

Trustees' Report on 2025

2025 was a big year in the life of Central Church.

We started the year with a determination to improve our financial situation and the Trustees made the decision to refurbish and let the old caretaker's flat attached to the Church in order to bring in some rental income but also to stop unnecessary expenses being incurred such as the Council Tax. Work was completed in March and, after one potential tenant falling through, was eventually let in July.

The tenants in our manse at Quinta Road gave notice at the end of 2024 and, after a refresh costing just over £2000, we were able to secure new tenants in February 2025 and to increase the rent to current market levels.

The Trustees also made the decision to invest in a card machine and this was installed in the summer and has been bringing in much needed donations.

On the 3rd June we kicked off a 15 month period of celebrations for our Golden Anniversary. The foundation stone of Central Church was laid by The Bishop of Exeter on the 3rd June 1975 and we started with an Anniversary Service. After a re-dedication of the stone by Bishop Mark Rylands, greetings and prayers of support were conveyed by the Methodist District Chair, Reverend Dr. Daniel Haylett, by the Moderator of The South West Province of the URC, Reverend David Downing, and the Methodist Deputy Regional Chair, the Reverend Kevin Hooke. All remarked on the contribution Central had made to many lives in both the community and beyond through its witness on the Hill during the past fifty years. These thoughts were shared by Bishop Mark Rylands in his sermon that celebrated the local work that Central Church has done, together with other churches in Torquay. The role of the church as a place to care for the vulnerable was particularly highlighted. We are the Living Stones on which the Church is built.

To continue our celebrations, the planning group decided that there would be, if possible, an event each month and so in July we were honoured to have a visit from our MP Steve Darling with his Guide Dog Jenny. The 49th Anniversary of the actual opening was remembered on Sunday 7th September when the Moderator of the South West Province of the URC David Downing returned to lead worship. At the end of September we were thrilled to have a weekend visit from Paul Jones (formerly of Manfred Mann) and his wife Fiona who led many sessions about their faith.

In October Jonathan Oliverio and Elsa Lewis led an afternoon of Vintage Gospel singing and at the end of that month Barbara Gissinger arranged an afternoon with Julie Sissons and Hannah Spooner called "Those Were The Days". All the anniversary events have been well supported and very enjoyable.

Unfortunately, on Sunday 19th October our gas boiler broke down with two different problems. Although we initially planned to repair the boiler, albeit with a 4-5 week delivery time on the parts, we were given the shock news 3 weeks into the waiting time that the suppliers had made the parts obsolete. We were left without heat for the rest of the Autumn and into the Winter.

As we look forward and trust in God's guiding hand, we are looking into various heating systems and considering going green particularly as both our parent bodies are hoping to hit net zero by 2030. As we end the year with our extra clothes for warmth, this is an ongoing situation which we hope will be resolved in 2026.

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Central Church Torquay	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 December 2025

Torbay	Circuit	Circuit no	24/08
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1144910

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

ZD06927

(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 Jeff Short

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Church Stewards:

The Church Council Members

Treasurer:

Miss Jan Newman

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ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Central Church
Torquay

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	49,572	1,468	51,040	52,109
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	1,713	2,673	4,386	1,887
a4	Lettings	44,249		44,249	37,086
a5	Other receipts	39,973		39,973	15,933
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	135,507	4,141	139,648 (a7)	107,015
SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	35,716		35,716	34,358
b3	Donations	1,286		1,286	963
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	22,688	1,970	24,658	14,954
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	23,089		23,089	33,348
b6					
b7	Other payments	33,575		33,575	32,215
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	116,354	1,970	118,324 (b9)	115,838
SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	19,153	2,171	21,324	(8,823)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year (8,823)	41,470	69,255	110,725 (c6)	119,548
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	60,623	71,426	132,049	110,725
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	60,623	71,426	132,049 (c8)	110,725 (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				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			373	299
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			373	299
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 December 2025 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
c1 Central Singers	304		304		6,699	7,003
c2 Busy Bees	479	961	(482)		512	30
c3 Central Tots	126	212	(86)		91	5
c4 Catering	708	253	455			455
c5						
c6						
c7						
c8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	1,617	1,426	191		7,302 (e11)	7,493 (e12)
c9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	139,648 (a7)	118,324 (b9)	21,324	(c7)	110,725 (c6)	132,049 (c8)
c10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	141,265	119,750	21,515		118,027 (x)	139,542 (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 December 2025	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	20,616	32,441
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	90,109	99,608
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	110,725 (c6)	132,049 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	7,302 (e11)	7,493 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	118,027 (x)	139,542 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES	At 1 January 2025	At 31 December 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	28,649	27,481
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Name of Church CENTRAL CHURCH TORQUAY

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 December 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 Jan Newman Date 17/3/2026

Name and address of treasurer - Jan Newman

21 Cecilia Road, Paignton..... Post Code TQ3 1BD

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 16/4/2026

Signature of the Chair of the meeting J M Short

Name of the Chair of the meeting REV JEFFREY M SHORT Date 16.4.2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

CENTRAL CHURCH TORQUAY

Charity Number 1144910

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Central Church for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Name of Church CENTRAL CHURCH TORQUAY

Independent Examiner's Statement

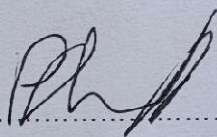
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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

PAUL SHERIFF

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

FRICS

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 24 Lydwell Park Road

Wellwood, Torquay

Post Code TQ1 3TQ

Date

04/04/2026

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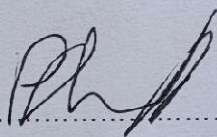
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Signature of independent examiner



Name of independent examiner

PAUL SHERIFF

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

FRICS

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 24 Lydwell Park Road

Wellwood, Torquay

Post Code TQ1 3TQ

Date

04/04/2026