



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').

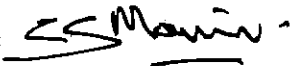
I report in respect of my examination of the Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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
--	--------

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

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					(e1)	(e12)
Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	127,814 (e7)	133,690 (e9)	(5,782)	(e7)	507,259 (e8)	501,477 (e9)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	127,814	133,690	(5,782)		507,259 (x)	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	58,799		92,048	
Bank Deposit Account				
Central Finance Board	333,664		293,836	
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	114,836		115,594	
Other funds				
SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	507,299	(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	507,299	(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