

# **NEW CROSS COMMUNITY CHURCH**



**The Annual Report of the Local Ecumenical Partnership**

**For the period November 2021- October 2022**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*New Cross Community Church is called to respond  
in worship, discipleship, mission and service  
to the good news of God's love in Christ*

### **DISTINCTIVE VALUES**

- ✓ We recognise that Jesus Christ is the “Head of the Church” and that as the “Body of Christ” the church exists for a purpose.
- ✓ We continue to value our Anglican and Methodist heritage and seek to further promote our Ecumenical Partnership.
- ✓ Everyone who belongs to the church has a vital contribution to make.
- ✓ We accept that the church has to adapt to the challenges and the needs of an ever-changing world.
- ✓ Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world and the message of “good news” that the church proclaims is the means by which people of all ages come into life-changing relationship with God.
- ✓ The Christian life is a life of right relationships, with God, with ourselves, with others and with the world.
- ✓ The Bible is the authoritative standard for Christian living and practice.

- ✓ Prayer is the necessary activity of every Christian.
- ✓ We believe that the “pictures” given in the New Testament of the church as an assembly, a body, a bride, a temple, a family and an army are intended to shape the life of the church today.
- ✓ The main aspects of church life are identified as follows:

Worship

Ministry, Nurture and Pastoral Care

Evangelism

Serving the Local Community

Stewardship

World Mission

## **INTRODUCTION & HOW WE ARE STRUCTURED CURRENTLY**

New Cross Community Church is an LEP (local ecumenical partnership) between the Church of England and Methodist church. However, we have a smattering of other parts of the Christian family engaging in worship and witness in the New Cross area of Sutton- in Ashfield where the church is based. We came together in 2000 at a time when the two congregations felt that God was moving them to join together to further the kingdom.

Ministerial leadership is given by Rev. Peter Taylor from the Methodist Church, Rev. Julie Cotterill from the Church of England until May, when Rev Julie moved onto another parish. Rev Pat Hemstock (Area Dean) took an over seeing role. The Church Council, elected at the AGM are responsible for all aspects of the church, and is comprised of 9 members, Joanne Parr, Fiona Hodgson, Michelle Chadwick, Lee Fletcher, Kevin Freer, Adrian Self, Methodist Circuit representative Margaret Lee and the afore mentioned Ministers. The council meets approximately 6 times a year. Fiona Hodgson, Lee Fletcher and Kevin Freer resigned from the EEC later in the year for various reasons. We are looking for more people to volunteer to be on the ECC to help the leadership team to move the church forwards.

In the background are many people who do many things that allow the church to exist and continue to fulfil the vision of when the LEP came into existence. An advance THANK YOU to all who do so much.

## **OUR MEMBERSHIP & CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

The membership of the church has an interesting levelling effect. We meet together as a worshipping community and the distinctions of the parental churches are blurred to give New Cross a unique way in which it operates and worships.

We have two services on a Sunday at 9.30am and 11.00am. We also have some outreach “services” at the local schools, led by Rev Julie Cotterill and a hard working and dedicated team. We also have extra services at times in the year when appropriate.

Church attendance has slowly started to increase since the pandemic but has not reached its pre pandemic numbers.

## **OUR SERVICES**

Unfortunately, since the covid pandemic, some of our members have not returned to Sunday Worship but we are so thankful for those members, who in spite of not being able to attend, still kindly support the work of the church financially. We remember and miss all those members of the congregation who are no longer with us. Thanks to all who have played a part over the last year in making it so the church can function with all of its worship and activities especially Rev Peter Taylor, Rev Julie Cotterill, Hilary, Joanne, Michelle, Adrian and Kevin. Thanks also to the Rev Angie Smyth for stepping in covering the Anglican services.

11 Alive have met trying different ways to engage families. Two weeks in the month we go deeper with teaching, two other weeks we spend more time in worship and prayer and an activity, for instance making banners. We are looking into ideas to replace 11 Alive as numbers have fallen and doesn't seem to be reaching people as it did.

## **REPORTS FROM OUR MINISTERS REV PETER TAYLOR AND REV ANGIE SMYTHE.**

### **“THE CHURCH AS A DESERT LANDSCAPE?”**

Dear New Cross friends,

As I write we are well underway with the calendar year, 2023 and in the church calendar I write this message on Ash Wednesday, the start of LENT.

I wonder as we move from one month to another, what changes may come this year individually and together as New Cross Community LEP Church? Last year was one of quite a bit of change and turbulence for us as a church. Julie moved onto pastures new down the road at St. Mary Magdalene. Some members left the church, some have not returned for all sorts of reasons. I am sure like me, you are wondering what the Diocese may or may not do in terms of ordained, shared input? I hope we may have some clarity on this soon.

*“See a king will reign in righteousness..like streams of water in the DESERT.” (Isaiah 32:1-2)* Ann Lewin puts it like this in her poem on Lent:

*“Lent is a time to learn to travel. Light to clear the clutter from our crowded lives, and find a space, a desert.*

*Deserts are bleak: no creature comforts, only a vast expanse of stillness, sharpening awareness of ourselves and God.*

*Uncomfortable places, deserts.*

*Most of the time we’re tempted to avoid them, finding good reasons to live lives of ease.. to stave off fear.*

*But if we dare to trust the silence, to strip away our false security,*

*God can begin to grow his wholeness in us,*

*Fill up his emptiness, destroy our fears.*

*Give us new vision, courage for the journey,*

*And make our desert blossom like a tree.”*

Perhaps we as church can feel like a desert. Moses and others wandered in the desert for years. Deserts are perhaps not natural places for us to go to, but the early church people, often known as the Desert Fathers & mothers sought to go and learn from such places. Rowan Williams wrote: *“What is to be learned in the desert is to be a means of reconciliation and healing for others. You flee to the desert not to escape neighbours (or issues) but to grasp more fully what the neighbour is- the way to life for you, to the degree that you put yourself at their disposal in connecting them with God.”* (Silence & Honey cakes-the wisdom of the desert, 2003)

‘Uncomfortable places’ writes Ann Lewin in her poem (above). Perhaps we have some *uncomfortable questions, concerns (and answers)* about our church community? We have to acknowledge such questions. How is the church going to work in the future? Are we working as well as we can as an Ecumenical Partnership? One rather pragmatic and practical question to YOU is this: Will you consider coming onto the Church Council? We really do need a few more people to be on the ECC. This is so that we can be viable and that we have a good range of people- with different feelings & gifts- to represent the church. Please, will you think and pray about this.

Soon (Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm) this church will meet with the Circuit Leadership team for a conversation and sharing time. I ask you all to come along to this. I also hope that soon Archdeacon Tors will meet with us as a church. Such gatherings need a Spirit of openness, a willingness to speak up and freely, not to grumble in quiet after the event. It might feel uncomfortable, but Christian discipleship is not easy or clear. Sometimes it is uncomfortable and hard, but if we dare to trust God, then God will give us vision and ‘courage for the journey.’

We have much to be thankful for. There are things being done practically and spiritually- be it general repairs, sorting out rotas, or an Alpha course, or encouraging people to grow Spiritually. Sunday Worship numbers have picked up slightly, although we do need to ponder and ask where are some of our members? **If the church feels in an uncomfortable (desert like) place, perhaps each of us could ask ourselves, What can I dare to BE, SAY & DO for this Church?**

My thanks go to the Leadership team, and to all who help this church in so many ways. Thank you for being part of New Cross. God Bless you this year,

Rev. Pete (Methodist & Ecumenical minister)

## Report to AGM of New Cross Church by Revd Angie Smythe

I think it was about a year ago I first came to New Cross this time round and I have been coming ever since once a month except for Holidays and I also come for Remembrance Day. I also have been invited to the ECC. All the time I am learning.

It is my pleasure to come to New Cross and to meet up with the Brothers and Sisters.

New Cross a hidden community to those outside; the church being in a key place.

When are we going to start shaking hands or even hugging?

I suppose my role is one of encouragement and to hold up the Anglican end of things. We all realize that this is some sort of irony, we are playing out, as very few people 20 years on seem to be distinctively Methodist or Anglican.

More Anglidists or Methicans.

Maybe it's, more thinking about where we came from. But there are those too who have grown out of the ecumenical church who are the new originals.

Revd Peter Taylor is the lead minister at present until the church of England and us find someone for him to co-lead with again. This is a good time for us to thank Peter for that lead and also all the pulling together he does and also the practical organisation. This is very much appreciated.

We realize we are one church in six!

Being ecumenical from what I can see, can be very complicated with different forms and criteria and similar roles called different things but what's so good is everyone deals with this very well and moves on to what's important; that loving Jesus and trying to love each other and being an outside in Church.

During this year I have seen people becoming more confident in their roles as an organization and speaking to authority. I hope this is accompanied by a growing personal faith and a stepping out one? Only you can answer that!

You lovely people.

## **DIOCESE DEANERY CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT**

Newstead Deanery Synod

Methodist Circuit

Joanne Parr and Michelle Chadwick are your Methodist Circuit representatives and they have attended meetings around the circuit representing New Cross. We meet every 3 months to discuss matters concerning the Methodist Churches in our circuit. They report back to the ECC what had been discussed. Matters raised included finance, property, safeguarding and special announcements.

Newstead Deanery Synod meets around 4 times a year. Joanne Parr and Michelle Chadwick are our Deanery Reps.

## **THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH**

During this year there have been things to celebrate

### **LLM ( Licensed Lay Ministry)**

Congratulation to Joanne Parr who was accepted for LLM training with the Southwell Diocese.

### **Hall bookings**

This year the Academy Transformation Trust Further Education have hired the building for some of its courses. We also continue to hire it as a polling station.

### **Safeguarding**

Gemma Self is the named safeguarding representative, the policy has been updated. A reminder safeguarding training takes place at times during the year through the circuit and Rev Peter Taylor does the DBS

### **Prayer chain**

The prayer chain has been a valuable source of prayer especially through this time of the pandemic. They commit to praying, confidentially, for 48 hours and longer if needed. There have been many answered prayers and our faith is ever increased. Thank you for all those on our prayer chain for this valuable gift.

### **Giggles-Girls in God Growing Loving Eating and Sharing**

A group comprising of 29-30 women. We meet monthly for prayer, a meal, friendship and activities. We have speakers and theme nights. All women are welcome.

### **Tuesday's at 2**

A group of 20-30 ladies and gentlemen that love to get together for bingo and a good chat. This group is always busy.

### **Toddlers**

Toddler group has 20-25 plus parents attend the group on a Monday morning. The children enjoy their routine and know when it is time to tidy up. A lot of new children attend and some that will be soon leaving us. The group is run by Joanne and Vanessa.

### **Choir**

10-14 people meet on Tuesday evenings. They enjoy singing and learning songs old and new. The choir performed along with the Parish Players for their Christmas play.

### **Food Hygiene Course**

The course was taken by 7 volunteers, they all passed.

### **Community Work**

A group of people visit Sutton Day Care Centre, we told the Christmas story and sang carols. The visit was well received and it is hoped that the visits will continue.

**Disco/Bingo**

These evenings are very well attended of 50 plus people. It happens on a monthly basis they enjoy both Christian and secular music with games and food.

**Mens Group**

A small group of men meet up monthly. We enjoy meeting for food, friendship and a chat.





New Cross LEP Church Accounts  
1st November 2021 - 31st October 2022

		2020-2021
<b>INCOME</b>		
Offering (including Gift Aid & special services)	£9,332	£15,969
Lettings - Room Hire	£10,835	£6,655
Other Receipts:	£7,395	
Funerals and Banns	£977	£2,069
Charity Collections (Open Plate, Brown Box)	£353	£0
Church Events	£648	£0
Messy Church	£0	£0
Toddlers	£599	£0
Giggles	£352	£0
Bingo	£1,242	£0
Choir	£655	£0
Funding (Restricted)	£2,025	£550
Salary - Furlough	£0	£1,293
Interest	£12	£0
Donations	£533	£12,913
	<b><u>£27,562</u></b>	<b>£39,450</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Circuit Assessment and Parish Share	£17,283	£15,461
Donations	£0	£0
Repairs and Maintenance	£1,463	£205
Utilities	£3,693	£2,621
Restricted Funds	£579	£550
Other Payments:	£5,548	
Stationery/cleaning/maintenace items	£412	£58
Funeral Costs Diocese	£344	£1,132
Salaries + Admin charge	£3,212	£3,214
Bank Account Fee	£88	£95
Choir	£55	£0
Donation Envelopes	£0	£76
Craft items	£0	£45
Gifts & Cards	£253	£297
CCLI	£368	£326
Training	£245	£225
Independent Examiner	£100	£100
Broadband	£472	£432
	<b><u>£28,566</u></b>	<b>£24,837</b>
Opening Bank Balances	£27,800	
Closing Bank Balances	£26,796	

Balance sheet as at year ending 31st October 2022

Opening Balance CAF Bank	£26,566	
Opening balance Lloyds	£230	
	<u>£26,796</u>	

Receipts into CAF Bank	£27,562	
Receipts into Lloyds	£0	
	<u>£27,562</u>	

Purchases through CAF bank	£28,566	
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Balance shown as at 31st October 2021

CAF bank	£26,566	
Lloyds	£230	£230
	<u>£26,796</u>	

Unrestricted Funds CAF bank	£24,570	£24,570
Restricted cash Caf Bank	£1,996	£1,996
Restricted Funds Southwell	£18,925	
Unrestricted Funds Southwell	<u>£11,006</u>	£29,931

Interest	£394	
Endowment	£3,348	
Interest	£1,053	
	<u>£61,522</u>	

Balance Sheet 31/10/22

Cash in Banks etc	£61,522
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Represented by	
Revenue Balance	£57,121
Endowment Restricted Funds	<u>£4,402</u>
	<u>£61,522</u>

## THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

New Cross Community LEP	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 October 2022

Borders Mission	Circuit	Circuit no.	22/13
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**Registered Charity - Charity Registration number**

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:

Peter Taylor (Methodist Presbyter) & In Vacancy (Anglican)

Church Stewards:

Joanne Parr
Michelle Chadwick

Treasurer:

Michelle Chadwick

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Note</b>			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	9,332		<b>9,332</b>	14,563
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income				131
a4	Lettings	10,835		<b>10,835</b>	6,655
a5	Other receipts	5,370	2,025	<b>7,395</b>	18,101
a6	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>25,537</b>	<b>2,025</b>	<b>27,562 (a7)</b>	<b>39,450</b>

SECTION B					
b1	<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	17,283		<b>17,283</b>	15,461
b3	Donations				
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	1,463		<b>1,463</b>	206
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	3,693		<b>3,693</b>	2,621
b6					
b7	Other payments	5,548	579	<b>6,127</b>	6,549
b8	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>27,987</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>28,566 (b9)</b>	<b>24,837</b>

SECTION C					
c1	<b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(a6-b8)</b>	<b>(2,450)</b>	<b>1,446</b>	<b>(1,004)</b>
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		36,620	21,111	<b>57,731 (c6)</b>
c3	<b>Sub total</b>	<b>(c1+c2)</b>	<b>34,170</b>	<b>22,557</b>	<b>56,727</b>
c4	Transfers and adjustments				<b>(c7)</b>
c5	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>(c3+c4)</b>	<b>34,170</b>	<b>22,557</b>	<b>56,727 (c8)</b>
					<b>57,731 (c6)</b>

SECTION D			
<b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b>			
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		
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
d4	<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID</b>		
	<b>(d1+d2-d3)</b>		



**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 October 2022 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						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)				(e11)	(e12)
e10	<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>				<b>57,731</b> (c6)	<b>56,727</b> (c8)
	27,562 (a7)	28,566 (b9)	(1,004)	(c7)		
	27,562	28,566	(1,004)		57,731 (x)	56,727 (y)
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>				

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 2022**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	27,800	26,796
f3 Bank Deposit Account	11,006	11,006
f4 Central Finance Board		
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds	18,925	18,925
f7 <b>SUB TOTAL - Church accounts</b>	<b>57,731</b> (c6)	<b>56,727</b> (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 <b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>	<b>57,731</b> (x)	<b>56,727</b> (y)

**SECTION G****OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 November 2021	At 31 October 2022
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	4,344	4,401
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,319,787	1,732,283
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 New Cross Community No. ....

## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 October 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 [Signature] Date 18/3/23  
Name and address of treasurer Michelle Chadwick, 4, Beeley  
Ave S-1-A Notts Post Code NG17 1GF

### Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 <sup>October</sup> ~~August~~ 2022 were/will be\* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on .....

Signature of the Chair of the meeting [Signature]  
Name of the Chair of the meeting PETER TAYLOR Date 31/3/23

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

New Cross Community Church

Charity Number .....

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the New Cross Community Church for the year ended 31 <sup>October</sup> ~~August~~ 2022 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').

Name of Church New Cross Community Church No 22/13

### 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, 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.
- [the [the

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the 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 Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner Joanne Docherty

Name of independent examiner JOANNE DOCHERTY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACCA

Name of firm (where appropriate) .....

Address 4 LARCHDALE CLOSE, BROADMEADOWS,

ALFRETON, DERBYSHIRE Post Code DE55 3NZ

Date 7/3/23

\* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-22



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