

NO 2

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BY EMAIL TO THURSDAY

LYNDON METHODIST CHURCH

Melton Avenue
Solihull
West Midlands
B92 7QX

Telephone: 07930 617301

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

September, 2024 - August, 2025

Lyndon Methodist Church

Melton Avenue

Solihull

West Midlands

B92 7QX

Charity No.: 1150167

Website: www.lyndonmethodist.org.uk

E-mail. lyndonmethodist@btconnect.com

TRUSTEES AND MANAGEMENT

The Church belongs to the Birmingham Methodist Circuit and the Minister who had overall Pastoral Charge for Lyndon during this period was Rev Karen Webber. With effect from 1st September Rev Webber no longer has Pastoral Charge for Lyndon and a New Minister has taken over this responsibility, namely Rev Joseph Ribeiro.

The Church is overseen by a group of Trustees who make up a good cross section from the Church Community. Some are Leaders from the various groups within the Church and the rest are elected democratically at the Annual Church Meeting. All represent the interests of the Congregation in general.

One longstanding Trustee, Chris Rowe, retired in March, 2025 after serving on the Council for many years.

The Trustees elected to the Church Council at present are as under noted:-

Rev Karen Webber
Claire Frew
Lorraine Sibson
John Evans
Anne Moseley
Janet Rudge
Sarah Marks
Pam Walton
Hazel Kench
Tony Ludlow
Ian Smith
Jayne Kilding
Jo Hancock
Roger Hancock
Lynne Tyler
Kate Collen
Trevor Bodfish
Ermine Mitchell
Indira Costa-Silva
Angela Millgate
Marion Painter
Mahya Sadat Tazh
Aghadas Shah Baz
Jez Wassall

Council Meetings normally take place three times a year and they are supported by having Management Group Meetings held on a regular basis, where a smaller Group meet to arrange routine matters and report back to Church Council on more complex matters for them to deliberate and decide the way forward.

There is a Morning Service every Sunday in which endeavours are made to cover all age groups. Young children are encouraged to join 'Time Out' where they go and pursue their own activities. Special Services take place at various times throughout the year in an endeavour to offer a wide variety of different formats to be inclusive to all. Once a month a Service is held early evening which is of special relevance to those with learning difficulties but is open to anyone.

Lyndon endeavours to support local causes as well as helping causes within this Country as well as worldwide. Throughout the year Lyndon supports a number of Charities. Locally we primarily

support our sister Church by giving to their Food Pantry by way of individual donations of food produce and at times monetary gifts in addition to other local causes. At National Level, we support some Methodist Run charities mainly and worldwide we are involved with the Leprosy Mission.

REPORT BY SENIOR STEWARD - CLAIRE FREW

Since I started as Senior Steward in May I have seen a wide variety of Services at Lyndon. We are regularly attended by 30-50 people at Morning Worship and see the Centre being used very well throughout the week with the Lettings.

We have a number of different styles of Service including Parades, Remembrance, Messy Church style and Timeout Worship for our young people. This is because we have a great team of Sunday Stewards and a group of volunteers who hold many other posts within the Church. All the Sunday roles are completed on a rota basis and this works well with the team swapping within the Group if they cannot help and always being willing to volunteer. That comes with my great Thanks for all the work they do.

We have welcomed a new Minister in September and he continues to settle into Lyndon life and starting his work within this Church and the local community.

We have a team of people who complete Own Arrangement Services and these have been welcomed and well received within the Church Congregation along with Barry Davis who preaches one service per month.

We have a new Pastoral Leader in Anne Moseley and look forward to seeing the work within the Pastoral side of the Church supported by Joseph with those unable to attend Church on a regular basis.

The Church always looks beautiful with flowers, especially around Harvest, Christmas and Easter and we are grateful for this ministry and the donations received.

Lyndon has a number of groups that meet regularly but mention must be made of the individuals that organise and run them together with their support staff. Many give many hours of service and without their dedication and devotion, the groups would cease to function. Also to be mentioned are the many individuals who carry on doing various tasks within the Church which are too numerous to mention individually but include things such as the team who support the Stewards, flower arrangers, coffee makers etc. To all a big 'thank you' must be expressed for without your help and support tasks would not be accomplished. Of course, if anyone would wish to get involved in any aspect of helping out within the Church, just make your wishes known and you will be accommodated.

The Church Groups that meet regularly are as under noted:-

Time Out - This Group is for young children who accompany their parents/guardians to the Sunday Morning Service and rather than spend the whole time in Church, they leave for a good portion of the Service to carry out their own activities and then come back into Church for the final few minutes. There are usually around 5-6 children. Several times a year they play an active part in the actual Church Service such as at Easter or Christmas.

Stay and Play - This is a fairly new venture where young children and their parent/guardian meet on a Thursday afternoon. Refreshments are available and the children take part in such activities as craft, drawing and painting to name a few. A variety of toys are also available to play with. Numbers are around four families but efforts are being made to try and increase this number.

Ladies Club - This is a fortnightly Meeting which takes place on a Wednesday afternoon. It is a social event and time is spent on activities followed by refreshments and a chat. Special occasions are celebrated such as birthdays. Numbers attending remain fairly static at around ten.

Bible Study and Prayer Group - This takes place on a Wednesday evening once a month. A passage of Scripture is looked at in depth followed by prayer and is usually facilitated by the Minister. Numbers attending are around eight to ten.

Lyndon People - This is a group consisting of around 15-20 people who meet early on a Sunday evening once a month. It is open to all but it does bear particular relevance to those with Special Learning Difficulties or to those who prefer a slower pace to a Service. The gathering usually commences with refreshments being available followed by the informal Service normally led by the Minister.

Girls Brigade - The Group continues to meet regularly on a Thursday during Term Time. Numbers attending total around 35 altogether. The Girls meet throughout the evening in smaller groups related to their age. As well as participating in activities and badge work throughout the year there are also additional activities such as the special event to Whitemoor Lakes for Amplify which was run by the Birmingham Methodist Church. They are encouraged to attend the Sunday Parade Services which are held several times throughout the year.

Lets - The Church rents out to external Organisations throughout the week to which they pay a rental. The number of rentals stand at around fifteen. Some of them are commercial enterprises whilst others are geared for people going through a difficult time in their lives.

Boys Brigade - Sadly owing to falling number of lads attending and being unsuccessful in getting new recruits as well as difficulties in getting sufficient people to run the group, it closed down with effect from August, 2025.

Lunch Club - This met on a Friday lunch time where a three course meal was served but sadly owing to the retirement of the Cook and the helpers who had given a number of years to providing this service, the Club closed in July, 2025. Unfortunately no replacement cook has been forthcoming for the club to continue in its present format or indeed to operate on a different basis.

The above is only a brief resume of each Group but more information regarding any Group can be obtained from the Church.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY FOR PERIOD SEPTEMBER, 2024 - AUGUST, 2025

Lyndon holds a morning service every Sunday and around 30-50 attend. A variety of different service styles occur throughout the year. Special Services tend to get people attending who would not normally attend such as at Parade Services and at Easter. We are able to have Communion once a month at least usually on the first Sunday of the month when on most occasions our own Minister takes the Service. Refreshments are served after the Service in the Coffee Lounge which is an opportunity to socialise.

Owing to our own Minister having to take Pastoral Charge of more Churches and the lack of availability of Local Preachers has meant that some Services have to be Own Arrangement Services and it is extremely pleasing to note that a number of people within the Congregation have stepped forward and lead us in worship and have given some interesting reflections and these services have proved to be very successful.

Lyndon has experienced some difficulties during this period as sometimes it has been hard to recruit volunteers to fill roles at times. Sadly this has resulted in the Lunch Club having to finish in July, 2025 as the cook and helpers retired after giving a number of years faithful service and Lyndon has not been able to recruit anyone to take over this role or indeed carry it on in a different format. Likewise the Boys Brigade has also had to close due to falling numbers of lads and also insufficient staff to run it.

On the positive side, Lyndon endeavours to involve the local community. Events are held from time to time to which the local community are asked to participate. This can be such things as the Christmas Fayre and sometimes social events are held to which the community are asked to attend such as an event run by the Girls Brigade.

On the Church side of things, it is pleasing to see that when there is a parade service, many of the parents/guardians attend the Service.

The Services on a Sunday run smoothly. The Senior Steward is supported by a team who work on a rota system to ensure that all necessary tasks are undertaken and completed. With Ministers tending to have more Churches to take Pastoral Charge of and there being less Local Preachers available has meant that Lyndon has to arrange some Services themselves as previously alluded to. Service Planning is discussed at Management Meetings which take place on a regular basis which ensures that every Service is covered.

We also let out our premises to a number of external groups. Some are commercial enterprises and others are groups that help disadvantaged people within Society. We have a good relationship with them and some of them support the Church with such things as the Christmas Fayre.

The Church Magazine is produced six times a year and is an opportunity to keep all who have an interest in Lyndon up-to-date with things. It is also of great benefit to those who cannot get to Church because they are ill or housebound.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Lyndon acts in many ways as the 'Community Hub'. With regard to worship, we endeavour to be welcoming to whoever attends and throughout the year we have a variety of different types of service in an endeavour to appeal to all. We also have two Guest Churches who use our premises on a weekly basis.

We have around fifteen or so external groups that use our premises throughout the week. Some are commercial enterprises whilst others are geared to helping people going through a difficult time in their lives. They all provide something to the local community and indeed the Church Family at Lyndon.

Lyndon is located on the borders of Birmingham and Solihull and hence is in a very convenient position close to public transport for both places together with neighbouring areas. The Church premises also has some parking facilities. The Church Centre contains a sports hall which is very adaptable together with a coffee lounge and kitchen facilities together with some smaller rooms.

Lyndon acts as a Polling Station at elections and thus people enter the Building who may not otherwise do so.

FINANCIAL

The accounts are prepared following the Methodist Year and thus run from September, 2024 - August, 2025. Once done they are audited externally in accordance with the appropriate rules and regulations. This year generally collections are down and we do depend on income derived from our lets. The Church is over sixty years old and with this comes the fact that due to depreciation and wear and tear, certain property jobs have to be undertaken which can be costly. It is with this in mind and the fact that to run the Church is increasing because of the current economic climate, that we face the future with a certain amount of apprehension. At the present time, we are managing financially but it could be that in the future if a big expenditure comes along, we may have to consider fund raising.

At the moment our gas and electric tariff is up to December, 2025 and it is thought that a new tariff is going to be more expensive.

SCAN
Accounts 31 Aug, 25 24/1/26 No 3

CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Lyndon Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2025

Birmingham	Circuit	Circuit no.	5/1
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number	1150167
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If not a registered charity His Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number	
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(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 Karen Webber

Church Stewards:

Lorraine Sibson
Claire Frew

Treasurer:

John Evans

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	27,420		27,420	37,405
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	1,759		1,759	1,645
a4	Lettings	35,122		35,122	31,204
a5	Other receipts	9,592	173	9,765	11,097
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	73,893	173	74,066 (a7)	81,351

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	31,000		31,000	26,000
b3	Donations	3,330	80	3,410	9,740
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	19,822		19,822	16,948
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	14,847		14,847	12,011
b6					
b7	Other payments	7,461		7,461	7,977
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	76,460	80	76,540 (b9)	72,676

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(2,567)	93	(2,474)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		48,516		48,516 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	45,949	93	46,042
c4	Transfers and adjustments		200		200 (c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	46,149	93	46,242 (c8)
					48,516 (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		838		626
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		838		626
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 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
e1	Boys Brigade (2 a/c's)	4,268	4,501	(233)		14,645	14,412
e2	Girls Brigade	5,573	2,343	3,230		2,651	5,881
e3	Stay + Play	334	43	291	(200)	30	121
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	10,175	6,887	3,288	(200)	17,326 (e11)	20,414 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	74,066 (a7)	76,540 (b9)	(2,474)	200 (c7)	48,516 (c6)	46,242 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	84,241	83,427	814		65,842 (x)	66,656 (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 2025**

		OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand		
f2	Bank Current Account	9,801	9,159
f3	Bank Deposit Account		
f4	Central Finance Board	38,444	36,800
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	271	283
f6	Other funds		
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	48,516 (c6)	46,242 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	17,326 (e11)	20,414 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	65,842 (x)	66,656 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	3,400,000
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 .. Lyndon Methodist Church

1150167

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 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  Date 12th November 2025

Name and address of treasurer Anthony Ralph Ludlow

197 Richmond Road, Solihull, West Midlands. B92 7SA

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 14th January 2026.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Doctor Joseph Ribeiro

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Lyndon Methodist Church

Charity Number . 1150167

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the LYNDON METHODIST Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 2 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

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

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

.....

Post Code

Date

* delete or circle as appropriate

SCAN
Accounts 31 Aug, 25 24/1/26 No 3

CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

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Claire Frew

Treasurer:

John Evans

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Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Doctor Joseph Ribeiro

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Lyndon Methodist Church

Charity Number . 1150167

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Signature of independent examiner

Name of independent examiner

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

.....

Post Code

Date

* delete or circle as appropriate