		
Unrestricted Funds		
Restricted Funds - Benevolence Fund	447,013	423,392
Total Equity	2,478	2,478
	449,491	425,870
Movement in Funds	23,621	

Accounts



The Methodist Church

Finchley Methodist Church

Circuit Number 35/35

Registered Charity Number 1133907

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 August 2021**

TRUSTEES 2020-21

M	Wellings	Chair [1]	M	Sparks [2]
D	Newton	Minister	T	Gossett
		[3]		
S	Sanders	Minister	L	Thangaraj
		[3]		
B	Twumasi	Minister	H	Yong
		[3]		
W	Turl	Ct Steward	A	Varghese
H	Lynch	Steward		
	Shyllon			
H	Forde	Treasurer		
D	Lynch	Steward		
	Shyllon			
L	Lewis	Steward		
R	Vijeratnam	Steward		
E	Ogunyemi	Steward		
E	French			
S	Vijeratnam			
D	Crawford			
M	Campbell			

[1] Chair and Superintendent Minister.

[2] Died January 2021.

[3] Ministers appointed to the Circuit and ex officio trustees.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

David Evans
38 Galley Lane,
Arkley,
Herts.,
EN5 4AJ.

BANKERS

HSBC plc
333 Vauxhall Bridge Road
London
SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

INVESTMENT BANKERS

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
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Manchester, M1 1JQ

CHURCH OFFICE

227 Ballards Lane, Finchley, London, N3 1NB

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The Church Council has established a reserves policy that ensures that Finchley Methodist Church can continue to support its commitments in the event of a downturn in the Church's income and can support its more immediate obligations in the event of a delay in the receipt of committed funding. The policy also addresses the trustees' responsibility for the maintenance of extensive premises, most of which are more than one hundred years old.

Investment Policy

In common with other Methodist Circuits and Churches, funds not required for immediate use are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ['CFB']. This produces a good level of return while maintaining minimal risk and a high degree of liquidity.

Overview of Income and Expenditure

The Church's income is provided by contributions from members of the congregation, the letting of premises to external organisations and rental of 1 and 3 Essex Park (four flats). In 2021 the total income, including investment income was £90,426 (2020 £127,814). Total expenditure for the year was £166,033 (2020 £133,596).

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Church Council regularly reviews and assesses the risks that affect the wellbeing of the Church and its finances. Action is taken to mitigate risks where appropriate. The main financial risks identified are as follows:

- Loss of income from property lettings
- Unexpected property repairs to churches resulting in an inability to pay circuit assessment

The Church Council considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient to meet any unplanned expenditure in the event of the above and when planning the budget for future years will consider the need to include an element to build up the reserves.

TRUSTEES

The members of the Church Council are appointed in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The trustees on page 2 are those who served during the reporting year or were serving at the date the balance sheet was signed.

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The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements and responsibilities.

ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND FUTURE PLANS

Worship and prayer

Our emphasis is on providing services that will enable a wide section of the community to engage in worship. During the pandemic online worship and the circulation of printed 'Worship at Home' resources have helped people to stay connected even while buildings have been closed.

Community engagement and pastoral care

Our premises provide a significant community resource which is used by a wide range of groups such as Girl Guides, dance classes, health and fitness groups, youth and adult education groups, and learning disability support services.

We support local food banks, asylum seeker and refugee support groups and Homeless Action in Barnet. We have established links with other faith groups and belong to the Barnet Multi Faith Forum.

Ecumenical links

We have strong ecumenical links through Churches Together in Finchley.

Church Policies

The Church Council reviews its SAFEGUARDING and GDPR Policies each year, and these items are on each Church Council agenda for reporting and updating.

Mission Plan and Circuit Renewal

A comprehensive review of the Circuit, including property, fellowship, finances, worship, mission, ecumenical links etc. was completed in spring 2019. Finchley Methodist Church engaged fully in this process.

COVID 19

Since March 2019 COVID 19 has severely impacted the activities of the Church. It meant that for a significant part of the year the premises had to be closed for all activities including worship and prayer. Sunday services moved online and printed worship material was sent out by post for those who could not access online resources.

COVID 19 led to a complete cessation of all lettings on church premises, resulting in a substantial loss of income. In addition, rents for the Essex Park flats were reviewed, and in some cases reduced, to support tenants suffering income loss due to COVID 19. The Church has planned for these challenges to continue into 2021-22.

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2020-21

Receipts and Payments Account	2021	2020
Section A - Receipts		
Offerings and Tax Recovered	20,455	36,959
Bank and CFB Interest	571	3,260
Lettings	16,166	23,807
Rental Income	53,015	52,971
Other Receipts	219	10,818
Total Receipts	90,426	127,814
Section B - Payments		
Circuit Assessment	42,700	42,100
Donations	1,360	775
Repairs and Maintenance	63,880	21,115
Utilities	10,973	11,143
Salaries	13,027	14,309
Other Payments	34,093	44,154
Total Payments	166,033	133,596
Net Payments	(75,607)	(5,781)

Section C - Net Funds	2021	2020
Total Funds brought forward	501,478	507,259
Net Payments	(75,607)	(5,781)
Total Funds Carried forward	425,871	501,478

Section D - Money Raised and Passed on	2021	2020
Offerings/Gifts received for other organisations	1,360	512
Offerings/Gifts passed to external organisations	1,360	512
Balance Still to be Paid	0	0

Section F - Statement of Assets & Liabilities	2021	2020
Cash in Hand		
Bank Current Account	28,571	92,049
Bank Deposit Account	0	0
Central Finance Board	281,549	293,836
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	115,752	115,594
Other Funds	0	0
Total Funds	425,871	501,478

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2020-21

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021 that are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of opinion

As the trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act).

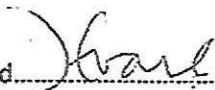
I report in respect of my examination of the Trustees accounts carried out under Section 145 of The Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given to me by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of The Act.

Independent Examiners Statement

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

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 130 of The Act.
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed 

Name: David Evans

Address: 38 Galley Lane, Arkley, Herts, EN5 4AJ

Date: 14th July 2022

Section G - Other Assets and Liabilities	2021	2020
Land and Buildings		
Other Assets	3,993,785	3,993,785
Loans (Amounts Outstanding at Year End)	0	0
Other Liabilities	0	0
Total Funds	3,993,785	3,993,785

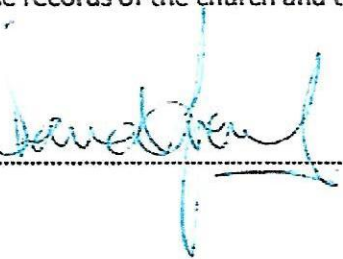
Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2020-21

Name of Church: Finchley Methodist Church

Charity Number: 1133907

Declarations and Scrutiny

I can confirm that these receipts and payments based accounts for the year to 31st 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: 

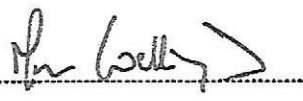
Date: 14th July 2022

Name: David French

Address: 39 Fernwood Crescent, Whetstone, London, N20 0RP

Presentation to the Trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021 were presented to the meeting of the Trustees held on 29/6/2022

Signature of the Chair of Meeting: 

Name of Chair of Meeting: Martin Wellings

Accounts



The Methodist Church

Finchley Methodist Church

Circuit Number 35/35

Registered Charity Number 1133907

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 August 2020

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2019-20

TRUSTEES 2019-20

M	Giles	Chair [1]	M	Sparks [2]
D	Newton	Minister	T	Gossett
		[4]		
S	Sanders	Minister	L	Thangaraj
		[4]		
B	Twumasi	Minister	H	Yong
		[4]		
W	Turl	Ct Steward	A	Varghese
H	Lynch	Steward	M	Wellings [3]
	Shyllon			
H	Forde	Treasurer		
D	Lynch	Steward		
	Shyllon			
L	Lewis	Steward		
R	Vijeratnam	Steward		
E	Ogunyemi	Steward		
E	French			
S	Vijeratnam			
D	Crawford			
M	Campbell			

[1] Chair and Superintendent Minister. Resigned July 2020.

[2] Died January 2021.

[3] Chair and Superintendent Minister from 1 September 2020.

[4] Ministers appointed to the Circuit and ex officio trustees.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Newman Morris Accountants

Wellington House
273-275 High Street
London Colney
Nr St Albans
AL2 1HA
01727 747350

BANKERS

HSBC plc
333 Vauxhall Bridge Road
London
SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

INVESTMENT BANKERS

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester, M1 1JQ

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2019-20

CHURCH OFFICE

227 Ballards Lane, Finchley, London, N3 1NB

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020. These have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Finchley Methodist Church is a constituent Society of the Barnet and Queensbury Methodist Circuit, based in the London Borough of Barnet.

The activities of the Church are governed by *The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church* which incorporates the Methodist Church Act 1976. The governing body is the Church Council, whose members are the ministers (presbyters and deacons) appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference, officers and representatives elected annually by the General Church Meeting, a Circuit Steward, and co-opted members. The Superintendent Minister chairs the Church Council.

The Church Council meets a minimum of twice a year and agrees on the broad strategy and areas of activity for the Church, including consideration of grant making, investment, reserves and risk management policies and performance. The more detailed management of the Church is entrusted to the Church Stewards, elected annually by the General Church Meeting, and responsible with the Minister in pastoral charge for the day-to-day life and work of the Church.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal objective of the Church is 'the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of the Methodist Church' (Section 4a Methodist Church Act 1976). This is done for as many people as possible within the geographical area the Church serves. In addition, the Methodist Church Act allows for the advancement of other charitable purposes 'for the time being' of any subsidiary unit of the Methodist Church. (Sections 4b – 4d Methodist Church Act 1976)

Based on the above objectives, with due consideration of the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on the charities for the advancement of religion, the Church has the following aims:

- The provision of Christian worship, spiritual development and pastoral care both to the members of the Church and to the wider community in which it is located;
- To raise funds so as to make grants to advance the Christian Faith, or for other charitable purposes as for the time being the Church Council deems appropriate, both locally, nationally and internationally;
- To support the advancement of the Christian Faith through ecumenical liaison with other Christian groups.

The majority of the aims fall within the charitable activity 'mission and ministry' (i.e., the overall advancement of the Christian Faith) with a small amount of grant funding being for other charitable purposes.

In support of these aims the Methodist Church owns property in the form of church premises, and manses for staff accommodation. The Custodian Trustees, who hold legal title to these properties are: The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ. The Managing Trustees for church premises are the Church Council members of the local Society.

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2019-20

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The Church Council has established a reserves policy that ensures that Finchley Methodist Church can continue to support its commitments in the event of a downturn in the Church's income and can support its more immediate obligations in the event of a delay in the receipt of committed funding. The policy also addresses the trustees' responsibility for the maintenance of extensive premises, most of which are more than one hundred years old.

Investment Policy

In common with other Methodist Circuits and Churches, funds not required for immediate use are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ['CFB']. This produces a good level of return while maintaining minimal risk and a high degree of liquidity.

Overview of Income and Expenditure

The Church's income is provided by contributions from members of the congregation, the letting of premises to external organisations and rental of 1 and 3 Essex Park (four flats). In 2020 the total income, including investment income was £127,814 (2019 £177,758). Total expenditure for the year was £133,596 (2019 £140,007).

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Church Council regularly reviews and assesses the risks that affect the wellbeing of the Church and its finances. Action is taken to mitigate risks where appropriate. The main financial risks identified are as follows:

- Loss of income from property lettings
- Unexpected property repairs to churches resulting in an inability to pay circuit assessment

The Church Council considers that the current level of reserves is sufficient to meet any unplanned expenditure in the event of the above and when planning the budget for future years will consider the need to include an element to build up the reserves.

TRUSTEES

The members of the Church Council are appointed in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The trustees on page 1 are those who served during the reporting year or were serving at the date the balance sheet was signed.

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Church, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Church Council members as induction to their role as trustees.

The Trustees are also committed to ensuring that the Connexional Safeguarding Policy is implemented in accordance with government legislation, to provide a safe environment for young people and vulnerable adults,

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Finchley Methodist Church and of the results for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2019-20

- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Circuit will continue to function; and
- comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice on accounting and reporting by charities issued in 2015.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements and responsibilities.

ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND FUTURE PLANS

Worship and prayer

Our emphasis is on providing services that will enable a wide section of the community to engage in worship. Thus as well as providing traditional worship during the year we also provided all age worship, Taize style worship, contemporary prayer and praise services. As noted below, during the pandemic online worship and the circulation of printed 'Worship at Home' resources have helped people to stay connected even while buildings have been closed.

Community engagement and pastoral care

Our premises provide a significant community resource which is used by a wide range of groups such as Girl Guides, dance classes, health and fitness groups, youth and adult education groups, and learning disability support services.

We support local food banks, asylum seeker and refugee support groups and Homeless Action in Barnet. We have established links with other faith groups and belong to the Barnet Multi Faith Forum.

Ecumenical links

We have strong ecumenical links through Churches Together in Finchley.

Church Policies

The Church Council reviews its SAFEGUARDING and GDPR Policies each year, and these items are on each Church Council agenda for reporting and updating.

Mission Plan and Circuit Renewal

A comprehensive review of the Circuit, including property, fellowship, finances, worship, mission, ecumenical links etc. was completed in spring 2019. Finchley Methodist Church engaged fully in this process.

COVID 19

Since March COVID 19 has severely impacted the activities of the Church. It has meant that the premises had to be closed for all activities including worship and prayer. Sunday services moved online and printed worship material was sent out by post for those who could not access online resources.

COVID 19 has led to a complete cessation of all lettings on church premises, resulting in a loss of six months' income. In addition, rents for the Essex Park flats were reviewed, and in some cases reduced, to support tenants suffering income loss due to COVID 19. The Church has planned for these challenges to continue into 2020-21.

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2019-20

The Church will await further advice both from the Government and Methodist Church Connexional Team as the lockdown and restrictions ease over the next few months.

It is clear that the Church will need to continue to be flexible in adapting to the new circumstances that COVID 19 has thrust on everyone.

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2019-20

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of the Finchley Methodist Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Finchley Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2020, which are set out on pages 8 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

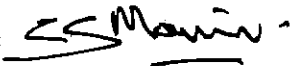
I report in respect of my examination of the Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or

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.

Signed: 

Name of Independent Examiner: Christopher Morris

Relevant professional qualification of Independent Examiner: Chartered Accountant

Name of Firm: Newman Morris

Address: Wellington House, 273 -275 High Street, London Colney, Herts., AL2 1HA

Date: 21/06/2021.

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2019-20

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	36,959		36,959	74,213
a3	Bank and CFB Interest and Investment Income	3,260		3,260	8,089
a4	Lettings	76,777		76,777	98,652
a5	Other receipts	10,818		10,818	1,804
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	127,814		127,814 (a7)	177,758

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	42,100		42,100	40,800
b3	Donations	775		775	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	21,115		21,115	24,091
b5	Utilities (insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	11,143		11,143	21,488
b6					53,630
b7	Other payments	58,463		58,463	
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	133,596		133,596 (b9)	140,007

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	(5,782)		(5,782)	37,750
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	506,846	413	507,259 (c6)	469,509
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	501,064	413	501,477	507,259
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	501,064	413	501,477 (c8)	507,259 (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)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	512	
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	512	
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)		

Church

QUESTION 1

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 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 election must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accounts threshold, then the Accouais method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfer between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					(e)(1)	(e)(2)
Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - Totals column)	127,814 (d)(7)	133,696 (d)(8)	(5,782)	(e)(7)	507,259 (c)(8)	501,477 (c)(9)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	127,814	133,696	(5,782)		507,259 (c)	501,477 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2020	OPENING BALANCES		CLOSING BALANCES	
Cash in hand				
Bank Current Account	66,750		92,048	
Bank Deposit Account				
Central Finance Board	333,604		293,836	
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	114,836		115,594	
Other funds				
SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	501,250	(c8)	501,477	(c8)
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)		(e11)		(e12)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	501,250	(x)	501,477	(y)

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

Investments (include Endorsements)		
Land & Buildings (see notes re insurance value)	3,993,765	3,993,765
Other Assets		
Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
Other Liabilities		

Finchley Methodist Church Trustees' Report & Accounts 2019-20

Name of Church : Finchley Methodist Church
Charity No: 1133907

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 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: 18/06/2021

Name and address of treasurer

HENRY NICHOLAS FORDE

125 Wyndgate, Winchmore Hill

Post Code: N21 1BT

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 15 February 2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Martin Wellings

Name of the Chair of the meeting: MARTIN WELLINGS