

## **Bedale & District Methodist Church**

### **Trustees Annual Report for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

#### **Introduction**

Bedale & District Methodist Church serves the communities of Bedale and neighbouring villages and farms by offering God's love and pastoral care through a variety of services and outreach to bring the love of Christ to all who seek his presence.

The Charity's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2014.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

Bedale & District Methodist Church is a registered Charity – Number 1168843. It is governed by the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the Annual Conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the church is undertaken by the Church Council who are the Trustees of the charity. They are elected annually at the General Church Meeting, usually held in July, with pastoral oversight from the Minister, and representatives appointed by the Circuit.

A range of guidance is produced by the Methodist Church to support effective running of the church, e.g. the leaflet "The role of a trustee in the Methodist Church".

The church is part of the Ripon and Lower Dales Methodist Circuit, who are part of the Yorkshire North and East District of the Methodist Church in England and N Ireland.

As from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 there will be a change in governance as we become part of The Bridge Methodist Circuit, and the church will belong to Ripon and Lower Dales Mission Area. This is an exciting change as it frees up Ministers and Church Officials from the burdens of Property, Finance, Safeguarding, etc, allowing for a more missional approach to future planning, whilst the business side will be dealt with by experts in those fields within the Bridge Circuit.

The Treasurer is  
Independent Examiner  
Bank Accounts

Mrs Kathleen Lowrie  
Mr Alan Shinkfield  
Barclays Bank and Skipton Building Society

#### **Aims and organisation**

Bedale & District Methodist Church aims to become a source of hope and encouragement to all those living in Bedale and surrounding villages by offering opportunities to know the love of God through varied worship, relevant teaching and learning and to committed service in the community and in the world.

The Church Council act as the Managing Trustees and meet at least 3 times a year to oversee the work and mission of the church. There are sub-groups that concentrate on particular areas: these are Stewards, Finance, Property, Worship & Prayer, Pastoral and Display. We have representatives for Safe-guarding and General Data Protection, supported by the Circuit.

## **Review of the Year**

The church continues to meet its aims of providing a space for worship, quiet times of prayer and reflection, Bible Study and written services for those unable to attend in person.

On Mondays an Art & Crafts group meet to provide opportunities for socialising.

Tuesday Open Doors is a popular weekly warm space for meeting up for friendship and care in a less busy environment.

On Wednesday's there is another chance to meet up and "Talk Life" in the nearby Courtyard Café, Bedale and on the evening there is individual Prayer Time with short act of Worship in the church.

On Thursdays the new venture of Bible Journaling has proved popular for an opportunity to study scripture in a creative way.

There are also regular activities of Coffee Mornings, Lunches, and Men's Breakfast to allow people to meet up over a meal for friendship and care, all proving popular with the local community.

Messy Vintage sessions are held in two local Care Homes, where our volunteers have been welcomed and activities of craft, prayers and hymn singing have proved popular with the residents and the Minister, Rev Gareth Baron visits the local primary schools to lead Collective Worship with the children, which is also well received by the youngsters and their teachers. On occasions the children visit the church for worship and learning.

The building is also used by the wider community. This year has seen sessions of Yoga, Pilates, Keep Fit, Ukulele, Friendship Choir, Craft group and Alcoholics Anonymous all taking part.

The church members continue to be generous in their support of charities. St George's Crypt, Leeds was the chosen Charity of the Year and received £1,198, RABI Harvest Appeal raised £183, Myanmar Earthquake Appeal £140, Age UK £200, Christian Aid £272 and Action for Children £211.

The church continued to support the Methodist Connexional charities with financial gifts of £450 too.

## **Financial Review**

Financially, the church has been able to meet its commitments, mainly the Assessment and Utility costs, although extra donations were asked for to help with the cash flow, which meant the Reserve Fund was met by the end of the year.

## **Moving Forward**

Although there will be a 5% rise in Assessment (our contribution to the Circuit expenditure) extra funds from monthly Lunches and other events are expected to cover this, but the Church Council will monitor and if necessary, seek other fund-raising ideas.

## **Sight and Sound Project**

This project was begun last year to install AV equipment in the hall and to seek funding for the restoration of the church organ. The church was awarded Grants during the year, as follows:

Gibbs Trust £1,000

Charles and Elsie Sykes Trust £2,000

The Kirkby Foundation also promised a grant for Autumn 2025 of £5000.

With the church's own fund-raising the AV installation part of the project is expected to be completed early in the new financial year.

The Church Council will continue to consider restoration of the organ in their future plans.

## THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

BEDALE & DISTRICT METHODIST

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

<b>Ripon &amp; Lower Dales</b>	<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Circuit no.</b>	<b>24/29</b>
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**Registered Charity - Charity Registration number**

1168843

If not a registered charity **His 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:

Rev Gareth Baron

Church Stewards:

Clare Dalton

Lister Baynes

Alyson Whitehouse

Jean Coates

Kathleen Edmondson

Treasurer:

Kathleen Lowrie

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Note</b>			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	31,531		<b>31,531</b>	30,695
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	145		<b>145</b>	146
a4	Lettings	3,849		<b>3,849</b>	3,309
a5	Other receipts	15,551	3,000	<b>18,551</b>	12,969
a6	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>51,076</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>54,076 (a7)</b>	<b>47,119</b>

SECTION B					
b1	<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	32,344		<b>32,344</b>	30,812
b3	Donations	650		<b>650</b>	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	3,337		<b>3,337</b>	10,773
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	7,059		<b>7,059</b>	7,545
b6	CFB Error repaid from 2023/2024		602	<b>602</b>	
b7	Other payments	3,868	18	<b>3,886</b>	4,953
b8	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>47,258</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>47,878 (b9)</b>	<b>54,083</b>

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	3,818	2,380	6,198	(6,964)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	11,536	712	12,248 (c6)	19,212
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	15,354	3,092	18,446	12,248
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	15,354	3,092	18,446 (c8)	12,248 (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				(106)
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		4,636		3,840
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		4,636		3,734
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 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	Wycar Arts & Crafts	516	396	120		246	366
e2							
e3							
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	516	396	120		246 (e11)	366 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	54,076 (a7)	47,878 (b9)	6,198	(c7)	12,248 (c6)	18,446 (c8)
e10	<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>	<b>54,592</b>	<b>48,274</b>	<b>6,318</b>		<b>12,494 (x)</b>	<b>18,812 (y)</b>
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward		<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>				

**SECTION F****STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025**

		OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand		614
f2	Bank Current Account	8,999	8,175
f3	Bank Deposit Account	793	770
f4	Central Finance Board		
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6	Other funds	2,456	8,887
f7	<b>SUB TOTAL - Church accounts</b>	<b>12,248 (c6)</b>	<b>18,446 (c8)</b>
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	<b>246 (e11)</b>	<b>366 (e12)</b>
f9	<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>	<b>12,494 (x)</b>	<b>18,812 (y)</b>

**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)	3,470,844	3,561,098
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 BEDALE & DISTRICT METHODIST Charity No 1168843

## 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 ..... *K. Lowrie* ..... Date *16/09/25* .....

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Kathleen Lowrie

Ashlea, Londonderry, Northallerton, North Yorkshire Post Code DL7 9ND

### 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 8th October 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..... *[Signature]* .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting *Rev Gareth Baron* ..... Date *08.10.25* .....

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Bedale & District Methodist Church

Charity Number 1168843

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Bedale & District 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

Name of Church BEDALE & DISTRICT METHODIST Charity No 1168843

### Independent Examiner's Statement

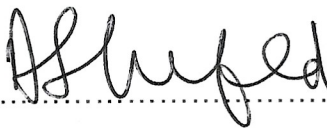
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below\*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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 Mr Alan Shinkfield

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACIB

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

Address 8 Oak Tree Drive, Bedale, North Yorkshire Post Code DL8 1UL

Date ..... 1/10/25 .....

\* delete or circle as appropriate