

Hall Green United Community Church annual report 2023

To Worship God, To Know Jesus, To Serve Others

Hall Green United Community Church (HGUCC) has the responsibility to promote the work of church in worship, in pastoral care, in service to the local community and, with our three parent denominations, in ecumenical work.

HGUCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church buildings in Reddings Lane, Hall Green, the property of the Methodist Church.

Objectives and activities.

HGUCC is committed to making worship attractive to as many people as possible both in the church buildings and online via Zoom. Our services and worship aim to put faith into practice through prayer and Scripture, music and sacrament. It is always our intention to help enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our community.

Achievements and performance.

Over the year we have offered a range of services with Holy Communion taking place on the first Sunday in each month. During this year we have been challenged by the loss of our minister Rev Lorraine Shorten, who has been moved to a new ministry in Bath. We give thanks for all her achievements at Hall Green and pray for her future ministry. Subsequent to her leaving in May, we have been served by a succession of preachers, both lay and ordained, leading our worship. The congregation has responded very well to the services.

Numerically, our membership numbers have dropped over the year, due to the death of some members, relocation of others and a sensible “pruning” of the membership list. We have, however, been able to welcome new members, especially some joining us after Sparkhill Methodist Church closed down.

Our Sunday services continue to attract a congregation numbering between 60 and 75 physically in church with another 7 to 12 joining online. To increase the involvement of the people online and in church we have, during the year, installed a completely new vision and sound control system with a high-quality camera to capture the service. Whilst there have been teething troubles, the general feeling has been positive.

Our usage of Zoom continues with our online Prayer Group on Wednesday mornings and for occasional meetings.

During the year a new Bible Reading and Prayer group began to meet on church premises on Tuesday mornings and a separate, evening meeting is planned for next year.

The church has continued to be represented at both URC and Moravian synods and at meetings of the Birmingham Methodist Circuit.

We pride ourselves on being a Community Church and, during the year, our services to the community have continued. Friendly Corner Cafe, our weekly community café, has continued to grow with more than 50 people regularly attending for food and fellowship. Though some of the customers are church members and attendees, many are not, and we thank God for this outreach.

Baby & Co., the church run Stay and Play group for parents and toddlers has also continued to serve the local community with many of the families being from the local Asian community.

The church buildings continue to host a range of activities, including another Stay and Play group, run by local Children's Centre, two martial arts group, a musical theatre group, tai chi and others. We also have one or two bookings most weekends for private functions including birthdays and other family celebrations. These, as well as supporting our local communities, help to bring income into the church and indirectly to the denominations.

The use of our buildings is, of course, dependent on the condition of those buildings. Maintenance has been particularly costly in this year as shown in the attached accounts. More work is planned for the coming year.

None of this would be possible without the small army of volunteers who continue to work untiringly for HGUCC.

Structure, governance and management.

Hall Green United Community Church is managed by Board of Trustees elected by the members. At the end of the year, we had 11 full trustees, +2 co-opted members. After Rev Lorraine Shorten left in May, Blair Kessler was elected as Chair of Trustees. The trustees meet at least once each month. The trustees are responsible for making decisions on all matter of general concern and importance to the church including deciding on how the funds of HGUCC are to be spent.

The Annual Congregational Meeting is held in November where reports are considered and matters of concern voted upon. This meeting usually happens following a Sunday service.

The trustees have spent much time in preparing plans for the continuing life of the church without a minister. It has been decided that we will apply for a share of a URC minister and this procedure has been started. We do not expect an appointment in the coming year, it is almost certain that the procedure will take well into the last quarter of 2024. In the meantime, the trustees will continue to maintain worship and management.

As with many churches, an ageing congregation and the lack of young people are concerning. However, we have a thriving, enthusiastic membership who continue to look forward to the future with optimism as we celebrate 100 years of Christian worship in the building in 2024.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

HALL GREEN UNITED COMMUNITY CHURCH

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

BIRMINGHAM	Circuit	Circuit no	5/1
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1162079

**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:

Reverend Lorraine Shorten (until 30.4.23)

Trustees:

Keith Dennis	Blair Kessler	Alan Perkins
Brian Dickens	Louisa Liburd(until April 23)	Linda Ramdharry
Val Dickens	Norma Maynard	Lorraine Shorten (until April 23)
Sarah Fidler (until Feb 23)	Becky Parkes	Pam Smith
Barbara Kessler	Julia Parkes	Neil Walker

Treasurer:

Brian Dickens

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Desig/Rest Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	65,450		65,450	56,522
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	1,767		1,767	205
a4	Lettings	29,982		29,982	27,747
a5	Other receipts	11,397	1,890	13,287	37,018
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	108,596	1,890	110,486 (a7)	121,492

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	52,232		52,232	54,497
b3	Donations	4,378		4,378	3,824
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	30,222	6,000	36,222	13,050
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	12,134		12,134	12,619
b6					
b7	Other payments	24,413	9,793	34,206	55,916
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	123,379	15,793	139,172 (b9)	139,906

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(14,783)	(13,903)	(28,686)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		48,151	18,367	66,518 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	33,368	4,464	37,832
c4	Transfers and adjustments			(969)	(969) (c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	33,368	3,495	36,863 (c8)
					66,518 (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			999	1,452
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			4,064	4,030
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			5,033	4,483
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)		30	999

HALL GREEN UNITED COMMUNITY CHURCH

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 Baby & Co	411	436	(25)		295	270
e2 Friendly Corner	4,190	4,391	(201)		670	469
e3 Moravian Men's Fellowship		659	(659)		659	
e4 Moravian Women's Assoc	50	690	(640)		640	
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	4,651	6,176	(1,525)		2,264 (e11)	739 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	110,486 (a7)	139,172 (b9)	(28,686)	(453) (c7)	66,518 (c6)	37,379 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	115,137	145,348	(30,211)	(453)	68,782 (x)	38,118 (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 2023

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	1,772	781
f3 Bank Deposit Account	4,152	2,241
f4 Central Finance Board	60,594	33,841
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	66,518 (c6)	36,863 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	2,264 (e11)	739 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	68,782 (x)	37,602 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 31 August 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	3,795,000	4,106,527
g3 Other Assets	150,000	162,313
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: **Hall Green United Community Church**

CC No: 1162079

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 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  Date 24.10.23

Name and address of treasurer: Brian Dickens 3 Sandy Croft Birmingham
..... Post Code: B13 0EP

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

Hall Green United Community Church

Charity Number: 1162079

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Hall Green United Community Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 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: Hall Green United Community Church

CC No: 1162079

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.

[the [the

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 E. C. Hall

Name of independent examiner E. C. Hall

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 66 WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

OLDBURY Post Code B68 0LJ

Date 25/1/24

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-23

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Signature of independent examiner E. C. Hall

Name of independent examiner E. C. Hall

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 66 WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

OLDBURY Post Code B68 0LJ

Date 25/1/24

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-23