



The Church of
St Philip and St Paul with Wesley

Scarisbrick New Road, Southport, Merseyside PR8 6QF

**Annual Report
and
Accounts**

For the year ended
31 December 2020

THE CHURCH OF ST PHILIP AND ST PAUL WITH WESLEY, SOUTHPORT

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Reference and Administrative Information

The Church of St Philip and St Paul with Wesley is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Charity registration number: 1155030

Official correspondence can be sent to:

St Philip and St Paul with Wesley, Scarisbrick New Road, Southport PR8 6QF.

The Joint Council (JC) arises from our Sharing Agreement on the building. In practice the meetings of the JC are very brief and deal with questions of policy regarding expenditure on management, exceptional expenditure, substantial capital expenditure on structural repairs or improvement of the church building. The Ecumenical Church Council (ECC) arises from being a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) and is the joint decision-making body for the church.

Those who served on the Church Councils during 2020 until the date of approval of this report are:

Church of England (PCC)

Revd Steve McGanity (Priest-in-Charge)

Mrs Rachel Bray (Local Missional Leader)

Mrs Janet Carver (Churchwarden)

Mrs Vanessa Fletcher (Churchwarden till June 2020)

Mrs Christine Moyes

Miss Margaret Moore

Mr Mark Paterson

Miss Gail Rooke

Mrs Carol Holt (Until July 2020)

Miss Samantha Ramsay

Mr Jeremy Hooper

Mrs Annette Swinnerton

Mrs Helen Ball

Methodist (MCC)

(Since April 2018 all members of the ECC are members of the MCC)

The Rev'd Marie-Anne Kent (Minister)

Mrs Judith Thomas (Church Steward)

Mrs Margaret Harwood (Church Steward)

Mr Peter Jones (Treasurer)

Mrs Val Jones

Mrs Beth Matthews

Mrs Pam O'Malley (Circuit Steward)

Reader: Mrs Christine Moyes.

Local Preachers: Mr Derrick Chamberlain, Mr Nigel Mawdsley

Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Bethan Matthews

Bankers – Barclays Bank plc, 265-267 Lord Street, Southport PR8 2HF

Independent Examiner – Mr Steven Hardiman

Architect – NJSR Chartered Architects, 57-59 Hoghton Street Southport PR9 0PG

The day to day management control of the church is exercised by the Leadership team which is made up of the Methodist Minister, the Local Missional Leader, two Churchwardens, two Church Stewards and the Treasurer. It meets in the lead up to all Council meetings, helping to set the agendas and continue to develop vision. Church Council sub-groups covering different areas of church life also meet during the year, carry out detailed work and report back to the council. These are: Finance, Property, Pastoral, Communications, Discipleship, Worship & Prayer, School partnership, Hospitality, Children, Young People & Uniformed groups & Overseas links.

STRUCTURE, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

The Methodist Church Council (MCC) is constituted according to the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church Standing Order 611. Parochial Church Council (PCC) operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956. All Church members are encouraged to participate fully in the life of the church.

The Property council sub-group oversees building maintenance and repair and reports back to the Council.

Individual members of the church councils receive external training as and when deemed appropriate eg Safeguarding training.

Risk Assessments

The ECC undertakes an ongoing programme of risk assessments to identify their major risks. Procedures are being put in place to manage those risks and minimise their impact on the life of the church. Action in the main areas of risk is taken as follows.

(a) Financial Risk

An annual budget is prepared to ensure short term viability. Actual results compared with budget are reported to every church council meeting (approx. 7 times a year). Investments are only made in approved low risk funds approved for charity use. All assets are insured and levels are reviewed. Best practice is followed for cash handling.

(b) Compliance with Law and Regulation

A procedure for recording accidents is in place and Church Wardens and Church Stewards have been briefed in fire evacuation procedures. We seek to meet the requirements of Health and Safety legislation and the Equality Act 2010. We have a fire safety officer and have continued to carry out regular work in the building to further comply with issued guidance. We have reviewed and risk assessed our emergency procedures. We have followed government guidance for Covid-compliance during the pandemic, carrying out regular Risk Assessments, which have helped guide decisions about if and when to close the building for worship.

(c) Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection (Safeguarding Policy)

We are committed to following best practice with regard to safeguarding and child protection. Safeguarding is a standing item on our church council agenda. All church council members are required to undertake up to date safeguarding training. The Methodist Church's annual Safeguarding Audit also ensures that our processes are rigorous and up to date.

(d) Operational Risk

Plans have been agreed with our Church School for services to be held in the school hall in the event of the main worship area of the church becoming unusable for a limited period. The use of the St Paul's Hall would also be an option.

All formal risk assessments are recorded and filed, and reviewed annually.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objective of the church and its councils in formal Church of England terms is "to cooperate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical" (PCC Powers measure 1956). In Methodist Standing Orders it is the local church that exercises the whole ministry of Christ where it is and it is the church council itself which "has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church". In our experience as an LEP, these different ways of stating our objective are complementary. When planning our objectives for the year, the church council gives consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion.

The church's four key values are: Worship, Belong, Grow and Serve.

Our 2020 verse for the year was "Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power." *Psalm 145:4 (New Living Translation)*

Our priorities in 2020 were:

1. To better equip everyone in the church to grow in confidence to tell their individual faith stories as part of God's much bigger story.
2. To explore the role of grandparents in sharing their faith within the family
3. To consider how to grow the missional opportunities of the Toddler Group
4. To develop how we include our children and young people in Communion Services
5. To explore inter-generational worship further.

Factors relevant to the achievement of our stated objectives.

The worldwide pandemic and its impact on the UK meant we had to adapt to ever-changing circumstances, including not being able to meet in the building for many weeks of the year. As a result priorities for the years had to change. The Church Council delegated the difficult decisions to the Leadership team about when to close and when to reopen the building. They were very grateful for the generous support, prayer and encouragement of the congregation at these times.

The Southport Methodist Circuit quickly established high-quality weekly YouTube online worship which the majority of the PPW community regularly engaged with. Rachel and Marie-Anne produced weekly newsletters, including a reflection to help everyone feel connected as a church community. Pastoral care continued with many making an extra effort to make contact with others. Church Councils and Leadership Team meetings have been held on Zoom. We have used Zoom also for Morning Prayer on a Monday and for a coffee morning on a Wednesday hosted by different members of the leadership Team. We tried to think creatively about connecting with our community despite the building being closed.

Amongst other things, we lit the stained glass windows facing Scarisbrick New Rd at night, from Dec 1st into 2021 as a sign of 'light in the darkness' and hope for our community, we joined in a Circuit Advent Actions initiative and we held a 'Carols in the school grounds' on Christmas Eve which was well attended and appreciated. It has been encouraging that despite all the challenges of the year, that we have had people join us. At the end of the year, we were joined by a group of members of Victoria Methodist Church which had taken the difficult decision to close at the beginning of Advent. We look forward to a time when we can all begin to get to get know each other better when we feel it is right to to reopen the building in 2021, in a way that builds fellowship and community safely.

We were deeply saddened by the death of Derrick Chamberlain on Christmas Eve. As such a faithful member of the church, and a local preacher for so many years, his witness, and ministry will be much missed.

Achievements and performance including review of charitable achievements against objectives

The following section highlights areas of activity and performance

Methodist Membership and the Electoral Roll

At 31st December 2020, we had 64 people on the Methodist membership roll, being 32 Methodist Members and 32 joint members. In that year we had 2 transferred in from another church, 10 removed from the roll and 1 member died. 31 December, there were 97 people on the Electoral Roll. 1 member had died and there were 2 new members.

WORSHIP AND CHURCH LIFE

Until lockdown in March, attendance was on average 67 adults and 8 children. We hosted a Sunday morning Circuit Service in February at which there were 211 adults and 15 children. We continued our pattern of midweek monthly communion before lockdown. When the church was open for Sunday worship under Covid restrictions, we had an average of 33 adults in attendance. This year we only had 1 church wedding and 1 infant baptism. There were 5 church funerals and 6 funeral services at Southport crematorium or the cemetery.

Pastoral care

Pastoral Care has continued and been a priority during the many months of lockdown and restriction. Enabling everyone to have access to the weekly newsletter has been a positive step, especially for those not able to get to church or who have been shielding in 2020. Lyfe groups have continued to support one another in different ways and some have met via Zoom. Links with local nursing and care homes have been maintained. Our Friends Together group for those who have been bereaved, like many groups had to be suspended, but they have been appreciative of the support of the group's leaders.

Youth and children's work.

Our Trekkerz leaders have stayed in touch with our children and their families and the Sunday@6 group for the 11+'s has continued via Zoom. All our uniformed groups as well as our Toddler Group had to suspend meeting.

Church-School Partnership

Rev'd Marie-Anne has continued her involvement in the life of the school with virtual assemblies and supporting the school's senior leadership team. The Prayer buddies

initiative continues and we look forward to that developing. Our foundation governors support the work of the school and the Chair of Governors is a member of our Church. His membership on the Church Council is helping strengthen church-school links. We honour the outstanding commitment and work of all our school staff during such a tumultuous year.

CHURCH PROPERTY.

Internal:

The Church has been maintained as necessary and to a good standard throughout the year. Usage of the building has been sporadic since March. The contract cleaners have been very flexible during the year, fitting in with our needs and the needs of those hiring rooms to keep the building clean. This cleaning has been supplemented by individual church members "doing their bit". Post-pandemic we will be in a need to establish a new rota of cleaning teams, including some younger blood.

Numerous miscellaneous repairs have been carried out by the maintenance team throughout the year. The baptistery porch was cleaned and re-painted in advance of anticipated increased use on Sundays and for funerals. A new lighting system has been installed which displays the stained glass windows to great effect at night when viewed from Scarisbrick New Road. Annual servicing has been carried out to the heating boilers and fire extinguishers. The lift has presented problems during the year and engineers have been unable to complete a repair. There is a real possibility that the lift cannot be repaired.

External:

Plans for the repair and re-design of the main entrance steps are still in hand. We await the granting of the Faculty. Once received it will be a priority in 2021. The grounds have been maintained by a team of volunteers during the year and are looking well cared for. All the lower and mid level gutters have been cleared out prior to wintery weather conditions. Locks to the front (glass) doors have been serviced and locks to the vestry and baptistery doors have been replaced complying with fire regulations and insurance requirements.

FINANCE

Performance of investments

This has continued to be poor with low interest rates. The St Paul's Educational Trust, a permanent Endowment continues to grow as the interest is added back to it year on year in accordance with expectation. We are committed to restoring this to £100,000 by 2060 as per the agreement with the Charity Commission. Use of these funds is strictly regulated by the terms of the Endowment and cannot currently be freed up. We hope to seek legal advice to try to release the capital from this Trust.

Financial Review

Our financial expectations for 2020 were thrown into disarray from March onwards due to Covid19 restrictions on the use of the building for worship and also for other activities. We had hoped to balance the books in 2020 on our general account (day to day running costs) by holding fundraising events to the tune of £10,000 – this has not been possible. In addition to this, income has been severely hit throughout the year with lettings income showing a £5,000 fall from forecast levels. Utility bills for the year have been reduced as the building has been closed for much of the time.

Regular giving by the congregation has been maintained showing a 10% increase above expectations. Many thanks to all concerned for their efforts to make their regular donations. The general account bank balance has been kept in credit due some generous one-off gifts (over £10,000) and two legacies (£9,000). It is hoped that the gifts can be used to fund the repairs to the front entrance and some other necessary repair projects. It is anticipated that the legacy windfalls may be needed to prop up the general account throughout 2021. In addition to the above we were allowed a payment “holiday” on our Parish Share /Methodist Assessment which eased our cash flow to the tune of £4,500.

Our “Building for the Future” account balance increased from £10,800 to £15,800. This account is funded by rental income from the church flat (48^A Hampton Rd) and only minimal repair and maintenance costs were incurred during 2020.

Our “Restricted funds” account raised approximately £1,100 following a Text/Whatsapp appeal for donations to help those affected by the floods in Shyira.

Reserves Policy

We continue to aspire to hold £20,000 in our general reserve. However our current financial situation makes this impossible to realise at the moment.

Agent Transactions

The Church Council acted as a financial agent for funerals and weddings for the following people/organizations: The Diocese of Liverpool, the Church Minister, as well as for the vergers and organists for occasional offices. Agent payments were directly passed on to the appropriate individuals.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE:

At the year end, what when and how restrictions might be lifted is uncertain and this makes anything other than short-term planning difficult. Despite all the challenges that presents us with, ministry and mission will continue. We have chosen Isaiah 43:19 as our verse for 2021, and we look forward in faith and hope to the next chapter of our story as the PPW church family, seeking to be a blessing to each other and to our community.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the
trustees/members of**

St Philip & St Paul with Wesley, Southport

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31.12.20

**Charity no
(if any)**

1155030

Set out on pages

8-10

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

B Hardiman

Date:

25.4.21

Name:

Mr Stephen Hardiman

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

Address:

12 Cobden Road

Southport

Messergade PL9 7TS

ECUMENICAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
St Philip & St Paul with Wesley
GENERAL FUND Receipts and Payments
at 31 December 2020

RECEIPTS	2020	2019
Giving and donations		
Tax efficient planned giving	27,996	25,962
Income Tax recovered	10,914	10,307
Other planned giving	7,844	8,783
Plate collections and other giving	<u>4,739</u>	<u>11,548</u>
	51,493	56,600
Donations	<u>11,080</u>	<u>2,742</u>
	11,080	2,742
Other trading activities		
Magazine sales	50	355
Lettings	5,030	12,497
Fundraising	<u>44</u>	<u>4,503</u>
	5,124	17,355
Charitable activities		
Fees	513	1,521
Grants	<u>2,700</u>	<u>0</u>
	3,213	1,521
Receipts from investments		
Bank interest	<u>0</u>	<u>77</u>
	0	77
Other Income		
Legacies	9,190	0
Other income	<u>185</u>	<u>562</u>
	9,375	562
Total Receipts	80,285	78,857
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Parish Share and Circuit Assessment	51,383	55,897
Clergy and LML expenses	456	281
Mission and relief agencies	1,359	550
Utilities	3,201	5,839
Insurance	3,950	3,856
Maintenance and cleaning	3,245	7,962
Major capital expenditure	0	16,126
Equipment	458	949
Salaries	2,280	3,312
Hospitality & outreach	0	458
Resources for ministry	89	179
Magazine printing	168	703
Publicity & communications	136	305
Admin & stationery	513	628
Upkeep of services	131	289
Governance	0	845
Sundries	<u>1,140</u>	<u>351</u>
Total payments	68,509	98,530
Excess of receipts over payments	11,776	(19,673)
Balance b/f at 1 January 2020	4,367	24,039
Adjustments made in 2020	7,896	0
Balance c/f at 31 December 2020	<u>24,039</u>	<u>4,367</u>

ECUMENICAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
St Philip & St Paul with Wesley
RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED FUNDS STATEMENT
at 31 December 2020

FUND	Bal b/f at 1.1.20	Receipts	Payments	2020 Adjust	Bal c/f at 31.12.20
Mission <i>Money given specifically for mission</i>	436	0	0	(436)	0
Benevolence <i>To relieve poverty</i>	1,001	24	(71)	0	954
Bible Reading <i>To encourage the use of Bible reading</i>	184	78	(227)	0	35
Flowers <i>For flowers in the church</i>	317	0	(46)	0	271
Disability <i>An RNID grant</i>	59	0	0	0	59
Lottery <i>Lottery grant</i>	0	0	0	(0)	0
Rwanda <i>To build our Rwanda link</i>	4,166	1,520	(1,165)	0	4,521
Traidcraft <i>For fairly traded goods</i>	329	0	(61)	0	268
Admin <i>Funds for our administrator</i>	1,350	0	0	(1,350)	0
Parish Weekends <i>Church weekends away</i>	395	0	0	0	395
Building Designated <i>Expenditure on building and grounds</i>	11,973	5,284	(280)	8,785	25,762
Grounds Designated <i>Expenditure on the grounds</i>	8,822			(8,822)	0
Grounds Restricted <i>Restricted to building work</i>	6,000			(6,000)	0
Children's work restricted <i>For children's work</i>	2,498	314		(47)	2,766
Youth restricted <i>For work with young people</i>	2,216	14	(257)	(27)	1,946
St Paul's Trust *	74,345	316	0		74,661
TOTAL	114,092	7,550	(2,107)	(7,896)	111,639

* St Paul's Trust

Permanent Endowment set up from proceeds from the sale of the land at St Paul's School. Some of the capital was used for the reordering of the church in 2000. The capital is to be recouped by 2060.

Note: The adjustments represent a more accurate categorising of funds

ECUMENICAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
St Philip & St Paul with Wesley
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
at 31 December 2020

Cash Funds	2020	2019
Barclays General Current Account	24,098	12,370
Braclays Building For Our Future Account	15,848	10,863
Barclays Restricted Funds Account	8,178	6,273
Methodist CFB Deposit Account	12,894	14,608
CCLA account held by Diocese	74,661	74,345
Total current and deposit accounts	135,679	118,459
This figure represents:		
Unrestricted Funds		
General Fund	24,039	4,367
Building & grounds designated	25,762	11,973
New flat/Grounds fund	0	8,822
TOTAL	49,801	25,162
Restricted Funds		
Restricted Building Fund	0	6,000
Mission	0	436
Flower	271	317
Benevolence	955	1,001
Bible Reading notes	35	184
Children's work	2,766	2,498
Youth Work	1,946	2,216
Disability Grant	59	59
Administrator	0	1,350
Rwanda	4,522	4,166
Traidcraft	268	329
Church Weekends	395	395
TOTAL	11,217	18,951
Permanent Endowment	74,661	74,345
	135,679	118,458

Notes

The adjustments made in 2020 correct the 2019 presentation of unrestricted, designated and restricted funds.

The financial statements of the ECC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

The following assets are recognised but not necessarily valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

Moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for their disposal.

Approved by the ECC on 28th April 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev'd Marie-Anne Kent

Methodist Minister

Mrs Rachel Bray

Local Missional Leader

Mr Peter Jones

Treasurer