

**CHRIST CHURCH BRAINTREE METHODIST/UNITED REFORMED
CHURCH LOCAL ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP**

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR END 31ST AUGUST 2023

Christ Church Methodist/URC LEP (the LEP) is a local church of the United Reformed Church and a member church of the Eastern Synod of the URC and a member of the Chelmsford Circuit of the Methodist Church.

It is Registered as a charity under number 1137584. The church is situated on London Road Braintree Essex.

The members of the Elders meeting are the charity trustees. The members who served during the year were:

Beth Gask

Alison Fowler

Melanie Sebley

Margaret Payne

Colin Fowler

Linda Hendry

Rowen Lazarus

The legal title to the church buildings is vested in The United Reformed Church (Eastern Province) Trust as trustee and held on behalf of the LEP in accordance with the trusts applicable to URC church properties and also subject to the Joint Sharing Agreement between the URC and Methodist Church.

The activities, administration care and maintenance of the church are overseen by the Elders meeting in accordance with the Constitution of the LEP. The Elders meeting have the benefit of reports from the Property, Business and Finance groups.

The Elders meeting has met monthly for either Business or Devotional and Development meetings; we also meet monthly on the first Saturday for a prayer breakfast at the Toby Carvery.

We spent time looking at 'The Bible Course' (by Andrew Ollerton) before studying this as a church last May which went very well; and the 'How to Pray' course (by Pete Greig) which we have just completed in our Life Groups over February and March, to encourage us all in our prayer lives both individually and as a church.

Our church mission events over the last year have included: 'Left to Their Own Devices' Care for the Family course in May; Doug Horley's 'Bubble Praise Party' Synod event held here in June; Family Fun Mornings during the school holidays led by our Family Link Worker, and a Holiday Club in August led by Nicola Grieves from Synod. We also did a 'Hope Mission' in the Clare Road area with carol singing at Christmas.

Our Youth group attended the "Dreaming the Impossible" event in the Summer instead of Soul Survivor which they had gone to in previous years. They also took part in several local URC youth events. To support the cost of these trips they have, among other things, held a car wash and afternoon creams teas.

We hosted a 'U R Loved' event with a visit from Simon Pinchbeck of 'Tough Talk'.

We are continuing in our endeavour to promote the valuable work we do at Christ Church and are currently seeking various ways to do this including looking at our website and social media, although progress is slow. As Trustees we therefore seek to support and facilitate Braintree Area Foodbank (our Church is one of it's bases), Saturday coffee mornings, weekly lunch club, a twice weekly Tots "R" Us session, children and youth activities on a Friday evening and Sunday morning and two services on a

Sunday (traditional and modern), both of which are live streamed on YouTube, and a Sunday afternoon service once a quarter.

As Trustees of Christ Church, we review our safeguarding policies each year and have spent considerable time discussing church finances with David Gask the Church Treasurer regarding the increasing costs of utility bills and church expenditure.

Approved by Elders meeting on 3rd June 2024

Signed 

Gillian East Chair of Trustees

**CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS**

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Christ Church Braintree	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

Chelmsford	Circuit	Circuit no	34/9
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1137584

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

Minister:

Revd David Sebley

Church Stewards:

Gillian East	Margaret Payne
Colin Fowler	Alison Fowler
Linda Hendry	Melanie Sebley
Beth Gask	

Treasurer:

David Gask

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Christ Church Braintree

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		91,559	0	91,559
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		309	0	309
a4	Lettings		18,676	0	18,676
a5	Other receipts		11,123	20,683	31,806
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		121,667	20,683	142,350 (a7)
					122,826

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		51,622	51,622	56,855
b3	Donations		0	0	0
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		26,024	3,000	29,024
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		16,883	6,615	23,498
b6	Mission payments		4,240	6,666	10,906
b7	Other payments		15,085	4,063	19,148
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		113,854	20,344	134,198 (b9)
					117,504

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	7,813	339	8,152		5,322
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		35,797	23,951	59,748	(c6)	54,426
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	43,610	24,290	67,900		59,748
c4	Transfers and adjustments		0	0	0	(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	43,610	24,290	67,900	(c8)	59,748 (c6)

SECTION D		£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	0	
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)	0	0

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 2023 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			0			0
e2			0			0
e3			0			0
e4			0			0
e5			0			0
e6			0			0
e7			0			0
Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0	0	0	0	0 (c11)	0 (e12)
Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	142,350 (a7)	134,198 (b9)	8,152	(c7)	59,748 (c6)	67,900 (c8)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	142,350	134,198	8,152	0	59,748 (x)	67,900 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	80	80
f2 Bank Current Account	44,840	26,746
f3 Bank Deposit Account	14,828	41,074
f4 Central Finance Board		
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	59,748 (c6)	67,900 (c8)
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	59,748 (x)	67,900 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities	2,800	400

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)

DECLARATION

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all

Signature of Treasurer



Date

6/11/22

Name

David Gask

Address

109 The Street, Black Notely, Braintree, Essex, CM77 8LL

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on
and were approved.

6/11/23

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

Revd David Sebley

Date

6/11/23



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Christ Church Braintree

On accounts for the year
ended

31 August 2023

Charity no
(if any) 1137584

Set out on pages

One to four

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 08 / 2023.

As the charity'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 Trust'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 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 which gives me
cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130
of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting 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:

Date:

6/11/23

Name:

Andrew Robert Graham Green

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA

Address:

The Maltings, Rosemary Lane, Halstead, Essex, CO9 1HZ