

June 2022 Annual Report of the Avenue Church (Registered Charity 1137080)



The Avenue Church, The Avenue, Newton Abbot TQ12 2BY Minister: Rev. Gill Daniel

Mission Statement:

“The purpose of the Charity is to advance the Christian faith in the Area of Benefit in accordance with the principles and practices of the Participating Churches.”

The Church and Its Services

The Avenue Church is a Local Ecumenical Project made up of people from the Methodist and United Reformed churches, but people from various Christian traditions are regular worshippers with us. The LEP came into being in the year 2000, following an informal sharing agreement which ran for over 15 years. The Avenue Church is the largest of 16 churches in the Teignbridge Methodist Circuit.

The church building was erected in 1966, on the site of the Queen Street Methodist Church, when people from that church and Courtenay Street Methodist Church joined together to form the new congregation. The accommodation is designed on simple, straightforward lines, airy and centrally heated. In the sanctuary there is a gallery and a good, recently refurbished, pipe organ. For the hard of hearing, an effective sound amplification/loop system is in place. A laptop is used to project the words of hymns, readings and other PowerPoint presentations, but hymnbooks and songbooks are still available for those members of the congregation who prefer to use them. During Covid for safety reasons worship moved to an online, Zoom based approach. As the threat of Covid recedes communal worship is returning albeit with some opportunity for change and to try new ideas. These include continuation of the online availability through Youtube streaming and recorded services.

Worship

The Avenue is a friendly church and the worship covers a wide range. On the first Sunday there is a monthly 9.30 am All Age Praise service with an average attendance of 20 people. The weekly Sunday Morning Service at 10:30am has an average attendance of 50-75 adults. On the second Sunday those under 18 attend Sunday Club. On the fourth Sunday there is an All Age Worship service. The Evening Service at 6.30 pm was stopped due to Covid and its long-term future is under review, to meet the changing needs of the congregation.-

The children and family worker supports a number of children and families through pastoral contact, Tea & Tots Group, Catalyst Youth Group and engagement through local schools. Safeguarding policies are fully in place. Jigsaw is an outreach group who are studying the relevance of the Christian faith in the current world.

Other activities

The Avenue Church actively supports Christian Aid (e.g. hosting the Lent Lunches), Action for Children, Homeless in Teignbridge Support (HITS), Rowcroft Hospice (Torquay), and participates fully in Christians Together in Newton Abbot and District. As a Church, we are committed to World Justice Issues, promoting Fair Trade. Newton Abbot is a Fair Trade town. We are also actively reducing use of plastic and targeting zero plastic status.

The Avenue has established a sharing agreement with a local health and well-being charity called KingsCare which uses the church facilities several times a week for some of its activities.

Church Groups and Events

During Covid for safety reasons the majority of these groups were suspended. As the threat of Covid recedes groups and events are gradually returning, albeit with some changes and some may not restart for some time.

Restarted:

- Women's Monday Club
- Tea & Tots Group
- Coffee Mornings
- Prayer Meetings
- House groups
- Bible Study
- Badminton Club
- Lydia's Link friendship and fellowship group for women
- Church Walking Group
- Creative Crafters

Not restarted to date:

- Catalyst Youth Group
- Christmas Market
- Pantomime

Financial Review

The accounts for the year Sep 2020 to Aug 2021 showed a small deficit of receipts versus payments of £4,444 (Receipts being £90,392 while payments were £94,836). Receipts remained significantly impacted by Covid through the year, but the effect was minimal thanks mainly to 3 months cancellation of Teignbridge Methodist Circuit contribution, repeating the help provided in the previous year.

Reserves Policy

The current Reserves policy of the Church aims to have available general funds which equate to six months of revenue expenditure. The Church achieved this target throughout the year and at Aug 2021 had funds of £155,607. The funds which are not already designated to projects or held by Internal Organisations are kept for the maintenance and replacement of Church buildings and assets.

Pastoral Care and Outreach

All members of the church family come under the care of the ministerial team and the dedicated team of pastoral visitors under the leadership of the Pastoral Care Coordinator. The majority of members and some adherents now have an allocated Pastoral Friend, but many groups within the Church also look after each other in that group.

Outreach is very important to the Church and in addition to the impact that the Child/Family support worker is making, many of the Church's activities give benefits to other than Church members and gives the Church an opportunity to deliver the Christian message.

Structure, Governance and Management

In 2010 a new ecumenical constitution was agreed. The church was granted charity status, registration number 1137080. The church trustees, formerly the church council, are responsible for the day to day running of the charity. They have to report to the congregational meeting concerning their activities twice a year. The church manages its affairs through the Trustees, most of whom are responsible for an identified area of church life. The trustees meet regularly under the chairmanship of the minister and report to the wider church meeting. There were no serious incidents during 2020/21 financial year.

Administrative Information

The Avenue Church is situated in the centre of Newton Abbot. The correspondence address is:

Address: The Avenue, Newton Abbot, TQ12 2BY

Telephone: 01626 360 400

E-mail: office@theavenuechurch.co.uk

Website: www.theavenuechurch.co.uk.

Trustees

Church members who are currently serving as Trustees are as follows:-

EX-officio members

Rev. Gill Daniel - Chairperson/Methodist Minister

Elected members

Jean Francis - Worship & Communication

Gill Sinden - Pastoral

Debbie Weible - Children and Youth

Duncan Knight- Treasurer ~~and Resources~~

Julian Thorne - Church Discipleship and Learning

Margaret Fisher - Secretary

Sara Crouch

Sheila Bendall (co-opted)

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

THE AVENUE CHURCH NEWTON ABBOT

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

TEIGNBRIDGE	Circuit	Circuit no	24/28
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1137080

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

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

Minister:

Rev Gill Daniel

Church Trustees:

Margaret Fisher	Jean Francis
Mark Clarvis	Gill Sinden
Debbie Weible	Julian Thorne
Duncan Knight	Anne-Marie Whiting

Treasurer:

Duncan Knight

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	74,676		74,676	73,258
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	5,700		5,700	6,396
a4	Lettings				7,881
a5	Other receipts	2,639	7,375	10,014	34,141
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	83,015	7,375	90,390 (a7)	121,676

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	53,083		53,083	52,879
b3	Donations				1,732
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	4,397		4,397	8,387
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	7,489		7,489	8,118
b6					4,693
b7	Other payments	10,193	19,625	29,817	24,410
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	75,161	19,625	94,785 (b9)	100,219

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	7,854	(12,250)	(4,395)	21,457
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	117,688	37,446	155,134 (c6)	133,677
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	125,542	25,197	150,739	155,134
c4	Transfers and adjustments	250	(250)		(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	125,792	24,947	150,739 (c8)	155,134 (c6)

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

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

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

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	Flower Fund		50	(50)		598	547
e2	Netwrok (MWIB)					136	136
e3	MONDAY Club					900	900
e4	Parents and Toddlers					1,983	1,983
e5	Junior Church	1		1		1,300	1,302
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	1	50	(49)		4,917 (e11)	4,868 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	90,390 (a7)	94,785 (b9)	(4,395)	(c7)	155,134 (c6)	150,739 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	90,392	94,836	(4,444)		160,051 (x)	155,607 (y)
		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

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

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	248	101
f2 Bank Current Account	42,027	22,376
f3 Bank Deposit Account	104,898	110,859
f4 Central Finance Board	7,962	17,403
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	155,134 (c6)	150,739 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	4,917 (e11)	4,868 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	160,051 (x)	155,607 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
g3 Other Assets	161,677	161,677
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Name of ChurchTHE AVENUE CHURCH NEWTON ABBOT..... No...24/28

Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of treasurer  Date 27/3/2022

Name and address of treasurer DUNCAN KNIGHT, 5 LAURESTON ROAD,
NEWTON ABBOT Post Code TQ12 1HN

Presentation to the Church trustees

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

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Gill Daniel

Name of the Chair of the meeting ... Revd Gill Daniel Date 27/3/22

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Avenue Church Newton Abbot

Charity Number 1137080

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of ChurchTHE AVENUE CHURCH NEWTON ABBOT..... No ...24/28....

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 (~~other than that disclosed below*~~) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

I ~~have~~ have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner GLENN BLADON

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate) GLENN BLADON LTD

Address 79 WINDSOR AVENUE

..... NEWTON ABBOT DEVON Post Code TD12 4DP

Date 18/3/22

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Sep-20

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