

***Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church (HHMC)***

**Registered Charity Number 1164741**

**Trustees Annual Report for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025**

Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church (HHMC) exists to worship God, as we grow in faith, fellowship and love for one another, to seek to serve God and the community, and through our lives and witness, help people to come to a deeper knowledge of Jesus Christ.

HHMC is a member of the West Hertfordshire and Borders Methodist Circuit and therefore part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain. The Trustees are Managing Trustees of the church building at 270 Northridge Way, Hemel Hempstead HP1 2AU which was completed and opened in 2015. All Trustees are members of HHMC and are either elected by the Annual General Meeting or appointed to a specific role by the Church Council. The Trustees are listed elsewhere on the Charity Commission website.

Accounts for the year 2024-25 are attached. The Accounts show a deficit just over £4,500. However the Gift Aid repayment for the year of around £9,500 was received in the following financial year (2025-26). There was no significant change in income from offerings in 2024-5 compared with the previous financial year but there was a significant income from donations from other sources including church organisations (Community Lunch, Oyster Club) and a legacy. Expenditure on repairs was increased compared with the previous year. Running costs have also increased mainly due to the rising costs of utilities. The latter was offset by a grant from the West Hertfordshire and Borders Circuit.

The church has raised funds for other charities through regular Saturday Coffee Mornings and special appeals for people in need due to natural and human disasters, and members have donated just under £5,000

HHMC had 73 members at end of the year (31<sup>st</sup> August 2025) plus a larger 'pastoral list' of people associated with the church but not formally members. During the year 1 September 2024 -31 August 2025 HHMC lost three members through death and two who had moved away but gained two new members.

The church has a pastoral team and each member of the team has a list of people they keep in touch with and provide pastoral support to as and when needed. The church continues to keep in touch with all who wish to be in contact through weekly mailings by email or post of the weekly notices plus occasional newsletters.

A service of worship is held in the church building every Sunday morning and is live streamed online on Facebook (and on YouTube since a Technical upgrade in 2026) and recorded for YouTube.

Additional services are held in the afternoons and are mostly face to face in church only. Messy Church is held on a Sunday afternoon once a month, is aimed particularly at families with children and is our main focus for work with children. Other Sunday afternoon services held in the afternoon include the Service of Healing and Wholeness and the Songs of Praise service both held approximately once a quarter, and the annual Memorial Service for those who have lost loved ones and the Christmas Carol service

Special services during the year included the celebrations of the major Christian festivals, Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and Harvest, plus themed services on the charities we support including Liberty Tea Rooms and Community Hub, Christian Aid and Action for Children. The Guides, Brownies and Rainbows who meet in our church have been invited to occasional Parade Services.

In June 2025, HHMC celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the church building and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of HHMC through the merging of the five Methodist Churches that were in Hemel Hempstead. Celebrations included a social event with barbeque, quiz and a display of photos and memorabilia, and a special Sunday morning service.

A new venture this year was the running of a Holiday Club for children aged 5-11 in the church building. The club was organised by our minister in collaboration with workers from Youth Across Hemel and several volunteers from HHMC. Children were dropped off in the morning and the day ran from 9 am – 4 pm. A small charge was made to contribute to costs. The first Holiday Club was held in two days in August 2025 and a second holiday club was run for two days just before Easter 2026

HHMC organises various other activities in the building, open to members and others alike, as follows:

- Warm Welcome Space held twice a week is a place for people to come and feel welcome, and enjoy the company of others. It is held in a room which has been converted into a lounge with comfortable seating and soft lighting.
- Community Lunch is held once a fortnight and provides a good home cooked meal and company in a warm building. There is no fixed cost, attendees are told they can pay what they can or nothing at all.
- Kintsugi Hope Wellbeing Group a 12-session course produced by Kintsugi Hope to explore how to maintain positive mental and emotional wellbeing in the midst of busy and sometimes traumatic lives. Two courses were run in 2023-4, and one course from October 2024
- Saturday Coffee Mornings held once a month in the church hall. Funds are raised for charities chosen by the members organising the event.
- Dinner Church is a relaxed social gathering aimed at those who feel they might not fit into traditional church and attracts younger adults. It meets approximately once a month on Sunday evenings and undertakes a range of activities all of them including food.
- Occasional meetings on a Saturday morning in which people gather to discuss ideas for the future mission of the church.
- Lent Lectures were a series of lectures from different speakers held weekly during Lent. In Lent 2025 the theme was missionaries.
- Oyster Club is a Christian social club for adults held on Thursday mornings, providing a variety of activities and talks from local speakers.
- Thursday Fellowship meets weekly for fellowship, Bible study and prayer.
- Wednesday Fellowship and Reflection meets twice a month to share, care discuss and reflect upon experiences, faith and anything thought interesting to explore.

Two fellowship groups continue to meet in members' homes on Wednesdays, one monthly and one meeting jointly on Zoom with another local Methodist Church.

HHMC also sponsors a Guide Company, Brownie Pack and Rainbows, who meet in the building during school term time.

When not required for HHMC activities, the building is made available for local community groups and others to use in return for a fee designed to cover a due proportion of related costs. The Weight Watchers, an NHS diabetes prevention course stopped meeting at HHMC during the year but the Stroke Club continues and a local National Trust supporters' group has started to meet in the building . The Hearing Advisory Service also comes to the Warm Welcome Space once a month. The building is also hired by various choirs as a venue for concerts and by the local council for use as a Polling Station. Through church activities and the lettings the building is in use on most days of the week.

Members of HHMC have volunteered in various activities in the local community. Activities include:

- A team from HHMC provided a Christian assembly at a local primary school approximately once per month in term time using the Open the Book materials supplied by the Bible Society.
- Members from HHMC volunteer at the Liberty Tea Rooms and Community Hub, which provide a meeting place and services for anyone in the local community needing help in a time of need.
- HHMC supports DENS, the local charity for the homeless, through donations to their Foodbank, and other activities including volunteering for DENS.

## THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Hemel Hempstead Methodist | Church |
|---------------------------|--------|

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

|                                 |                |                   |              |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| <b>West Herts &amp; Borders</b> | <b>Circuit</b> | <b>Circuit no</b> | <b>34/14</b> |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|

**Registered Charity - Charity Registration number**

1164741

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and  
Customs Gift Aid number**

XR93992

(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:

|                |
|----------------|
| Andrew Brazier |
|----------------|

Church Stewards:

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Sue Whyte      | Graham Burton |
| Margaret Thorn | Shalini Parke |
| Jill Walker    | Jan Gilfoyle  |
|                |               |
|                |               |
|                |               |
|                |               |
|                |               |

Treasurer:

|                    |
|--------------------|
| Jackie de Bourcier |
|--------------------|

| SECTION A |                                             |      | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Totals this year   | Totals last year |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------|------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
|           |                                             | Note | £                  | £                | £                  | £                |
| a1        | <b>RECEIPTS</b>                             |      |                    |                  |                    |                  |
| a2        | Offerings and Tax recovered                 |      | 45,033             |                  | <b>45,033</b>      | 65,379           |
| a3        | Bank and CFB interest and Investment income |      | 3,088              |                  | <b>3,088</b>       | 3,290            |
| a4        | Lettings                                    |      | 4,283              |                  | <b>4,283</b>       | 6,919            |
| a5        | Other receipts                              |      | 14,708             |                  | <b>14,708</b>      | 6,787            |
| a6        | <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>                       |      | <b>67,113</b>      |                  | <b>67,113 (a7)</b> | <b>82,374</b>    |

| SECTION B |                                                           |  |               |  |                    |               |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--|---------------|--|--------------------|---------------|
| b1        | <b>PAYMENTS</b>                                           |  |               |  |                    |               |
| b2        | Circuit Assessment or Share                               |  | 39,084        |  | <b>39,084</b>      | 41,712        |
| b3        | Donations                                                 |  | 2,253         |  | <b>2,253</b>       | 2,032         |
| b4        | Repairs and Maintenance                                   |  | 4,975         |  | <b>4,975</b>       | 2,765         |
| b5        | Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting) |  | 14,967        |  | <b>14,967</b>      | 12,903        |
| b6        |                                                           |  |               |  |                    |               |
| b7        | Other payments                                            |  | 10,556        |  | <b>10,556</b>      | 8,155         |
| b8        | <b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>                                     |  | <b>71,834</b> |  | <b>71,834 (b9)</b> | <b>67,566</b> |

| SECTION C |                                            |                |                |  |                    |                    |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| c1        | <b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>  | <b>(a6-b8)</b> | <b>(4,722)</b> |  | <b>(4,722)</b>     | 14,807             |
| c2        | Total funds brought forward from last year |                | 97,719         |  | <b>97,719 (c6)</b> | 82,912             |
| c3        | <b>Sub total</b>                           | <b>(c1+c2)</b> | <b>92,998</b>  |  | <b>92,998</b>      | <b>97,719</b>      |
| c4        | Transfers and adjustments                  |                |                |  | <b>(c7)</b>        |                    |
| c5        | <b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>          | <b>(c3+c4)</b> | <b>92,998</b>  |  | <b>92,998 (c8)</b> | <b>97,719 (c6)</b> |

| SECTION D                                                                           |                                                                                  |                   |           |  |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|--|------------|
| <b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b> |                                                                                  |                   |           |  |            |
| d                                                                                   | <b>(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures)</b> |                   | £         |  | £          |
| d1                                                                                  | Balance brought forward from last year                                           |                   | 695       |  | 267        |
| d2                                                                                  | Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations                            |                   | 4,893     |  | 4,643      |
| d3                                                                                  | Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations                               |                   | 5,516     |  | 4,215      |
| d4                                                                                  | <b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID</b>                                                  | <b>(d1+d2-d3)</b> | <b>72</b> |  | <b>695</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 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/<br>Payments | Adjustments | Opening<br>balances | Closing balances |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------|------------------|
| e1                                                                     | The Oyster Club                                                      | 2,206          | 1,682          | 523                       |             | 712                 | 1,235            |
| e2                                                                     |                                                                      |                |                |                           |             |                     |                  |
| e3                                                                     |                                                                      |                |                |                           |             |                     |                  |
| e4                                                                     |                                                                      |                |                |                           |             |                     |                  |
| e5                                                                     |                                                                      |                |                |                           |             |                     |                  |
| e6                                                                     |                                                                      |                |                |                           |             |                     |                  |
| e7                                                                     |                                                                      |                |                |                           |             |                     |                  |
| e8                                                                     | Sub total of Internal Organisations funds                            | 2,206          | 1,682          | 523                       |             | 712 (e11)           | 1,235 (e12)      |
| e9                                                                     | Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column) | 67,113 (a7)    | 71,834 (b9)    | (4,722)                   | (c7)        | 97,719 (c6)         | 92,998 (c8)      |
| e10                                                                    | TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH                                      | 69,319         | 73,517         | (4,198)                   |             | 98,431 (x)          | 94,233 (y)       |
| Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward |                                                                      | TOTAL RECEIPTS | TOTAL PAYMENTS |                           |             |                     |                  |

## SECTION F

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

## CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025

|    |                                                                                         | OPENING<br>BALANCES | CLOSING<br>BALANCES |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| f1 | Cash in hand                                                                            |                     |                     |
| f2 | Bank Current Account                                                                    | 37,112              | 29,965              |
| f3 | Bank Deposit Account                                                                    |                     |                     |
| f4 | Central Finance Board                                                                   | 41,843              | 43,435              |
| f5 | Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes                                                  | 18,764              | 19,598              |
| f6 | Other funds                                                                             |                     |                     |
| f7 | SUB TOTAL - Church accounts                                                             | 97,719 (c6)         | 92,998 (c8)         |
| f8 | Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12) | 712 (e11)           | 1,235 (e12)         |
| f9 | TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH                                                         | 98,431 (x)          | 94,233 (y)          |

## SECTION G

## OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

|    |                                                 | At<br>1 September 2024 | At<br>31 August 2025 |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| g1 | Investments (include Endowments)                |                        |                      |
| g2 | Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value) | 3,630,403              | 3,753,815            |
| g3 | Other Assets                                    | 118,439                | 122,465              |
| 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 .....Hemel Hempstead Methodist..... No...34/14.....

## 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...22/3/26....

Name and address of treasurer .....Jackie de Bourcier.....

88 Dunlin Road Hemel Hempstead..... Post Code...HP2 6LX.....

### 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 ..24/2/26

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting Andrew J. Beazley ..... Date 22/3/26 .....

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

#### Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church

Charity Number .....1164741.....

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 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.

\* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church .....Hemel Hempstead Methodist..... No...34/14.....

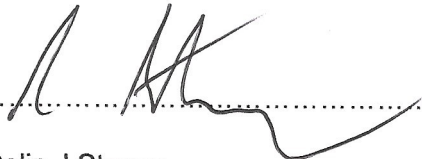
### Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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 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 .....Colin J Stacey.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner .....BFP FCA (ICAEW)

Name of firm (where appropriate) ...Staceys Accountants Limited

Address .....Rivers Lodge, West Common, .....

...Harpenden, Herts ..... Post Code ...AL5 2JD

Date ...12/03/2024.....