

# **NEW CROSS COMMUNITY CHURCH**



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

**For the period November 2023- October 2024**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**New Cross Church- ‘A Community of FAITH, HOPE & LOVE to ALL.’**

**We are located in the New Cross area of the town of Sutton in Ashfield, North Nottinghamshire. We meet as ONE Church with two distinct strands; New Cross Community Church is a partnership of The Methodist Church & The Church of England-known as a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) The LEP has been in place since 2000.**

**As a Community of FAITH, HOPE & LOVE, we strive to BE, SAY & DO all of this (M&V Statement) in Worship, Discipleship, Mission & Service. We are committed to share the good news of God’s love in Christ, in this part of town. We seek to be SALT & LIGHT for and with New Cross.**

**We want to encourage each other and all people to learn more about the Christian way; to follow Jesus Christ in FAITH- to have the HOPE that Jesus brings; to LOVE others as Jesus loves us and all. We want- in the power of God, Jesus & the Holy Spirit- to be a Community that grows in FAITH, HOPE & LOVE”**

### **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, there is oversight given by the Church of England. The Church Council, elected at the AGM are responsible for all aspects of the church, and is comprised of 7 members, Joanne Parr, Saralee Parr, Michelle Chadwick, Vanessa Keeling, Lynne Sykes, Gemma Self and Adrian Self, Methodist Circuit representative Margaret Lee and the afore mentioned Minister. The council meets approximately 4 times a year.

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 one service on a Sunday at 10.00 a.m. We also have begun to hold a Messy Church once a month with the option to make it more regular if it is well received. We also have extra services at times in the year when appropriate.

Church attendance is stable averaging between 16 and 20 per week.

## OUR SERVICES

Our services continue to reflect the unique nature of the LEP. We have two services per month reflecting the Anglican style of worship and two reflecting the Methodist style of worship. 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, Adam, Joanne, Michelle, Adrian.

## REPORT FROM OUR MINISTER REV PETER TAYLOR.

### Costly times & comfort times?

*“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” Mark 8:34*

Dear New Cross Church,

As Jesus reminded his disciples (above) Christian faith and discipleship can be hard and costly. Another year passes by in the life of New Cross Local Ecumenical Partnership/LEP Church. Last Autumn we had an interesting and challenging meeting as we and representatives from our partner churches shared thoughts and feelings. Whilst it may have felt a bit tense, I do think it helped us to keep thinking and helped us to be open and honest with each other. Our partner denominations do need to think: **What is the purpose of the LEP in this place? And, Is it working?**

**Remember, YOU and I on the ground at New Cross, need to keep grappling with those questions** (and other questions) also.

I write as we are at the mid-point of **Lent**. Lent reminds us that Christian faith is not about being comfortable. Christian service is about God, it is not about us. Church life is not about making us comfortable. Don't misunderstand me, our support for each other and God's love and compassion bring us comfort at those points when we need to lean in hard to the love and power of God- The Father, The Son & The Holy Spirit.

I give my **Thanks** to all those who serve this church in a variety of ways. Thank you to our Ecumenical wardens, Joanne & Michelle for all they do for the church here and across both denominations. Thank you to Adrian and Jayne for their support and for the ways they serve the church in worship and governance. Thankyou to everyone who is committed to our worship week by week. Thank you to those ministers, preachers and musicians across

our partner denominations who serve and help us. And Thank you to ALL who help with events across the week in this place.

In my monthly role as a Chaplain to the staff at Idlewells, I was asked last year by the centre manager to do some **'inspirational quotes'** for each month. These are displayed around the centre. I share a few here with you, so that they may encourage you. The first one is a short one that I have used in the centre. The other two I have used in prayers and worship are a bit longer and a bit more 'churchy', but I hope they encourage you.

***"Without darkness, nothing comes to birth, As without light, nothing flowers."*** (May Sarton, Poet)

***May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us."*** (St. Teresa of Avila)

***All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well"*** (Mother Julian of Norwich)

Finally, we move on towards **Easter** and beyond, we hold onto these inspirational words from the Bible: ***"I am the Resurrection & the Life."*** John11:25

In the **costly times and the comfort times**, may **God Bless you this year**,  
Rev. Peter Taylor (Methodist & Ecumenical Minister)

## **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. They meet every 3 months to discuss matters concerning the Methodist Churches in our circuit. They report back to the ECC what has 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**

We also continue to hire the building 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 is still active. This is a small group of people who, when contacted, hold people up in prayer. All information regarding people who want prayer is confidential.

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

Giggles is still a popular group, meeting monthly on a Friday night to share a meal, activities, speakers and often a testimony. Some of the meetings have been based on a theme. Thanks are extended to all who help to run the group.

### **New Cross Community Bingo**

A group of 20-30 ladies and gentlemen meet between 1.00 and 3.00 p.m. on a Tuesday to play bingo for small prizes and a good chat. This group is always busy.

### **Toddlers**

The toddler group is a popular group with families the group meets on Monday mornings between 9.30 and 11.00 a.m. The children enjoy snacks, Christian activities, a safe environment in which to play and singing.

### **Choir**

A group of 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.

### **Children's Disco**

Children and families enjoy the discos.

### **Holiday Club**

Holiday club runs during some of the school holidays, the families are offered breakfast, craft activities and a time of fun.

The church and hall is hired to various groups and individuals during the year either for birthday parties of groups who hire the hall on a regular basis.

**Thanks are extended to all who have contributed to the running of this church and its endeavors to reach out to the people of New Cross.**



## THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

New Cross Community Church LEP	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

<b>Borders Mission</b>	<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Circuit no.</b>	<b>22/13</b>
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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 Presbyterian) & 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	6,901		<b>6,901</b>	9,332
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	38		<b>38</b>	
a4	Lettings	4,670		<b>4,670</b>	10,835
a5	Other receipts	10,055	1,905	<b>11,960</b>	7,395
a6	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>21,664</b>	<b>1,905</b>	<b>23,569 (a7)</b>	<b>27,562</b>

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	15,736		<b>15,736</b>	17,283
b3	Donations				
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	20,888		<b>20,888</b>	1,463
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	4,106		<b>4,106</b>	3,693
b6					
b7	Other payments	5,398	365	<b>5,763</b>	6,127
b8	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>46,128</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>46,493 (b9)</b>	<b>28,566</b>

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(24,464)	1,540	(22,924)		(1,004)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		34,170	22,557	56,727	(c6)	57,731
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	9,706	24,097	33,803		56,727
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	9,706	24,097	33,803	(c8)	56,727 (c6)

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 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							
e2							
e3							
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					(e11)	(e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	23,569 (a7)	46,493 (b9)	(22,924)	(c7)	56,727 (c6)	33,803 (c8)
e10	<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>	<b>23,569</b>	<b>46,493</b>	<b>(22,924)</b>		<b>56,727 (x)</b>	<b>33,803 (y)</b>
		<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 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1		
f2	26,796	3,872
f3	11,006	11,006
f4		
f5		
f6	18,925	18,925
f7	<b>56,727 (c6)</b>	<b>33,803 (c8)</b>
f8	(e11)	(e12)
f9	<b>56,727 (x)</b>	<b>33,803 (y)</b>

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

	At 1 November 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1	4,401	4,401
g2	1,732,283	1,732,283
g3		
g4		
g5		

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 CHURCH No.....

## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 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 29/11/23

Name and address of treasurer 4, Beoley Avenue

S-1-A North Post Code NG17 1GF.

### Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/will be\* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on .....

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting ..... Date .....

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

.....Church

Charity Number .....

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the ..... Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 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 Church ...New Cross Community Church..... No .....

### 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 ..... JOANNE DOCHERTY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ..... FCCA

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

Address ..... 4 LARCHDALE CLOSE, BROADMEADOWS,  
..... SOUTH NORMANTON, DERBYSHIRE ..... Post Code DE55 3NZ

Date ..... 26/11/23

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Charity Number .....

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Signature of independent examiner ..... 

Name of independent examiner ..... JOANNE DOCHERTY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ..... FCCA

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

Address ..... 4 LARCHDALE CLOSE, BROADMEADOWS,

..... SOUTH NORMANTON, DERBYSHIRE ..... Post Code DE55 3NZ

Date ..... 26/11/23

\* delete or circle as appropriate