THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH OF WIMBLEDON AND RAYNES PARK

England & Wales · Charity number 1178284

Details

Other names	LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH, LMC, RAYNES PARK METHODIST CHURCH, WIMBLEDON METHODIST CHURCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2018-05-08
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Tolverne Road Raynes Park London SW20 8RA
Phone	02089463181
Email	lanternmethodist@gmail.com
Website	www.lanternmethodist.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PURPOSES OF THE METHODIST CHURCH ARE AND SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN SINCE THE DATE OF UNION THE ADVANCEMENT OF -(A) THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOCTRINAL STANDARDS AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH;(B) ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY CONNEXIONAL, DISTRICT, CIRCUIT, LOCAL OR OTHER ORGANISATION OF THE METHODIST CHURCH;(C) ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY SOCIETY OR INSTITUTION SUBSIDUARY OR ANCILLARY TO THE METHODIST CHURCH;(D) ANY PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY CHARITY BEING A CHARITY SUBSIDIARY OR ANCILLARY TO THE METHODIST CHURCH.

Activities: PROVIDE A CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN WORSHIP IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY WHICH IS OPEN TO ALL. THE PREMISES SUPPORT A WIDE RANGE OF YOUTH AND ADULT ACTIVITIES FOR BOTH THE CONGREGATION AND WIDER COMMUNITY.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Merton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£220,471	£220,916	-	-
2023-08-31	£210,715	£177,792	-	-
2022-08-31	£150,815	£243,600	-	-
2021-08-31	£182,350	£331,390	-	-
2020-08-31	£99,782	£60,160	-	-

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dawn Nicole Canham	Chair	2018-09-01
ALAN RICHARD BROWN		2019-09-01
Anita Brown		2023-01-08
DAWN DOWNES		2016-09-01
Dr RAJARATNAM JEYARAJAH		2016-09-01
HUMPHREY ROGER JAEGER		2016-09-01
JULIETTE KATHLEEN ROSEMARY JAEGER		2016-09-01
Lorna Mary Giraud		2023-01-08
MARGARET ELIZABETH JOYCE REDWAY		2016-09-01
Michael George Fuller		2022-09-11
Sally Rush		2024-09-08
Stephen Hall		2024-09-08
Susan Mary Fuller		2022-09-11
Tracy Henning		2024-09-08
WENDY MARGARET SIEMASZKO		2016-09-01

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THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH OF WIMBLEDON AND RAYNES PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1178284

Accounts

Charities and Public Benefit Annual Report
For the year ending
31st August 2024

The Lantern Methodist Church

Registered Charity Number - 1178284

The church forms part of the Wimbledon Circuit of the Methodist Church – Circuit Number 35/26.

Minister	**Deacon Dawn Canham**
Church Stewards	**Dawn Downes** **Wendy Siemaszko** **Juliette Jaeger** **Margaret Redway** **Angela Linton-Smith**
Church Treasurer	**Alan Brown**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 1302) (issued October 2019).

The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting and are listed in appendix A of this document. Further information about the Church Council is provided on page 9.

Governing Documents

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Methodist Church and as such it's governing documents are the sections pertaining to local churches within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Church. A copy is available at https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/governance/cpd/

Introduction & Executive Summary

Another exciting year at the Lantern Methodist Church as the charity has continued to develop new ways of worshiping and committing to hybrid gatherings through the use of various online social media.

Partnership is key to recovery and growth, it is in an ever-changing world at the core of our mission. The trustees of The Lantern Methodist Church would like to take this opportunity to underline that although in our financial statement it appears we have assets (buildings) which could realise if sold approx. £9,000,000 only a very small fraction of that sum would be available to The Lantern Methodist Church as all Methodist Churches are only managed by local trustees in a format of The Model Trust Fund. Any monies from the sale of Methodist Premises goes back to the Methodist Connexional accounts.

The Lantern Methodist Church in real terms has approx. £115,000 in unrestricted funds to manage and maintain our work across both Raynes Park and Wimbledon. The charity relies on donations, fundraising and rental of its premises.

Aims and Purposes

The charity's objectives are contained within our: -

Vision and Mission Plan

We are called to live out the creative, inclusive, radical and transforming love of Jesus Christ.
We endeavour to do this through blending and partnering with our communities; celebrating what we have in common and respecting differences.

We are a diverse worshipping community with a contemporary programme of praise, reflection and learning which enables us to be transformed to reflect our values.
Targets for 2020-2025.
- live streaming of Sunday services.
- expand current bible study session; enabling more informal sessions, online groups and creative study sessions.
- develop weekday opportunities for prayer and reflection. (retreat days, craft days etc).

We are in partnership with a thriving Christian arts centre. As a wider family we believe in the transforming power of the arts, gifted by the Holy Spirit.
Targets for 2020-2025.
- formalising the partnership between The Lantern Methodist Church and The Lantern Arts.
- sensitively update, refresh and improve our buildings through The Lantern Centre Project.

We commit to sharing with our local communities; safe spaces, opportunities and creative tools to explore, develop and deepen our experience as human beings.
Targets for 2020-2025.
- strengthen and develop links with the wider communities.
- provide accessible buildings (emotionally and physically).

Following the calling of the Methodist Church we endeavour to become lifelong learners; seeking to live with differences and to hold one another in love.
Targets for 2020-2025.
- deepen our links with Churches Together in West Wimbledon.
- expand opportunities to gather with other faith communities.
- provide e-learning services.

We believe all are truly welcome; reaching out to the margins of our communities, enabling social justice movements and discerning how we may serve all.
Targets for 2020-2025
- improve our environmental impact.
- affordable access to performances and paid activities.
- continue to develop our programmes designed to combat loneliness and social isolation.

The purposes of the charity are: -

The advancement of: -

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;

b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, Local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;

c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;

d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;

How Our Activities Deliver Public Benefit - Review of the year

The charity has continued to be a focal point in the local community and had an increasing number of people using the Church premises.

In addition to its regular activities the church held; prayer and praise for the 3rd age, ongoing pastoral support for the Lantern Arts Centre with pastoral team members present at all rehearsals and productions/events. The formation of a Project Group to assess the needs of the community in relation to the building and how with careful and thoughtful refurbishment of the entire Raynes Park site we may become a sustainable and welcoming community asset both physically and emotionally for many years to come. There have also been a number of successful fundraising events; for instance, our Christmas Celebration in partnership with Lantern Arts Centre (which includes performances, Christmas market, switch on of the outside Christmas tree and lights and foodie delights from our coffee house).

We also hosted the Merton Winter Night Shelter, in partnership with other local faith groups beginning in January for 7 weeks. Links have been maintained with those who stayed with us and support has been given.

The Lantern Hub is a community resource signposting people to not only the events and activities within the centre but also services and guidance in the broader Merton borough. People are encouraged to come in, socialise, learn new skills so as to alleviate isolation, loneliness and challenges related to mental health. This project is a collaboration with the Lantern Arts Centre, who were able to secure funding for human resources to manage the Hub.

Both sites provide facilities for community organisations to meet and provide social interaction in their local areas.

Financial Review

Income Trends

The charity's income comes from: -

The giving of church members / congregation, either in the Sunday collections or regular giving by standing orders. During 23/24 the income from donations rose by 25%.

Hall letting income: mainly from external users of the building, plus donations from church organisations and members of the congregation for use of the halls complex has reduced by 17% in 23/24.

Rental income from two church owned flats which are part of the Wimbledon Church complex increased by 12% during the 23/24 year.

The church's unrestricted income for the year is 9% lower in the 23/24 year, the main reduction being the reduced letting income from Wimbledon. The total income is 5% higher than 2023/24 due to a £25,000 grant from the District Advance Fund for the building project.

Expenditure trends

A major cost is in relation to the assessment paid to the Wimbledon Circuit, this amounts to 11% of our total cost this year. The Circuit assessment which is calculated on the number of members remained largely consistent with the previous year.

There has been a rise in electricity costs due to rising energy prices, an increase in staff costs of 19% and a rise in maintenance cost of 15% due to the site requiring more upkeep.

Trustees' Annual Report on Finance and Governance

Basis of preparation and legal framework

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the SORP 2019 (FRS 102).

Full Name of Charity / Church:
The Lantern Methodist Church of Wimbledon and Raynes Park
Registration Charity Number: 1178284
Date of registration (if registered as a Charity) 8th May 2018
Main communication address
The Lantern Methodist Church,
Tolverne Road
London
SW20 8RA

The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting.

Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

Treasurer: Mr Alan Brown

Independent Examiners: -

Matthew Hunt
℅ Digivolve Accountants
Delta House, Bridge Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1UA.

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Main Activities of the Charity

Worshiping God through the use of prayer, song and other acts of worship.
The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.
The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
The resourcing of pastoral work, which includes visiting the sick and bereaved.
Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
Encouraging links with the local community through providing a community centre for a range of community activities

The Lantern Methodist Church is a Methodist Church within the Wimbledon Circuit and serves the people of Wimbledon and Raynes Park.

Deacon Dawn Canham has ministerial responsibility for the Lantern Methodist Church and is supported in this by the other ministers within the Wimbledon Circuit.

As part of our mission, we continue to encourage links with the church, and our halls and facilities, to enable us to reach out to the local community and respond to their needs. Particularly, we reach out to those who may be less confident about their place in the community and their relationship with the church.

The Lantern Church is a friendly and welcoming church and uses a Café style of worship. The friendship and fellowship within the church is very highly valued by its congregation and we are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our church community.

As a church community, we have continued to support many activities in the local community and our thanks go to all those who have supported all the initiatives, activities and events that take place in our church and in the halls.

The Lantern Church has a close relationship with the Lantern Arts Centre which is based at the Raynes Park site. The Lantern Arts Centre, which was an offshoot of the church, focuses on the promotion of the Christian faith through Drama and other arts. The art centre runs activities for the young through to the old.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The Lantern Church provides a range of services. The church is normally laid out in a café style with chairs around round tables. The services usually involve interaction with the congregation for part of the services. Communion services are held when a member of the clergy team in the circuit is available to take the service. Prayer meetings are held on a weekly basis.

Sunday Services

A weekly Sunday Morning service is held at 10.30am at the Raynes Park site and a monthly service is held in the afternoon at Bradbury Court retirement complex, meeting the needs of those unable to leave their homes. A weekly service is also held at our Wimbledon site.

The Church and Church Halls

The premises are managed by our centre manager Steve Rees which includes not only income generation through lettings but also maintenance and upgrading of the buildings where required. We are also working closely with the Lantern Arts Centre on an ambitious reimagining of the grade 2 listed Raynes Park site.

What's on For Adults

A wide range of activities for adults take place at the Lantern Methodist Church each week, from social and support group (e.g. Weekly AA meetings and a fellowship group for the retired), through our partnership with the Lantern Arts Centre we offer film and book clubs, fitness and dance, amateur dramatics, prayer meetings and quiet/safe spaces. We also provide rooms on a daily and weekly basis for a foreign language church to meet. Our aim is to provide well maintained and well managed church premises for the local community to use for a diverse range of activities throughout the week and at the weekends. We provide facilities for groups from the church and in the local community, local charities and commercial organisations in order to develop our joint church into a true community church.

What's on For Children and young people

In partnership with the Lantern Arts Centre, we engage with our young people through the various theatre groups which run weekly - helping to make links between faith and the world, offering a safe space in which to explore difficult subjects and also to have fun. Through the Hub we offer a weekly play zone for young children and their carers, an enabled space to meet other carers, an opportunity for the children to learn and play and also an opportunity for the charity members to interact with the community and provide intergenerational interactions.

Through a diverse programme enabled by the Lantern Arts Centre the church community is actively encouraged to offer and enable the wide variety on offer.

At our Wimbledon site we have partnered with St John the Divine on the High Path estate, which is an area of social deprivation to provide a new toddler group, messy church and are working towards setting up a summer holiday club alongside the local primary school.

Pastoral Care

There is a small team chaired by the Minister and enabled by a pastoral secretary that coordinates all the pastoral visits, and cares for both the church/arts centre and community. Weekly bible study is enabled through our Raynes Park site, and we share in quarterly family meals within the main body of the church, and this is extended to all who call the Lantern home (Hub staff, Arts Centre and costume store). Our weekly prayer group is attended by a wide, diverse group from both the church and community as it is becoming known as a safe space, with a listening heart for all. Church members and attendees are actively encouraged to see pastoral care as a whole life experience not limited to church space but extended into every area of their lives.

Mission and Evangelism

The Minister is currently being enabled by the wider Methodist Church to research and promote healthy evangelism and to mission in its widest sense. This has seen the participation by the congregation in surveys to take the temperature of feeling to mission and evangelism, to envision growth and to seek to meet new people in new places, moving beyond the post-christendom position and into the 21st Century enabling a Christ-Centred space for all.

Future Plans

When planning our activities for the year, we consider the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our church community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the local area.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate and support this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church and halls buildings of The Lantern Methodist Church. The Raynes Park site, a grade 2 listed building which is about 111 years old needs refurbishment in order that it can support the work of the church in the local area. Our Building Project has continued to explore the way in which the site can be developed in a way that conserves the character of the building.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Lantern Methodist Church operates under the Constitution and Practice of the Methodist Church.

Church Council (CC)

The purpose of the Church Council (CC) with our minister, Deacon Dawn Canham, is to promote the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in the local neighbourhood. The Church Council is the church's governing body. Membership of the CC should therefore be taken seriously as it carries responsibility for financial and legal decisions made on behalf of the church. The CC appoints committees that have the authority to act within pre-defined areas of responsibility; supports the work of all such committees and receives their reports, making decisions on any matter of principle that may arise.

The CC membership includes the clergy, the Church Stewards, the CC Secretary, Church Treasurer, Convenors of Church Committees, Circuit Steward and 6 or more Ordinary Members. Ordinary Members are elected at the AGM to serve for a term of 3 years and can then be re-elected to serve a maximum of 6 years. Office holders are also elected annually, to serve a maximum of 6 years.

During the past year, the CC has overseen the work of the various Church Committees, giving approval as necessary. Church finances continue to be a matter of concern - see Finance report for more details. Other church business dealt with over the year includes: -

The requirement for the church to produce an annual report to the Charities Commission to update them on our activities throughout the year, which also allows us to apply for a refund of tax under the 'Gift Aid' scheme.

Regular review of the church policies, including Fire Safety Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy and training and our Travel Plan, which encourages our hall users to walk or use public transport.

Training of Trustees: Newly appointed trustees are supplied with a booklet of their responsibilities and denominational training sessions are supplied for treasurers.

Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit. This is a group of five local churches served by a team of three ministers. Each has a pastoral charge of one or more churches and will preach and lead worship in different local churches in the Circuit, along with Local Preachers.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and are monitored by the Trustees on an ongoing basis with professional advice taken as required.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of humans in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things, this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist policies outline commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- the careful selection and training of all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- an immediate response to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- a commitment to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- a commitment to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- the offer of pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognise good practice.

The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of the Safeguarding Policies of our parent church; government legislation; guidance and safe practice within its church.

The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people which will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

Reserves Policy

This reserves policy covers all church funds held by the Lantern Methodist Church.

At 31st August 2024 the Church held unrestricted funds of £9,444,195 (2023 £9,373,130) of which £9,328,620 (2023 £9,258,727) represented the value of the Church Property leaving net unrestricted funds of £115,575 (2023 £114,403).

The Church aims to hold Current Assets in reserve of at least 50% of the budgeted expenditure for the following year. Expenditure in 2024/25 is expected to be between £150,000 and £200,000, so the current level of unrestricted funds is as per the church's target.

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Statute law requires the Trustees to prepare the Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period under review. In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For and on behalf of the Trustees

Signed

Date: 10.06.2025

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH
(of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022/23
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
1 Offerings	4	19,496				**19,496**
2 Donations	5	4,728				**4,728**
3 Gift aid	6	0				**0**
4 Interest and investment income	7	1,644				1,644
5 Internal organisations	8	5,833				5,833
6 Other charitable income	9	179,014				**179,014**
7 **Total income**		**210,715**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**210,715**
Expenditure						
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	23,707				**23,707**
9 Grants and donations	10	578				**578**
10 Property maintenance	11	44,854				**44,854**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	48,583				**48,563**
12 Depreciation	13	675				**675**
13 Office expenses	14	5,543				**5,543**
14 Other expenditure	15	50,272				**50,272**
15 Internal organisations	8	3,600				**3,600**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**177,792**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**177,792**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		(640)				**(640)**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		0				**0**
19 Net income/(expenditure)		**32,283**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**32,283**
20 Transfers between funds		0				**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)	13	(371,848)				**(371,848)**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**(339,565)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(339,565)**
23 Total funds brought forward		9,712,695	0	0	0	**9,712,695**
24 Total funds carried forward		**9,373,130**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,373,130**

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH
(of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023/24
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
1 Offerings	4	24,071				**24,071**
2 Donations	5	3,984		1,612		**5,596**
3 Gift aid	6					
4 Interest and investment income	7	136				**136**
5 Internal organisations	8	6,842				6,842
6 Other charitable income	9	158,826		25,000		**183,826**
7 **Total income**		**193,859**	**0**	**26,612**	**0**	**220,471**
Expenditure						
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	22,900				**22,900**
9 Grants and donations	10	667				**667**
10 Property maintenance	11	51,798				**51,798**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	55,221				**55,221**
13 Office expenses	14	6,044				**6,044**
14 Other expenditure	15	58,511		20,932		**79,443**
15 Internal organisations	8	4,843				**4,843**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**199,984**	**0**	**20,932**	**0**	**220,916**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		2,317				**2,317**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		0				**0**
19 Net income/(expenditure)		**(3,808)**	**0**	**5,680**	**0**	**1,872**
20 Transfers between funds		0				**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)	13	69,193				**69,193**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**65,385**	**0**	**5,680**	**0**	**71,065**
23 Total funds brought forward		9,373,130	0	0	0	**9,373,130**
24 Total funds carried forward		**9,438,515**	**0**	**5,680**	**0**	**9,444,195**

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH
(of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	3 Endowment Funds £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
Fixed Assets							
Church building and other property	13	9,328,331				9,328,331	9,258,855
Other Assets	13	0				0	0
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		**9,328,330**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,328,330**	**9,258,854**
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	21	4,337				4,337	6,897
Internal Organisations	8	8,197				8,197	6,197
Investments with TMCP	20	59,670				59,670	57,353
Central Finance Board Deposits	21	9,951				9,951	4,415
Cash at Bank and in hand	21	35,238		5,680		40,918	43,821
Total current assets		**117,393**	**0**	**5,680**	**0**	**123,073**	**118,683**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	22	4,065				4,065	4,064
Tenant Deposits	22	2,800				2,800	0
External Charity	22	343				343	343
Total current liabilities		**7,208**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**7,208**	**4,407**
Net current assets/liabilities		**110,185**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**115,865**	**114,276**
Total assets less current liabilities		**9,438,515**	**0**	**5,680**	**0**	**9,444,195**	**9,373,130**
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2018-19						**0**	**0**
Loans to the Church						**0**	**0**
Net assets	**26**	**9,438,515**	**0**	**5,680**	**0**	**9,444,195**	**9,373,130**
Funds of the Church							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	26	**9,438,515**				9,438,515	**9,373,130**
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0	0
Total Unrestricted Funds						**9,438,515**	**9,373,130**
Restricted Funds				**5,680**		5,680	0
Endowment Funds					**0**	0	0
Total Funds		**9,438,515**	**0**	**5,680**	**0**	**9,444,195**	**9,373,130**

3

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these accounts.

Charity and Public Benefit Annual Report approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Church Treasurer: Date 10.06.2025

Chair of Church Council Date 10.06.2025

Notes to the Accounts

1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with SORP 2019 (FRS102), being the current version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice.

2. Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Church which are Unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations.

3. Accounting policies

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that property, land values and investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year (where it has not been possible to determine the historical costs), on an accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Church's financial position and activities.

Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Church becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Rents will be recorded when they are due / hiring event occurs.

Donated goods for onward transmission to other charities (chiefly food and clothing / bedding for a homeless charity) are passed immediately to that charity and are not included in the statement of financial activities as no benefit accrues to the charity.

The charity has not received any goods for use by the charity itself.

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements.

No services have been donated that would normally have been purchased.

Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Church to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Church from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Church accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

The Church deregistered for VAT in summer 2020 due to the income of the Lantern Coffee House (an Internal Organisation) dropping to zero and hence below the threshold for de-registering. Prior to de-registration the VAT liability was calculated on a composite rate basis agreed with HMRC. The church's income apart, with the exception of the Lantern Coffee House income, is exempt from VAT. All input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

Fixed assets

The freehold property was subject to re-valuation in 2019 by David Ambrose MRICS of Bramptons Chartered Surveyors & Valuers. Use of the Nationwide – All Property Index to calculate the valuation at 31/8/2024. See Note 13.

Investment Properties

No separate Investment Properties are owned by the charity. The flats at the Wimbledon Methodist Church site are an integral part of the Church Building and the valuation of the flats is included within the valuation of the church.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year-end are shown in the SOFA. Currently no investments are held.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors include outstanding lettings invoices, credits from Utility companies, and Gift Aid claims made in subsequent years.

Creditors

Creditors include out-standings relating to utilities, telephones, etc. and receipts in advance for the next financial year.

		Year Ending 31/08/2024	Year Ending 31/08/2023
4.	**Breakdown of Giving**		
	Standing Orders	18,330	17,676
	Envelopes & Loose Cash	5,741	1,820
	Total	**24,071**	**19,496**
5.	**Donations**		
	General Funds	3,984	4,728
	Donations (Restricted – Chair Fund)	1,612	
		5,596	**4,728**
6.	**Gift Aid**		
	The amount per year based on which tax year the donations were made are as follows: -		
	Gift Aid	**0**	**0**
7.	**Interest and investment income**		
	CFB - Deposit Account interest	45	153
	TMCP - Trust Fund Interest	91	1491
	Total	**136**	**1,644**
	Increase / (Decrease) in TMCP investment value is shown in row 17:	2,317	(640)

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8 **Internal Organisations**

There are two internal organisations – The Hub (previously called The Lantern Coffee House) and the Flower Fund.

	Opening Balance 01/09/2023	Income	Expenditure	Profit / (Loss)	Closing Balance 31/08/2024
Lantern Coffee House	6,037	6,842	4,842	2,000	8,037
Flower Fund	160	0	0	0	160
Totals from Internal Organisation Accounts	6,197	6,842	4,842	2,000	8.197

		Year Ending 31/08/2024	Year Ending 31/08/2023
9	**Other Charitable Income**		
	Premises Hire	119,381	143,076
	Costume Store (Joint venture with the Lantern Arts Centre) *Included in Premises Hire for 21/22*	0	0
	Lantern Arts Centre - Contribution for use of premises *Included in Premises Hire for 21/22*	0	0
	Church Flats (Rent)	36,764	32,990
	Refund of shared property costs from Wesley Court flats	0	0
	Fund raising	0	0
	Fund raising for Lantern Coffee relaunch	0	0
	Restricted – Lantern Project	25,000	0
	Miscellaneous Income	2,681	2,948
	Totals	**183,826**	**179,014**
10	**Grants & Donations**		
	Care for Uganda (Child Sponsorship)	162	108
	Methodist Housing	505	470
	Tear Fund donation	0	0
	Connexional Funds	0	0
	Totals	**667**	**578**
11	**Property Maintenance**		
	Cleaning	11,825	9,915
	Maintenance	30,845	26,429
	Lift Maintenance	2,011	2,393
	Flats	2,384	2,182
	Flats - Council Tax	4,733	4,935
	Totals	**51,798**	**44,854**
12	**Insurance, utilities etc.**		
	Insurance	12,139	11,523
	Gas	8,206	8,586
	Electricity	29,177	24,776
	Water	4,339	2,643
	Waste Collection	1,360	1,035
	Totals	**55,221**	**48,563**

13 Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Land Value - No depreciation has been included.
31/8/2019 Valuation £3m
31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £3,131,351
31/8/2021 index change 4.18479% ------ £3,262,391
31/8/2022 index change 6.99999% ------ £3,480,971
31/8/2023 index change -3.78% ---------- £3,349,422
31/8/2024 index change - 2.01% ---------- £3,416,856

Buildings –
31/8/2019 Valuation £5.586,000
31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £5.830,576
31/8/2021 index change 4.18479% ------ £5,953,081
31/8/2022 index change 6.99999% ------ £6,351,937
31/8/2023 index change -3.78% ---------- £6,111,670
31/8/2024 index change 2.01% ---------- £6,234,776

Increase in fixed Asset valuation in year ending 31/8/2024 ------- £190,572
Increase in church property & land valuation recorded as "Other gains / losses"

Building Depreciation (2%) --------- £323,013

Net 31/8/2024 Building Valuation ----- £5,911,763

Property Fixed Assets 31/8/2024 ---------- £9,328,619

All other items - Only single items and they will be depreciated over 5 years.
Depreciation will be applied in the year of purchase.

Item	Purchased	Price	Depreciation	
Round Tables & Storage Racks (For Church Use)	17/05/2019	3108	622	From 2018/19 to 2023/24
Office Equipment	15/03/2022	265	51	From 2021/22
Office Computers	19/03/2024	283	57	From 2023/24 to 2027/28
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2023		159		
Depreciation			731	
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2023		0		

14 Office Expenses

	31/08/2024	31/08/2023
Telephones	1,049	957
Stationery	3	235
Photocopier	1,487	1,262
IT Costs	682	933
Misc Office	2,295	2,156
Advertising	528	0
Total	**6,044**	**5,543**

15 Other Charitable Expenditure (see note)

	Year Ending 31/08/2024	Year Ending 31/08/2023
Fund Raising Expenses	413	257
Pension Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	1,565	1,298
Tax & NI Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	112	83
Church Employee Salaries	23,039	20,025
Centre Manage (Sub-contract)	29,420	24,000
Payroll Charges	1,382	902
Miscellaneous Expenses	471	648
Lantern Coffee House – VAT	0	0
Less LCH transfers	0	0
Lantern Coffee House Support / Equipment Purchases	0	0
Lantern Coffee House – Fund raised transfer to Internal Organisation & Expenses incurred in Church accounts (£74)	0	0
Worship Costs	1,132	749
Lantern Project	0	0
Wesley Court Shared Costs	0	0
Legal Costs	17	1,350
Charges for Card Machine used for donations	0	0
Payments to External Charities of Collections taken on their behalf	0	0
Restricted – Lantern Project	20,932	0
Property & Land Valuation	0	0
Audit / Independent Examination	960	960
Total	**79,443**	**50,272**

16. Payment to Trustees

		This year	Last year
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting	£	0	0

Note: - The Methodist Minister are not direct employees of the charity. They are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The charity makes contributions to the Wimbledon Circuit (Circuit Assessment) which among other things funds their stipends.

Number of trustees who were paid expenses		0	0
Nature of the expenses			
All payments were against receipts: -			
Total amount paid	£	0	0

17. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£	960	960
Other fees (e.g.: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£	0	0

18a. Paid employees (Directly Employed by the Church)

Staff Costs paid during the year were:			
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	23,039	20,025
Employer's National Insurance costs *(Impact of Statutory Sick Pay on Employer NIC rebate has not been included here)*	£	112	83
Pension costs	£	1,565	1,298
Total staff costs	£	24,716	21,046
Average number of staff employed during the year were:		2	2

No Employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

19. Report on Pension Scheme

The Lantern Methodist Church uses TPT Retirement Solutions to provide a pension scheme for it's employees (both those directly employed and those employed by the Lantern Coffee House an internal organisation). Information on the scheme performance is available is available on the TPT Retirement Solutions website – www.tpt.org.uk

The church offers a Defined Contribution Scheme (The Flexible Retirement Plan) to its employees.

In line with Methodist Church policy the pension scheme is based on a 6% contribution both by the employees and employer.

20. Investments

The investments that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium- and long-term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day-to-day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

Change in investment values

	This Year	Last Year
Value at beginning of year	57,353	57,607
Add: Additions	0	0
Less: Withdrawals (Including interest paid)	0	1,745
Add: Interest less administration	2,317	1,491
Value at end of year	59,670	57,353

TMCP currently hold legacy funds as shown on the Balance Sheet (Page 14) of this report.

21. Analysis of current assets

	This year	Last year
Debtors and prepayments	**£**	**£**
Prepayments (Credits) – Gift Aid / Utility Credit /	0	0
Other debtors (including lettings & rent)	4,337	6,897
Total debtors and prepayments	4,337	6,897

Analysis of cash at bank		
Cash in hand	0	0
Bank balance held in HSBC Account	748	748
Bank balance held in Barclays (Lantern Centre Account)	37,378	38,309
Bank balance held in Barclays (Salaries Account)	1,777	(21)
Bank balance held in Barclays (Church Account)	1,015	4,785
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Trustees Account)	6,747	1,211
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Revenue Reserve Account)	3,204	3,204
Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes (Trust Funds relating to Legacies) Non-Restricted	59,670	57,353
Total Cash and Bank	**110,539**	**105,589**
Debtors & Pre-payments	4,337	*6,897*
Internal Organisations	8,197	6,197
Total Current Assets	123,073	118,683

22. Analysis of current liabilities

Trade Creditors	0	0
Other Creditors	4,065	4,064
Less Money held for External Charities & Deposits held	3,143	343
Total Current Liabilities	**7,208**	**4,407**

23. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

At the 31st August 2024 the Church has no capital commitments.

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2024.

24. Restricted Funds

No Restricted Funds are currently held by the charity.

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
Chair Fund	0	1,612	0	0	0	1,612
Lantern Project	0	25,000	20,932	0	0	4,068
Totals	0	26,612	20,932	0	0	5,680

Internal Organisation funds are excluded from this analysis.

25. Related Party Transactions

This year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2024
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		22,900		
Total			**0**	**22,900**	**0**	**0**

Last year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2023
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		23,707		
Total			**0**	**23,707**	**0**	**0**

26 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1 September 2023	Income (incl. gains)	Expenditure (incl. losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	9,373,130	386,748	321,363	0	9,438,515
Restricted funds	0	26,612	20,932	0	5,680
Total Funds	**9,373,130**	**413,360**	**342,295**	**0**	**9,444,195**

The comparative figures for the previous year are shown below -

	Balance at 1 September 2022	Income (incl. gains)	Expenditure (incl. losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	9,712,695	210,715	550,280	0	9,373,130
Restricted funds	0	0		0	0
Total Funds	**9,712,695**	**210,715**	**550,280**	**0**	**9,373,130**

Currently the church does not hold any Restricted funds.

The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer		Date	10.06.2025
Name	Alan Brown		
Address	53 Richmond Road, SW20 0QD		

Presentation to the Church Council Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts were, or will be presented to the Church Council Meeting on

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	
Name of the Chair of the meeting	Deacon Dawn Canham
Date	10.06.2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2024 which are set out on pages 12 to 25.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity'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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying my examination I have followed all 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed

Matthew Hunt
Digivolve Accountants
Delta House
Bridge Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1UA

Appendix A ----- Church Council as elected at the AGM 08.09.2024

The CC is a body corporate and a charity accepted for registration with the Charity Commission. The CC members that have served until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members

Chair:	Deacon Dawn Canham
Treasurer:	Alan Brown
CC Secretary:	Wendy Siemaszko
Church Stewards:	Dawn Downes
	Juliette Jaeger
	Margaret Redway
	Angela Linton-Smith (Safeguarding Officer)

Elected members:

Lorna Giraud
Rosemary Evans
Sue Fuller
Mike Fuller
Anita Brown
Alan Brown
Humphrey Jaeger
Stephen Hall
Dave King
Darren Harmston-Gething

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH OF WIMBLEDON AND RAYNES PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1178284

Accounts

Charities and Public Benefit Annual Report
For the year ending
31st August 2023

The Lantern Methodist Church

Registered Charity Number - 1178284

The church forms part of the Wimbledon Circuit of the Methodist Church – Circuit Number 35/26.

Minister	**Deacon Dawn Canham**
Church Stewards	**Dawn Downes** **Wendy Siemaszko** **Juliette Jaeger** **Margaret Redway** **Angela Linton-Smith**
Church Treasurer	**Alan Brown**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 1302) (issued October 2019).

The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting and are listed in appendix A of this document. Further information about the Church Council is provided on page 9.

Governing Documents

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Methodist Church and as such it's governing documents are the sections pertaining to local churches within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Church. A copy is available at https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/governance/cpd/

Introduction & Executive Summary

Another exciting year at the Lantern Methodist Church as the charity has continued to develop new ways of worshiping and committing to hybrid gatherings through the use of various online social media.

Partnership is key to recovery and growth, it is in an ever-changing world at the core of our mission. The trustees of The Lantern Methodist Church would like to take this opportunity to underline that although in our financial statement it appears we have assets (buildings) which could realise if sold approx. £9,000,000 only a very small fraction of that sum would be available to The Lantern Methodist Church as all Methodist Churches are only managed by local trustees in a format of The Model Trust Fund. Any monies from the sale of Methodist Premises goes back to the Methodist Connexional accounts.

The Lantern Methodist Church in real terms has approx. £114,000 in unrestricted funds to manage and maintain our work across both Raynes Park and Wimbledon. The charity relies on donations, fundraising and rental of its premises.

Aims and Purposes

The charity's objectives are contained within our: -

Vision and Mission Plan

We are called to live out the creative, inclusive, radical and transforming love of Jesus Christ. We endeavour to do this through blending and partnering with our communities; celebrating what we have in common and respecting differences.

We are a diverse worshipping community with a contemporary programme of praise, reflection and learning which enables us to be transformed to reflect our values.
Targets for 2020-2025.
- live streaming of Sunday services.
- expand current bible study session; enabling more informal sessions, online groups and creative study sessions.
- develop weekday opportunities for prayer and reflection. (retreat days, craft days etc).

We are in partnership with a thriving Christian arts centre. As a wider family we believe in the transforming power of the arts, gifted by the Holy Spirit.
Targets for 2020-2025.
- formalising the partnership between The Lantern Methodist Church and The Lantern Arts.
- sensitively update, refresh and improve our buildings through The Lantern Centre Project.

We commit to sharing with our local communities; safe spaces, opportunities and creative tools to explore, develop and deepen our experience as human beings.
Targets for 2020-2025.
- strengthen and develop links with the wider communities.
- provide accessible buildings (emotionally and physically).

Following the calling of the Methodist Church we endeavour to become lifelong learners; seeking to live with differences and to hold one another in love.
Targets for 2020-2025.
- deepen our links with Churches Together in West Wimbledon.
- expand opportunities to gather with other faith communities.
- provide e-learning services.

We believe all are truly welcome; reaching out to the margins of our communities, enabling social justice movements and discerning how we may serve all.
Targets for 2020-2025
- improve our environmental impact.
- affordable access to performances and paid activities.
- continue to develop our programmes designed to combat loneliness and social isolation.

The purposes of the charity are: -

The advancement of: -

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;

b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, Local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;

c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;

d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;

How Our Activities Deliver Public Benefit - Review of the year

The charity has continued to be a focal point in the local community and had an increasing number of people using the Church premises.

In addition to its regular activities the church held; prayer and praise for the 3rd age, ongoing pastoral support for the Lantern Arts Centre with pastoral team members present at all rehearsals and productions/events. The formation of a Project Group to assess the needs of the community in relation to the building and how with careful and thoughtful refurbishment of the entire Raynes Park site we may become a sustainable and welcoming community asset both physically and emotionally for many years to come. There have also been a number of successful fundraising events; for instance, our Christmas Celebration in partnership with Lantern Arts Centre (which includes performances, Christmas market, switch on of the outside Christmas tree and lights and foodie delights from our coffee house).

We were also hosted the Merton Winter Night Shelter, in partnership with other local faith groups beginning in January for 7 weeks. Links have been maintained with those who stayed with us and support has been given.

The Lantern Coffee House has now been transformed into the Lantern Hub. It is a community resource signposting people to not only the events and activities within the centre but also services and guidance in the broader Merton borough. People are encouraged to come in, socialise, learn new skills so as to alleviate isolation, loneliness and challenges related to mental health. This project is a collaboration with the Lantern Arts Centre, who were able to secure funding for human resources to manage the Hub.

Both sites provide facilities for community organisations to meet and provide social interaction in their local areas.

Financial Review

Income Trends

The charity's income comes from:

- The giving of church members / congregation through offerings and donations, which has seen a 20% increase at £24,224 (£20,069 in 2021-22).

- Gift aid, though has not been claimed in this year. We are due to claim for periods 2021-22 and 2022-23 which is likely to yield between £5k and £8k.

- Hall letting income from external users of the building, which has risen by 22% (£26,094).

- Rental income from two church owned flats (part of the Wimbledon Church site), which increased during 2022/23 by £26,990.

The church's total income for the year is again below £250k on a cash book account basis. Despite this it has been decided to continue presenting the accounts on an accrual basis.

Due to careful management of the church it has operating profit for the year of £30,051 (£32,283 when Internal Organisations profits included).

Expenditure trends

A major cost is in relation to the assessment paid to the Wimbledon Circuit, this amounts to 13% of our total cost this year. The Circuit assessment which is calculated on the number of members increased by 6.9%.

The re-opening of the Church premises and increase in energy prices has resulted in an increase in Utility Costs of 29% (£10,939) and a rise in property maintenance cost of 28% (£9,845).

Trustees' Annual Report on Finance and Governance

Basis of preparation and legal framework

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the SORP 2019 (FRS 102).

Full Name of Charity / Church:
The Lantern Methodist Church of Wimbledon and Raynes Park
Registration Charity Number: 1178284
Date of registration (if registered as a Charity) 8th May 2018
Main communication address
The Lantern Methodist Church,
Tolverne Road
London
SW20 8RA

The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting.

Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

Treasurer: Mr Alan Brown

Independent Examiners: -

Matthew Hunt
% Digivolve Accountants
Delta House, Bridge Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1UA.

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Main Activities of the Charity

Worshiping God through the use of prayer, song and other acts of worship.
The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.
The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
The resourcing of pastoral work, which includes visiting the sick and bereaved.
Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
Encouraging links with the local community through providing a community centre for a range of community activities

The Lantern Methodist Church is a Methodist Church within the Wimbledon Circuit and serves the people of Wimbledon and Raynes Park.

Deacon Dawn Canham has ministerial responsibility for the Lantern Methodist Church and is supported in this by the other ministers within the Wimbledon Circuit.

As part of our mission, we continue to encourage links with the church, and our halls and facilities, to enable us to reach out to the local community and respond to their needs. Particularly, we reach out to those who may be less confident about their place in the community and their relationship with the church.

The Lantern Church is a friendly and welcoming church and uses a Café style of worship. The friendship and fellowship within the church is very highly valued by its congregation and we are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our church community.

As a church community, we have continued to support many activities in the local community and our thanks go to all those who have supported all the initiatives, activities and events that take place in our church and in the halls.

The Lantern Church has a close relationship with the Lantern Arts Centre which is based at the Raynes Park site. The Lantern Arts Centre, which was an off shoot of the church focuses on the promotion of the Christian faith through Drama and other arts. The art centre runs activities for the young through to the old.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The Lantern Church provides a range of services. The church is normally laid out in a café style with chairs around round tables. The services usually involve interaction with the congregation for part of the services. Communion services are held when a member of the clergy team in the circuit is available to take the service. Prayer meetings are held on a weekly basis.

Sunday Services

A weekly Sunday Morning service is held at 10.30am at the Raynes Park site and a monthly Dementia Friendly service is held in the afternoon at the Wimbledon Site.

The Church and Church Halls

The premises are managed by our centre manager Steve Rees which includes not only income generation through lettings but also maintenance and upgrading of the buildings where required. We are also working closely with the Lantern Arts Centre on an ambitious reimagining of the grade 2 listed Raynes Park site.

What's on For Adults

A wide range of activities for adults take place at the Lantern Methodist Church each week, from social and support group (e.g. twice weekly AA meetings and a fellowship group for the retired), through our partnership with the Lantern Arts Centre we offer film and book clubs, fitness and dance, amateur dramatics, prayer meetings and quiet/safe spaces. We also provide rooms on a daily and weekly basis for a foreign language church to meet. Our aim is to provide well maintained and well managed church premises for the local community to use for a diverse range of activities throughout the week and at the weekends. We provide facilities

for groups from the church and in the local community, local charities and commercial organisations in order to develop our joint church into a true community church.

What's on For Children and young people

In partnership with the Lantern Arts centre we engage with our young people through the various theatre groups which run weekly - helping to make links between faith and the world, offering a safe space in which to explore difficult subjects and also to have fun. Through the Hub we offer a weekly play zone for young children and their carers, an enabled space to meet other carers, an opportunity for the children to learn and play and also an opportunity for the charity members to interact with the community and provide intergenerational interactions.

Through a diverse programme enabled by the Lantern Arts Centre the church community is actively encouraged to offer and enable the wide variety on offer.

At our Wimbledon site we have partnered with St John the Divine on the High Path estate, which is an area of social depravation to provide a new toddler group, messy church and are working towards setting up a summer holiday club alongside the local primary school.

Pastoral Care

There is a small team chaired by the Minister and enabled by a pastoral secretary that coordinates all the pastoral visits, and care for both the church/arts centre and community. Weekly bible study in enabled through our Raynes Park site, and we share in quarterly family meals within the main body of the church and this is extended to all who call the Lantern home (Hub staff, Arts Centre and costume store). Our weekly prayer group is attended by a wide, diverse group from both the church and community as is becoming known as a safe space, with a listening heart for all. Church members and attendees are actively encouraged to see pastoral care as a whole life experience not limited to church space; but extended into every area of their lives.

Mission and Evangelism

The Minister is currently being enabled by the wider Methodist Church to research and promote healthy evangelism and to mission in its widest sense. This has seen the participation by the congregation in surveys to take the temperature of feeling to mission and evangelism, to envision growth and to seek to meet new people in new places, moving beyond the post-christendom position and into the 21st Century enabling a Christ-Centred space for all. As a result of this we have welcomed 4 new members in the last 12 months.

Future Plans

When planning our activities for the year, we consider the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our church community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the local area.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate and support this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church and halls buildings of The Lantern Methodist Church. The Raynes Park site, a grade 2 listed building which is about 110 years old needs refurbishment in order that it can support the work of the church in the local area. Our Building Project has continued to explore the way in which the site can be developed in a way that conserves the character of the building.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Lantern Methodist Church operates under the Constitution and Practice of the Methodist Church.

Church Council (CC)

The purpose of the Church Council (CC) with our minister, Deacon Dawn Canham, is to promote the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in the local neighbourhood. The Church Council is the church's governing body. Membership of the CC should therefore be taken seriously as it carries responsibility for financial and legal decisions made on behalf of the church. The CC appoints committees that have the authority to act within pre-defined areas of responsibility; supports the work of all such committees and receives their reports, making decisions on any matter of principle that may arise.

The CC membership includes the clergy, the Church Stewards, the CC Secretary, Church Treasurer, Convenors of Church Committees, Circuit Steward and 6 Ordinary Members. Ordinary Members are elected at the AGM to serve for a term of 3 years and can then be re-elected to serve a maximum of 6 years. Office holders are also elected annually, to serve a maximum of 6 years.

During the past year, the CC has overseen the work of the various Church Committees, giving approval as necessary. Church finances continue to be a matter of concern - see Finance report for more details. Other church business dealt with over the year includes: -

- The requirement for the church to produce an annual report to the Charities Commission to update them on our activities throughout the year, which also allows us to apply for a refund of tax under the 'Gift Aid' scheme.
- Regular review of the church policies, including Fire Safety Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy and training and our Travel Plan, which encourages our hall users to walk or use public transport.

Training of Trustees: Newly appointed trustees are supplied with a booklet of their responsibilities and denominational training sessions are supplied for treasurers.

Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit. This is a group of five local churches served by a team of three ministers. Each has pastoral charge of one or more churches and will preach and lead worship in different local churches in the Circuit, along with Local Preachers.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and are monitored by the Trustees on an ongoing basis with professional advice taken as required.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things, this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist policies outline commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- the careful selection and training of all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- an immediate response to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- a commitment to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

- a commitment to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- the offer of pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- in all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of the Safeguarding Policies of our parent church; government legislation; guidance and safe practice within its church.

The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people which will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

Reserves Policy

This reserves policy covers all church funds held by the Lantern Methodist Church.

At 31st August 2023 the Church held unrestricted funds of £9,373,130 (2022 £9,712,695) of which £9,258,727 (2022 £9,630,543) represented the value of the Church Property leaving net unrestricted funds of £114,403 (2022 £82,152).

The Church aims to hold Current Assets in reserve of at least 50% of the budgeted expenditure for the following year. The budgeted expenditure for 2023/24 is £150,000 so we aim to hold £75,000 in reserves.

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Statute law requires the Trustees to prepare the Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period under review. In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For and on behalf of the Trustees

Signed

Date: 14.05.2024

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total	2021/22
		£	£	£	£		£
Income							
1 Offerings	4	17,370					**17,370**
2 Donations	5	2,699					**2,699**
3 Gift aid	6	0					**0**
4 Interest and investment income	7	491					**491**
5 Internal organisations	8	4,235					**4,235**
6 Other charitable income	9	126,020					**126,020**
7 **Total income**		**150,815**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**150,815**
Expenditure							
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	22,168					**22,168**
9 Grants and donations	,10	257					**257**
10 Property maintenance	11	35,009					**35,009**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	37,624					**37,624**
12 Depreciation	13	83,977					**83,977**
13 Office expenses	14	8,085					**8,085**
14 Other expenditure	15	54,215		10,000			**64,215**
15 Internal organisations	8	2,265					**2,265**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**243,600**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**		**253,600**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		(1,234)					**(1,234)**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		0					**0**
19 Net income/(expenditure)		**(94,019)**	**0**	**(10,000)**	**0**		**(104,019)**
20 Transfers between funds		0					**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)	13	617,437					**617,437**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**523,418**	**0**	**(10,000)**	**0**		**513,418**
23 Total funds brought forward		9,189,277	0	(10,000)	0		**9,199,277**
24 Total funds carried forward		**9,712,695**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**9,712,695**

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH
(of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total	2022/23
		£	£	£	£		£
Income							
1 Offerings	4	19,496					**19,496**
2 Donations	5	4,728					**4,728**
3 Gift aid	6						
4 Interest and investment income	7	1,644					**1,644**
5 Internal organisations	8	5,833					**5,833**
6 Other charitable income	9	179,014					**179,014**
7 **Total income**		**210,715**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**210,715**
Expenditure							
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	23,707					**23,707**
9 Grants and donations	,10	578					**578**
10 Property maintenance	11	44,854					**44,854**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	48,563					**48,563**
12 Depreciation	13	675					**675**
13 Office expenses	14	5,543					**5,543**
14 Other expenditure	15	50,272					**50,272**
15 Internal organisations	8	3,600					**3,600**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**177,792**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**177,792**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		(640)					**(640)**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		0					**0**
19 Net income/(expenditure)		**32,283**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**32,283**
20 Transfers between funds		0					**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)	13	(371,848)					**(371,848)**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**(339,565)**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**(339,565)**
23 Total funds brought forward		9,712,695	0	0	0		**9,712,695**
24 Total funds carried forward		**9,373,130**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**9,373,130**

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH
(of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2023 £	Totals 2022 £
Fixed Assets							
Church building and other property	13	9,258,727				9,258,727	9,630,543
Other Assets	13	127				127	834
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		**9,258,854**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,258,854**	**9,631,377**
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	21	6,897				6,897	2,154
Internal Organisations	8	6,197				6,197	3,965
Investments with TMCP	20	57,353				57,353	57,607
Central Finance Board Deposits	21	4,415				4,415	3,163
Cash at Bank and in hand	21	43,821				43,821	17,871
Total current assets		**118,683**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**118,683**	**84,760**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	22	4,064				4,064	3,099
Tenant Deposits	22					0	0
External Charity	22	343				343	343
Total current liabilities		**4,407**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4,407**	**3,442**
Net current assets/liabilities		**114,276**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**114,276**	**81,318**
Total assets less current liabilities		**9,373,130**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,373,130**	**9,712,695**
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2018-19						**0**	**0**
Loans to the Church						**0**	**0**
Net assets	**26**	**9,373,130**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,373,130**	**9,712,695**
Funds of the Church							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	26	**9,373,130**				9,373,130	**9,712,695**
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0	0
Total Unrestricted Funds						**9,373,130**	**9,712,695**
Restricted Funds						0	0
Endowment Funds					0	0	0
Total Funds		**9,373,130**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,373,130**	**9,712,695**

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these accounts.

Charity and Public Benefit Annual Report approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Church Treasurer: Date 14.05.2024

Chair of Church Council Date 14.05.2024

Notes to the Accounts

1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with SORP 2019 (FRS102), being the current version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice.

2. Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Church which are Unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations.

3. Accounting policies

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that property, land values and investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year (where it has not been possible to determine the historical costs), on an accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Church's financial position and activities.

Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Church becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Rents will be recorded when they are due / hiring event occurs.

Donated goods for onward transmission to other charities (chiefly food and clothing / bedding for a homeless charity) are passed immediately to that charity and are not included in the statement of financial activities as no benefit accrues to the charity.

The charity has not received any goods for use by the charity itself.

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements.

No services have been donated that would normally have been purchased.

Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Church to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Church from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Church accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

The Church deregistered for VAT in summer 2020 due to the income of the Lantern Coffee House (an Internal Organisation) dropping to zero and hence below the threshold for de-registering. Prior to de-registration the VAT liability was calculated on a composite rate basis agreed with HMRC. The church's income apart, with the exception of the Lantern Coffee House income, is exempt from VAT. All input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

Fixed assets

The freehold property was subject to re-valuation in 2019 by David Ambrose MRICS of Bramptons Chartered Surveyors & Valuers. Use of the Nationwide – All Property Index to calculate the valuation at 31/8/2023. See Note 13.

Investment Properties

No separate Investment Properties are owned by the charity. The flats at the Wimbledon Methodist Church site are an integral part of the Church Building and the valuation of the flats is included within the valuation of the church.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA. Currently no investments are held.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors include outstanding lettings invoices, credits from Utility companies, and Gift Aid claims made in subsequent years.

Creditors

Creditors include out-standings relating to utilities, telephones, etc. and receipts in advance for the next financial year.

		Year Ending 31/08/2023	Year Ending 31/08/2022
4.	**Breakdown of Giving**		
	Standing Orders	17,676	14,640
	Envelopes & Loose Cash	1,820	2,730
	Total	**19,496**	**17,370**
5.	**Donations**		
	General Funds	4,728	2,699
	Legacies (Restricted – Night Shelter)		
		4,728	**2,699**
6.	**Gift Aid**		
	The amount per year based on which tax year the donations were made are as follows:-		
	Gift Aid	**0**	**0**
7.	**Interest and investment income**		
	CFB - Deposit Account interest	153	20
	TMCP - Trust Fund Interest	1491	471
	Total	**1,644**	**491**
	Increase / (Decrease) in TMCP investment value is shown in row 17:	(640)	(1,234)

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8 **Internal Organisations**

There are three internal organisations - The Lantern Coffee; Fellowship and the Flower Fund.
The Lantern Coffee house ceased trading on the 31/8/2020 with some residual financial transactions this year.
A fund has been established to support its re-opening and fund raising has taken place this year.
The Fellowship ceased meeting and the members agreed to transfer it's funds to the Lantern Coffee house fund.

	Opening Balance 01/09/2022	Income	Expenditure	Profit / (Loss)	Closing Balance 31/08/2023
Lantern Coffee House	3,804	5,833	3,600	2,233	6,037
Fellowship	0	0	0	0	0
Flower Fund	161	0	0	0	161
Totals from Internal Organisation Accounts	3,965	5,833	3,600	2,232	6,197

		Year Ending 31/08/2023	Year Ending 31/08/2022
9	**Other Charitable Income**		
	Premises Hire	143,076	116,982
	Costume Store (Joint venture with the Lantern Arts Centre)		
	Included in Premises Hire for 21/22	0	0
	Lantern Arts Centre - Contribution for use of premises		
	Included in Premises Hire for 21/22	0	0
	Church Flats (Rent)	32,990	6,000
	Refund of shared property costs from Wesley Court flats	0	0
	Fund raising	0	0
	Fund raising for Lantern Coffee relaunch	0	0
	Grants	0	497
	Miscellaneous Income	2,948	2,541
	Totals	**179,014**	**126,020**
10	**Grants & Donations**		
	Care for Uganda (Child Sponsorship)	108	162
	Methodist Housing	470	95
	Tear Fund donation	0	0
	Connexional Funds	0	0
	Totals	**578**	**257**
11	**Property Maintenance**		
	Cleaning	9,915	9,315
	Maintenance	26,429	16,614
	Lift Maintenance	2,393	770
	Flats	1,182	4,058
	Flats - Council Tax	4,935	4,252
	Totals	**44,854**	**35,009**
12	**Insurance, utilities etc.**		
	Insurance	11,523	9,935
	Gas	8,586	8,596
	Electricity	24,776	16,371
	Water	2,643	1,627
	Waste Collection	1,035	1,095
	Totals	**48,563**	**37,624**

13 **Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Land Value - No depreciation has been included.
31/8/2019 Valuation £3m
31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £3,131,351
31/8/2021 index change 4.18479% ------ £3,262,391
31/8/2022 index change 6.99999% ------ £3,480,971
31/8/2023 index change -3.78% ---------- £3,349,422

Buildings –
31/8/2019 Valuation £5.586,000
31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £5.830,576
31/8/2021 index change 4.18479% ------ £5,953,081
31/8/2022 index change 6.99999% ------ £6,351,937
31/8/2023 index change -3.78% ---------- £6,111,670

Decrease in fixed Asset valuation in year ending 31/8/2023 ------- (£371,848)
Increase in church property & land valuation recorded as "Other gains / losses"

Building Depreciation (2%) --------- £202,365

Net 31/8/2023 Building Valuation ----- £5,909,305

Property Fixed Assets 31/8/2023 ---------- £9,258,727

All other items - Only single items and they will be depreciated over 5 years.
Depreciation will be applied in the year of purchase.

Item	Purchased	Price	Depreciation	
Round Tables & Storage Racks (For Church Use)	17/05/2019	3108	622	From 2018/19 to 2023/24
Office Equipment	15/03/2022	265	51	From 2021/22
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2022		834		
Depreciation			675	
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2023		127		

14 **Office Expenses**

	31/08/2023	31/08/2022
Telephones	957	862
Stationery	235	126
Photocopier	1,262	1,515
IT Costs	933	5,503
Misc Office	2,156	79
Total	**5,543**	**8,085**

15 **Other Charitable Expenditure (see note)**

	Year Ending 31/08/2023	Year Ending 31/08/2022
Fund Raising Expenses	257	511
Pension Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	1,298	1,288
Tax & NI Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	83	109
Church Employee Salaries	20,025	12,635
Centre Manage (Sub-contract)	24,000	23,750
Payroll Charges	902	1,139
Miscellaneous Expenses	648	195
Lantern Coffee House – VAT	0	0
Less LCH transfers	0	0
Lantern Coffee House Support / Equipment Purchases	0	0
Lantern Coffee House – Fund raised transfer to Internal Organisation & Expenses incurred in Church accounts (£74)	0	0
Worship Costs	747	349
Lantern Project	0	15,548
Wesley Court Shared Costs	0	0
Legal Costs	1,350	7,731
Charges for Card Machine used for donations	0	0
Payments to External Charities of Collections taken on their behalf	0	0
Night Shelter (External Money shown as a liability on balance sheet)	0	0
Property & Land Valuation	0	0
Audit / Independent Examination	960	960
Total	**50,270**	**64,215**

16. Payment to Trustees

		This year	Last year
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting	£	0	0

Note:- The Methodist Minister are not direct employees of the charity. They are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The charity makes contributions to the Wimbledon Circuit (Circuit Assessment) which among other things funds their stipends.

Number of trustees who were paid expenses		0	0
Nature of the expenses			
All payments were against receipts:-			
Total amount paid	£	0	393

17. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£	960	960
Other fees (e.g.: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£	0	0

18a. Paid employees (Directly Employed by the Church)

Staff Costs paid during the year were:			
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	20,025	12,635
Employer's National Insurance costs *(Impact of Statutory Sick Pay on Employer NIC rebate has not been included here)*	£	83	109
Pension costs	£	1,298	1,288
Total staff costs	£	21,046	14,032
Average number of staff employed during the year were:		2	2

No Employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

19. Report on Pension Scheme

The Lantern Methodist Church uses TPT Retirement Solutions to provide a pension scheme for it's employees (both those directly employed and those employed by the Lantern Coffee House an internal organisation). Information on the scheme performance is available is available on the TPT Retirement Solutions website – www.tpt.org.uk

The church offers a Defined Contribution Scheme (The Flexible Retirement Plan) to its employees.

In line with Methodist Church policy the pension scheme is based on a 6% contribution both by the employees and employer.

20. Investments

The investments that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium- and long-term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

Change in investment values

	This Year	Last Year
Value at beginning of year	57,607	58,841
,Add: Additions	0	0
Less: Withdrawals (Including interest paid)	1,745	1,706
Add: Interest less administration	1491	472
Value at end of year	57,353	57,607

TMCP currently hold legacy funds as shown on the Balance Sheet (Page 14) of this report.

21. Analysis of current assets

	This year	Last year
Debtors and prepayments	**£**	**£**
Prepayments (Credits) – Gift Aid / Utility Credit /	0	0
Other debtors (including lettings & rent)	6,897	2,154
Total debtors and prepayments	6,897	2,154
Analysis of cash at bank		
Cash in hand	0	0
Bank balance held in HSBC Account	748	748
Bank balance held in Barclays (Lantern Centre Account)	38,309	9,653
Bank balance held in Barclays (Salaries Account)	(21)	5
Bank balance held in Barclays (Church Account)	4,785	7,465
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Trustees Account)	1,211	67
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Revenue Reserve Account)	3,204	3,096
Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes (Trust Funds relating to Legacies) Non-Restricted	57,353	57,607
Total Cash and Bank	**105,589**	**78,641**
Debtors & Pre-payments	6,897	*2,154*
Internal Organisations	6,197	3,965
Total Current Assets	118,683	*84,760*

22. Analysis of current liabilities

Trade Creditors	0	0
Other Creditors	4,064	3,099
Less Money held for External Charities & Deposits held	343	343
Total Current Liabilities	**4,407**	**3,442**

23. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

At the 31st August 2023 the Church has no capital commitments.

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023.

24. Restricted Funds

No Restricted Funds are currently held by the charity.

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
Totals						

Internal Organisation funds are excluded from this analysis.

25. Related Party Transactions

This year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2023
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		23,707		
Total			**0**	**23,707**	**0**	**0**

Last year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2022
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		22,168		
Total			**0**	**22,168**	**0**	**0**

26 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1 September 2022	Income (incl. gains)	Expenditure (incl. losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	9,712,695	210,715	550,280	0	9,373,130
Restricted funds	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	**9,712,695**	**210,715**	**550,280**	**0**	**9,373,130**

The comparative figures for the previous year are shown below -

	Balance at 1 September 2021	Income (incl. gains)	Expenditure (incl. losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	9,189,277	767,018	243,600	0	9,712,695
Restricted funds	10,000	0	10,000	0	0
Total Funds	**9,199,277**	**767,018**	**253,600**	**0**	**9,712,695**

Currently the church does not hold any Restricted funds.

The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer		Date	14.05.2024
Name	Alan Brown		
Address	53 Richmond Road, SW20 0QD		

Presentation to the Church Council Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts were, or will be presented to the Church Council Meeting on 16.05.2024

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	
Name of the Chair of the meeting	Deacon Dawn Canham
Date	14.05.2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2023 which are set out on pages 12 to 25.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity'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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying my examination I have followed all 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed

Matthew Hunt
Digivolve Accountants
Delta House
Bridge Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1UA

Appendix A ----- Church Council as elected at the AGM 11.09.2022

The CC is a body corporate and a charity accepted for registration with the Charity Commission. The CC members that have served until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members

Chair:	Deacon Dawn Canham
Treasurer:	Alan Brown
CC Secretary:	Wendy Siemaszko
Church Stewards:	Dawn Downes
	Juliette Jaeger
	Margaret Redway
	Angela Linton-Smith (Safeguarding Officer)

Elected members:

Lorna Giraud
Rosemary Evans
Sue Fuller
Mike Fuller
Anita Brown
Alan Brown
Humphrey Jaeger
Ashleigh Linton-Smith 0

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH OF WIMBLEDON AND RAYNES PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1178284

Accounts

Charities and Public Benefit Annual Report for the year ending 31st August 2022

The Lantern Methodist Church

Registered Charity Number - 1178284

The church forms part of the Wimbledon Circuit of the Methodist Church - Circuit Number 35/26.

Minister:	**Deacon Dawn Canham**
Church Stewards:	**Dawn Downes** **Wendy Siemaszko** **Juliette Jaeger** **Margaret Redway** **Angela Linton-Smith**
Church Treasurer:	**Alan Brown**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2022. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 1302) (issued October 2019).

The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting and are listed in appendix A of this document. Further information about the Church Council is provided on page 9.

Governing Documents

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Methodist Church and as such it's governing documents are the sections pertaining to local churches within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Church. A copy is available at https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/governance/cpd/

Introduction & Executive Summary

The past year at The Lantern Methodist Church has focused on learning and understanding to enable us to work with our local communities. This has resulted in the charity becoming registered to conduct same-sex marriages (we were already registered to conduct mixed sex marriages).

The charity has continued to develop new ways of worshiping and committed to hybrid gatherings through the use of various online social media. This has enabled a wider diversity of participation with our worship gatherings. Partnership has been the key to this and it is at the core of our mission.

The trustees of The Lantern Methodist Church would like to take this opportunity to underline that although in our financial statement it appears we have assets (buildings) which could realise if sold approx. £9,700,000 only a very small fraction of that sum would be available to The Lantern Methodist Church as all Methodist Churches are only managed by local trustees in a format of The Model Trust Fund. Any monies from the sale of Methodist Premises goes back to the Methodist Connexional accounts.

The Lantern Methodist Church in real terms has approx. £82,000 in unrestricted funds to manage and maintain our work across both Raynes Park and Wimbledon. The charity relies on donations, fund raising and rental of its premises.

Aims and Purposes

The charity's objectives are contained within our: -

Vision and Mission Plan

We are called to live out the creative, inclusive, radical and transforming love of Jesus Christ. We endeavour to do this through blending and partnering with our communities; celebrating what we have in common and respecting differences.

We are a diverse worshipping community with a contemporary programme of praise, reflection and learning which enables us to be transformed to reflect our values.
Targets for 2020-2025
live streaming of Sunday Services
expand current bible study session; enabling more informal sessions, online groups and creative study sessions.
develop weekday opportunities for prayer and reflection. (retreat days, craft days etc)

We are in partnership with a thriving Christian arts centre. As a wider family we believe in the transforming power of the arts, gifted by the Holy Spirit.
Targets for 2020-2025
formalising the partnership between The Lantern Methodist Church and The Lantern Arts.
sensitively update, refresh and improve our buildings through The Lantern Centre Project.

We commit to sharing with our local communities; safe spaces, opportunities and creative tools to explore, develop and deepen our experience as human beings.
Targets for 2020-2025.
strengthen and develop links with the wider communities.
provide accessible buildings (emotionally and physically)

Following the calling of the Methodist Church we endeavour to become lifelong learners; seeking to live with differences and to hold one another in love.
Targets for 2020-2025
deepen our links with Churches Together in West Wimbledon
expand opportunities to gather with other faith communities
provide e-learning services

We believe all are truly welcome; reaching out to the margins of our communities, enabling social justice movements and discerning how we may serve all.
Targets for 2020-2025
improve our environmental impact
affordable access to performances and paid activities
continue to develop our programmes designed to combat loneliness and social isolation.

The purposes of the charity are: -

The advancement of: -

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;

b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, Local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;

c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;

d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;

How Our Activities Deliver Public Benefit - Review of the year

The charity has continued to be a focal point in the local community and had an increasing number of people using the Church premises until the pandemic hit.

In addition to its regular activities the church held; prayer and praise for the 3rd age, ongoing pastoral support for the Lantern Arts centre with pastoral team members present at all rehearsals and productions/events. The formation of a Project Group to assess the needs of the community in relation to the building and how with careful and thoughtful refurbishment of the entire Raynes Park site we may become a sustainable and welcoming community asset both physically and emotionally for many years to come. There have also been a number of successful fundraising events; for instance, the second year of our Christmas Celebration in partnership with Lantern Arts Centre (which includes performances, Christmas market, switch on of the outside Christmas tree and lights and foodie delights from our coffee house).

We were also due to host the Merton Winter Night Shelter, in partnership with other local faith groups beginning in March for 6 weeks; but due to the COVID 19 Pandemic the guests were instead housed in hotels by the government. Links were maintained with those who were due to stay with us and support given.

The Lantern Coffee House provided an open door to the local community through which help can be provided up until it had to close due to the pandemic. Unfortunately, in August it was necessary to close the Coffee house completely and make the employees redundant as it was clear that operational limitations due to COVID 19 meant that it could not be operated profitably and the church could not cover the resultant losses.

Both sites provide facilities for community organisations to meet and provide social interaction for the local communities.

Financial Review

Income Trends

The total operating income 2021-22 was £150,323, which was an increase of 17% compared to the previous year. Donations and legacies decreased by 20%. The main increase in income was due to lettings which increased by 19% to £122,981. This could have been higher had the planned lease of the Wimbledon flats to the YMCA been successful. Gift Aid was not claimed in this financial year.

Expenditure trends

The total operating expenditure in 2021-22 was £154,075. This was approx. £38k more than the previous year. Some of this additional expenditure was unusual and is detailed below:

- £4k legal costs for the aborted lease with YMCA
- £4.3k legal costs associated with the collaboration agreement and lease with the Lantern Arts Centre. This is now drafted.
- £2.5k Sanctuary audio visual upgrade.
- £10-12k of unusual maintenance costs between both Wimbledon and Raynes Park sites. This included some renovation of the Wimbledon flats and drainage repairs at Raynes Park.

Outside of the operating expenditure a further £15k was spent on the Lantern Building Project. This expenditure was funded in part by the £10k grant received in the previous accounting year.

As such whilst the net income /expenditure shows a slight loss, the unusual expenditure listed would not be expected in the coming year.

Trustees' Annual Report on Finance and Governance

Basis of preparation and legal framework

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the SORP 2019 (FRS 102).

- Full Name of Charity / Church:
  The Lantern Methodist Church of Wimbledon and Raynes Park
- Registration Charity Number: 1178284
- Date of registration (if registered as a Charity) 8th May 2018
- Main communication address: The Lantern Methodist Church, Tolverne Road London, SW20 8RA

The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting.

Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

Treasurer: Mr Alan Brown

Independent Examiners:
- Matthew Hunt
- Digivolve Accountants
  Delta House, Bridge Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1UA.

Investment Bankers:
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church Trustees for Methodist Church purposes.

Main Activities of the Charity

Worshiping God through the use of prayer, song and other acts of worship.
The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.
The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
The resourcing of pastoral work, which includes visiting the sick and bereaved.
Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
Encouraging links with the local community through providing a community centre for a range of community activities

The Lantern Methodist Church is a Methodist Church within the Wimbledon Circuit and serves the people of Wimbledon and Raynes Park.

Deacon Dawn Canham has ministerial responsibility for the Lantern Methodist Church and is supported in this by the other ministers within the Wimbledon Circuit.

As part of our mission, we continue to encourage links with the church, and our halls and facilities, to enable us to reach out to the local community and respond to their needs. Particularly, we reach out to those who may be less confident about their place in the community and their relationship with the church.

The Lantern Church is a friendly and welcoming church and uses a Café style of worship. The friendship and fellowship within the church is very highly valued by its congregation and we are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our church community.

As a church community, we have continued to support many activities in the local community and our thanks go to all those who have supported all the initiatives, activities and events that take place in our church and in the halls.

The Lantern Church has a close relationship with the Lantern Arts Centre which is based at the Raynes Park site. The Lantern Arts Centre, which was an off shoot of the church focuses on the promotion of the Christian faith through Drama and other arts. The art centre runs activities for the young through to the old.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The Lantern Church provides a range of services. The church is normally laid out in a café style with chairs around round tables. The services usually involve interaction with the congregation for part of the services. Communion services are held when a member of the clergy team in the circuit is available to take the service. Prayer meetings are held on a weekly basis.

Sunday Services

A weekly Sunday Morning service is held at 10.30am at the Raynes Park site and a monthly Dementia Friendly service is held in the afternoon at the Wimbledon Site.

The Church and Church Halls

This year has seen an increase in the lettings in both building due in large to having a dedicated centre manager. We have also employed Mrs Angela Linton Smith (May 2022) in the role of Mission Lay Worker for the Wimbledon building.

What's On For Adults

A wide range of activities for adults take place at the Lantern Methodist Church each week, from social and support group (e.g. twice weekly AA meetings and a fellowship group for the retired), through our partnership with the Lantern Arts Centre we offer film and book clubs, fitness and dance, amateur dramatics, prayer meetings and quiet/safe spaces. We also provide rooms on a daily and weekly basis for two foreign language churches to meet, one Korean and the other Brazilian. Our aim is to provide well maintained and well managed church premises and Coffee House for the local community to use for a diverse range of activities throughout the week and at the weekends. We provide facilities for groups from the church and in the local community, local charities and commercial organisations in order to develop our joint church into a true community church.

What's On For Children and young people

In partnership with the Lantern Arts centre we engage with our young people through the various theatre groups which run weekly - helping to make links between faith and the world, offering a safe space in which to explore difficult subjects and also to have fun. Through the Coffee House we offer a daily play zone for young children and their carers, an enabled space to meet other carers, an opportunity for the children to lean and play and also an opportunity for the charity members interact with the community and provide intergenerational interactions.

Through a diverse programme enabled by the Lantern Arts centre the church community is actively encouraged to offer and enable the wide variety on offer. We are praying and seeking discernment towards the setting up of a “baking church” at our Wimbledon site, and a summer holiday club in partnership with the Lantern Arts Centre. The halls are proving to be a very popular venue for birthday parties and family celebrations and this is enabled and facilitated by the Coffee House.

Pastoral Care

There is a small team chaired by the Minister and enabled by a pastoral secretary that coordinates all the pastoral visits, and care for both the church/arts centre and community. Weekly bible study in enabled through our Wimbledon site, and we share in quarterly family meals within the main body of the church and this is extended to all who call the Lantern home (Coffee House staff, Arts centre and costume store). Our weekly prayer group is attended by a wide, diverse group from both the church and community as is becoming known as a safe space, with a listening heart for all. Church members and attendees are actively encouraged to see pastoral care as a whole life experience not limited to church space; but extended into every area of their lives.

Mission and Evangelism

The Minister is currently being enabled by the wider Methodist Church to research and promote healthy evangelism and to mission in its widest sense. This has seen the participation by the congregation in surveys to take the temperature of feeling to mission and evangelism, to envision growth and to seek to meet new people in new places, moving beyond the post-christendom position and into the 21st Century enabling a Christ-Centred space for all.

Future Plans

When planning our activities for the year, we consider the Commission’s guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our church community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the local area.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate and support this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church and halls buildings of The Lantern Methodist Church. The Raynes Park site, a grade 2 listed building which is about 105 years old is in need of refurbishment in order that it can support the work of the church in the local. A project has been started to explore the way in which the site can be developed in a way that conserves the character of the building.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Lantern Methodist Church operates under the Constitution and Practice of the Methodist Church.

Church Council (CC)

The purpose of the Church Council (CC) with our minister, Deacon Dawn Canham, is to promote the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in the local neighbourhood. The Church Council is the church's governing body. Membership of the CC should therefore be taken seriously as it carries responsibility for financial and legal decisions made on behalf of the church. The CC appoints committees that have the authority to act within pre-defined areas of responsibility; supports the work of all such committees and receives their reports, making decisions on any matter of principle that may arise.

The CC membership includes the clergy, the Church Stewards, the CC Secretary, Church Treasurer, Convenors of Church Committees, Circuit Steward and 6 Ordinary Members. Ordinary Members are elected at the AGM to serve for a term of 3 years and can then be re-elected to serve a maximum of 6 years. Office holders are also elected annually, to serve a maximum of 6 years.

During the past year, the CC has overseen the work of the various Church Committees, giving approval as necessary. Church finances continue to be a matter of concern - see Finance report for more details. Other church business dealt with over the year includes: -

- The requirement for the church to produce an annual report to the Charities Commission to update them on our activities throughout the year, which also allows us to apply for a refund of tax under the 'Gift Aid' scheme. In order to do this, we will need to approve an updated Constitution at the AGM
- Regular review of the church policies, including Fire Safety Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy and training and our Travel Plan, which encourages our hall users to walk or use public transport.

Training of Trustees: Newly appointed trustees are supplied with a booklet of their responsibilities and denominational training sessions are supplied for treasurers.

Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit. This is a group of five local churches served by a team of three ministers. Each has pastoral charge of one or more churches and will preach and lead worship in different local churches in the Circuit, along with Local Preachers.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Trustees with professional advice taken as required. There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things, this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist policies outline commitment to the following principles:
• the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
• the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults
• the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
• the careful selection and training of all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
• an immediate response to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
• a commitment to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
• a commitment to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
• the offer of pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
• in all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of the Safeguarding Policies of our parent church; government legislation; guidance and safe practice within its church.

The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people which will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

Reserves Policy

This reserves policy covers all church funds held by the Lantern Methodist Church.

At 31st August 2022 the Church held unrestricted funds of £9,712,695 (2021 £9,189,277) of which £9,630,543 (2021 £9,096,411) represented the value of the Church Property leaving net unrestricted funds of £82,152 (2021 £92,866).

The Church aims to hold Current Assets in reserve of at least 50% of the budgeted expenditure for the following year £75,000 (£150,000 approximately for 2022/23).

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Statute law requires the Trustees to prepare the Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period under review. In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

select suitable accounting policies then apply them consistently.
observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.
For and on behalf of the Trustees

Signed

Date: 21.04.2023

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total	2021/22
		£	£	£	£		£
Income							
1 Offerings	4	17,370					**17,370**
2 Donations	5	2,699					**2,699**
3 Gift aid	6	0					**0**
4 Interest and investment income	7	491					**491**
5 Internal organisations	8	4,235					**4,235**
6 Other charitable income	9	126,020					**126,020**
7 **Total income**		**150,815**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**150,815**
Expenditure							
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	22,168					**22,168**
9 Grants and donations	,10	257					**257**
10 Property maintenance	11	35,009					**35,009**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	37,624					**37,624**
12 Depreciation	13	83,977					**83,977**
13 Office expenses	14	8,085					**8,085**
14 Other expenditure	15	54,215		10,000			**64,215**
15 Internal organisations	8	2,265					**2,265**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**243,600**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**		**253,600**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		(1,234)					**(1,234)**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		0					**0**
19 Net income/(expenditure)		**(94,019)**	**0**	**-10,000**	**0**		**(104,019)**
20 Transfers between funds		0					**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)	13	617,437					**617,437**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**523,418**	**0**	**-10,000**	**0**		**513,418**
23 Total funds brought forward		9,189,277	0	-10,000	0		**9,199,277**
24 Total funds carried forward		**9,712,695**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**9,712,695**

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH
(of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total	2020-21
		£	£	£	£		£
Income							
1 Offerings	4	18,015					**18,015**
2 Donations	5	1,406		415			**1,821**
3 Gift aid	6	2,464					**2,464**
4 Interest and investment income	7	322					**322**
5 Internal organisations	8	2,549					2,549
6 Other charitable income	9	104,010		11,667			115,677
7 **Total income**		**128,766**	**0**	**12,082**	**0**		**140,848**
Expenditure							
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	22,113					**22,113**
9 Grants and donations	,10	416					**416**
10 Property maintenance	11	24,005					**24,005**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	34,270					**34,270**
12 Depreciation	13	119,684					**119,684**
13 Office expenses	14	3,184					**3,184**
14 Other expenditure	15	38,412		2,082			**40,494**
15 Internal organisations	8	4,061					**4,061**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**246,145**	**0**	**2,082**	**0**		**248,227**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		3,151					**3,151**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		0					**0**
19 Net income/(expenditure)		**(114,228)**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**		**(104,228)**
20 Transfers between funds		0					**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)	13	370,158					**370,158**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**255,930**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**		**265,930**
23 Total funds brought forward		8,933,347	0	0	0		**8,933,347**
24 Total funds carried forward		**9,189,377**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**		**9,199,277**

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH
(of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2022 £	Totals 2021 £
Fixed Assets							
Church building and other property	13	9,630,543				9,630,543	9,096,411
Other Assets	13	834				834	1,242
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		**9,631,377**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,631,377**	**9,097,653**
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	21	2,154				2,154	6,608
Internal Organisations	8	3,965				3,965	1,995
Investments with TMCP	20	57,607				57,607	58,841
Central Finance Board Deposits	21	3,163				3,163	10,340
Cash at Bank and in hand	21	17,871				17,871	28,015
Total current assets		**84,760**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**84,760**	**105,799**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	22	3,099				3,099	3,832
Tenant Deposits	22					0	0
External Charity	22	343				343	343
Total current liabilities		**3,442**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**3,442**	**4,175**
Net current assets/liabilities		**81,318**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**81,318**	**101,624**
Total assets less current liabilities		**9,712,695**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,712,695**	**9,199,277**
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2018-19						**0**	**0**
Loans to the Church						**0**	**0**
Net assets	**26**	**9,712,695**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,712,695**	**9,199,277**
Funds of the Church							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	26	**9,712,695**				9,712,695	**9,189,277**
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0	0
Total Unrestricted Funds						**9,712,695**	**9,189,277**
Restricted Funds						0	10,000
Endowment Funds					0	0	0
Total Funds		**9,712,695**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,712,695**	**9,199,277**

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these accounts.

Charity and Public Benefit Annual Report approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Church Treasurer: Alan Brown *signed* Date 18.04.2023

Chair of Church Council: Dawn Canham *signed* Date 21.04.2023

Notes to the Accounts

1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with SORP 2019 (FRS102), being the current version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice.

2. Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Church which are Unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations.

3. Accounting policies

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that property, land values and investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year (where it has not been possible to determine the historical costs), on an accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Church's financial position and activities.

Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Church becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Rents will be recorded when they are due / hiring event occurs.

Donated goods for onward transmission to other charities (chiefly food and clothing / bedding for a homeless charity) are passed immediately to that charity and are not included in the statement of financial activities as no benefit accrues to the charity.

The charity has not received any goods for use by the charity itself.

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements.

No services have been donated that would normally have been purchased.

Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Church to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Church from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Church accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

The Church deregistered for VAT in summer 2020 due to the income of the Lantern Coffee House (an Internal Organisation) dropping to zero and hence below the threshold for de-registering. Prior to de-registration the VAT liability was calculated on a composite rate basis agreed with HMRC. The church's income apart, with the exception of the Lantern Coffee House income, is exempt from VAT. All input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

Fixed assets

The freehold property was subject to re-valuation in 2019 by David Ambrose MRICS of Bramptons Chartered Surveyors & Valuers. Use of the Nationwide – All Property Index to calculate the valuation at 31/8/2022. See Note 13.

Investment Properties

No separate Investment Properties are owned by the charity. The flats at the Wimbledon Methodist Church site are an integral part of the Church Building and the valuation of the flats is included within the valuation of the church.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year-end are shown in the SOFA. Currently no investments are held.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors include outstanding lettings invoices, credits from Utility companies, and Gift Aid claims made in subsequent years.

Creditors

Creditors include out-standings relating to utilities, telephones, etc. and receipts in advance for the next financial year.

		Year Ending 31/08/2022	Year Ending 31/08/2021
4.	**Breakdown of Giving**		
	Standing Orders	14,640	17,570
	Envelopes & Loose Cash	2,730	445
	Total	**17,370**	**18,015**
5.	**Donations**		
	General Funds	2,699	406
	Legacies		1,000
	(Restricted – Night Shelter)		415
		2,699	**1,821**
6.	**Gift Aid**		

The amount per year based on which tax year the donations were made are as follows: -

Gift Aid	**0**	**2,464**

7.	**Interest and investment income**		
	CFB - Deposit Account interest	20	17
	TMCP - Trust Fund Interest	471	305
	Total	**491**	**322**
	Increase / (Decrease) in TMCP investment value is shown in row 18:	(1,234)	3,151

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8 **Internal Organisations**

There are three internal organisations - The Lantern Coffee House; Fellowship and the Flower Fund.
The Lantern Coffee house ceased trading on the 31/8/2020 with some residual financial transactions this year.
A fund has been established to support its re-opening and fund raising has taken place this year.
The Fellowship ceased meeting and the members agreed to transfer its funds to the Lantern Coffee House fund.

	Opening Balance 01/09/2021	Income	Expenditure	Profit / (Loss)	Closing Balance 31/08/2022
Lantern Coffee House	1,834	4,235	2,265	1,970	3,804
Fellowship	0	0	0	0	0
Flower Fund	161	0	0	0	161
Totals from Internal Organisation Accounts	1,995	4,235	2,265	1,970	3,965

		Year Ending 31/08/2022	Year Ending 31/08/2021
9	**Other Charitable Income**		
	Premises Hire	116,982	74,050
	Costume Store (Joint venture with the Lantern Arts Centre)		
	Included in Premises Hire for 21/22	0	0
	Lantern Arts Centre - Contribution for use of premises		
	Included in Premises Hire for 21/22	0	0
	Church Flats (Rent)	6,000	28,310
	Refund of shared property costs from Wesley Court flats	0	0
	Fund raising	0	0
	Fund raising for Lantern Coffee relaunch	0	1,650
	Grants	497	11,667
	Miscellaneous Income	2,541	0
	Totals	**126,020**	**115,677**
10	**Grants & Donations**		
	Care for Uganda (Child Sponsorship)	162	216
	Methodist Housing	95	0
	Tear Fund donation	0	0
	Connexional Funds	0	200
	Totals	**257**	**416**
11	**Property Maintenance**		
	Cleaning	9,315	6,158
	Maintenance	16,614	8,348
	Lift Maintenance	770	2,724
	Flats	4,058	2,719
	Flats - Council Tax	4,252	4,056
	Totals	**35,009**	**24,005**
12	**Insurance, utilities etc.**		
	Insurance	9,935	9,459
	Gas	8,596	9,832
	Electricity	16,371	11,023
	Water	1,627	2,757
	Waste Collection	1,095	1,199
	Totals	**37,624**	**34,270**

13 **Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Land Value - No depreciation has been included.
31/8/2019 Valuation £3m
31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £3,131,351
31/8/2021 index change 4.18479% ------ £3,262,391
31/8/2021 index change 6.99999% ------ £3,480,971

Buildings –
31/8/2019 Valuation £5.586,000
31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £5.830,576
31/8/2021 index change 4.18479% ------ £5,953,081
31/8/2022 index change 6.99999% ------ £6,351,937

Increase in fixed Asset valuation in year ending 31/8/2022 ------- £617,436
Increase in church property & land valuation recorded as "Other gains / losses"

Building Depreciation (2%) --------- £202,365

Net 31/8/2022 Building Valuation ----- £6,149,572

Property Fixed Assets 31/8/2022 ---------- £9,630,543

All other items - Only single items and they will be depreciated over 5 years.
Depreciation will be applied in the year of purchase.

Item	Purchased	Price	Depreciation	
Round Tables & Storage Racks (For Church Use)	17/05/2019	3108	622	From 2018/19 to 2023/24
Office Equipment	15/03/2022	265	51	From 2021/22
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2021		1,242		
Depreciation			673	
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2022		834		

14	**Office Expenses**	**31/08/2022**	**31/08/2021**
	Telephones	862	2,020
	Stationery	126	79
	Photocopier	1,515	1,085
	IT Costs	5,503	0
	Misc Office	79	0
	Total	**8,085**	**3,184**

15	**Other Charitable Expenditure (see note)**	**Year Ending 31/08/2022**	**Year Ending 31/08/2021**
	Fund Raising Expenses	511	0
	Pension Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	1,288	1,501
	Tax & NI Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	109	114
	Church Employee Salaries	12,635	9,664
	Centre Manage (Sub-contract)	23,750	21,000
	Payroll Charges	1,139	461
	Miscellaneous Expenses	195	151
	Lantern Coffee House – VAT	0	0
	Less LCH transfers	0	0
	Lantern Coffee House Support / Equipment Purchases	0	4
	Lantern Coffee House – Fund raised transfer to Internal Organisation & Expenses incurred in Church accounts (£74)	0	1,650
	Worship Costs	349	684
	Lantern Project	15,548	2,787
	Wesley Court Shared Costs	0	488
	Legal Costs	7,731	0
	Charges for Card Machine used for donations	0	75
	Payments to External Charities of Collections taken on their behalf	0	95
	Night Shelter (External Money shown as a liability on balance sheet)	0	320
	Property & Land Valuation	0	0
	Audit / Independent Examination	960	1,500
	Total	**64,215**	**40,494**

16. Payment to Trustees

		This year	Last year
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting	£	0	0

Note: - The Methodist Minister are not direct employees of the charity. They are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The charity makes contributions to the Wimbledon Circuit (Circuit Assessment) which among other things funds their stipends.

Number of trustees who were paid expenses		0	0
Nature of the expenses			
All payments were against receipts: -			
Total amount paid	£	393	356

17. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£	960	1500
Other fees (e.g.: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£	0	0

18a. Paid employees (Directly Employed by the Church)

Staff Costs paid during the year were:			
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	12,635	9,664
Employer's National Insurance costs *(Impact of Statutory Sick Pay on Employer NIC rebate has not been included here)*	£	109	209
Pension costs	£	1,288	1,396
Total staff costs	£	14,032	11,269
Average number of staff employed during the year were:		2	1

No Employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

19. Report on Pension Scheme

The Lantern Methodist Church uses TPT Retirement Solutions to provide a pension scheme for it's employees (both those directly employed and those employed by the Lantern Coffee House an internal organisation). Information on the scheme performance is available is available on the TPT Retirement Solutions website – www.tpt.org.uk

The church offers a Defined Contribution Scheme (The Flexible Retirement Plan) to its employees.

In line with Methodist Church policy the pension scheme is based on a 6% contribution both by the employees and employer.

20. Investments

The investments that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

Change in investment values

	This Year	Last Year
Value at beginning of year	58,841	55,690
Add: Additions	0	0
Less: Withdrawals (Including interest paid)	1,706	305
Add: Interest less administration	472	3,456
Value at end of year	57,607	58,841

TMCP currently hold legacy funds as shown on the Balance Sheet (Page 14) of this report.

21. Analysis of current assets

	This year	Last year
Debtors and prepayments	**£**	**£**
Prepayments (Credits) – Gift Aid / Utility Credit /	0	0
Other debtors (including lettings & rent)	2,153	6,608
Total debtors and prepayments	2,153	6,608
Analysis of cash at bank		
Cash in hand	0	0
Bank balance held in HSBC Account	748	748
Bank balance held in Barclays (Lantern Centre Account)	9,653	23,585
Bank balance held in Barclays (Salaries Account)	5	313
Bank balance held in Barclays (Church Account)	7,465	3,369
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Trustees Account)	67	7,257
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Revenue Reserve Account)	3,096	3,083
Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes (Trust Funds relating to Legacies) Non-Restricted	57,607	58,841
Total Cash and Bank	**78,641**	**97,196**
Debtors & Pre-payments	2,154	*6,608*
Internal Organisations	3,965	1,995
Total Current Assets	84,760	*105,799*

22. Analysis of current liabilities

Trade Creditors	0	0
Other Creditors	3,099	3,832
Less Money held for External Charities & Deposits held	343	343
Total Current Liabilities	**3,442**	**4,175**

23. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

At the 31st August 2022 the Church has no capital commitments.

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2022.

24. Restricted Funds

No Restricted Funds are currently held by the charity.

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
Totals						

Internal Organisation funds are excluded from this analysis.

25. Related Party Transactions

This year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2022
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		22,168		
Total			**0**	**22,168**	**0**	**0**

Last year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2021
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		22,113		
Total			**0**	**22,113**	**0**	**0**

26 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1 September 2021	Income (incl. gains)	Expenditure (incl. losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	9,189,277	767,018	243,600	0	9,712,695
Restricted funds	10,000	0	10,000	0	0
Total Funds	**9,199,277**	**767,018**	**253,600**	**0**	**9,712,695**

The comparative figures for the previous year are shown below -

	Balance at 1 September 2020	Income (incl. gains)	Expenditure (incl. losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	8,933,347	502,075	246,145	0	9,189,277
Restricted funds	0	12,082	2,082	0	10,000
Total Funds	**8,933,347**	**514,157**	**248,227**	**0**	**9,199,277**

Currently the church does not hold any Restricted funds.

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH
(of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer		Date	18.04.2023
Name	Alan Brown		
Address	53 Richmond Road, SW20 0QD		

Presentation to the Church Council Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts were presented to the Church Council on	21.04.2023

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	
Name of the Chair of the meeting	Deacon Dawn Canham
Date	21.04.2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2022 which are set out on pages 12 to 25.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity'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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying my examination I have followed all 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed

Matthew Hunt
Digivolve Accountants
Delta House
Bridge Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1UA

Appendix A ----- Church Council as elected at the AGM 24/07/2022

The CC is a body corporate and a charity accepted for registration with the Charity Commission. The CC members that have served until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Chair:	Deacon Dawn Canham
Treasurer:	Alan Brown
CC Secretary:	Wendy Siemaszko
Church Stewards:	Dawn Downes
	Juliette Jaeger
	Margaret Redway
	Angela Linton-Smith (Safeguarding Officer)

Elected members:

Lorna Giraud
Rosemary Evans
Sue Fuller
Mike Fuller
Anita Brown
Alan Brown
Humphrey Jaeger
Ashleigh Linton-Smith
Jey Jeyarajah (appointed 24/07/2022)

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH OF WIMBLEDON AND RAYNES PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1178284

Accounts

Charities and Public Benefit Annual Report

For the year ending

31st August 2021

The Lantern Methodist Church

Registered Charity Number - 1178284

The church forms part of the Wimbledon Circuit of the Methodist Church – Circuit Number 35/26.

Minister	**Deacon Dawn Canham**
Church Stewards	**Dawn Downes**
	Wendy Siemaszko
	Juliette Jaeger
	Margaret Redway
	Angela Linton-Smith
Church Treasurer	**Alan Brown**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2021. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 1302) (issued October 2019). The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting and are listed in appendix A of this document. Further information about the Church Council is provided on page 9.

Governing Documents

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Methodist Church and as such it's governing documents are the sections pertaining to local churches within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Church. A copy is available at https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/governance/cpd/

Introduction and Executive summary

The past year at The Lantern Methodist Church has seen some exciting changes. Due to the impact of Covid-19 the charity has continued to develop new ways of worshiping and committing to hybrid gatherings through the use of various online social media. Partnership has been the key to recovery as the world emerges from the pandemic, it is at the core of our mission. The trustees of The Lantern Methodist Church would like to take this opportunity to underline that although in our financial statement it appears we have assets (buildings) which could realise if sold approx £9,000,000 only a very small fraction of that sum would be available to The Lantern Methodist Church as all Methodist Churches are only managed by local trustees in a format of The Model Trust Fund. Any monies from the sale of Methodist Premises goes back to the Methodist Connexional accounts. The Lantern Methodist Church in real terms has approx £92,500 in unrestricted funds to manage and maintain our work across both Raynes Park and Wimbledon. The charity relies on donations, fund raising and rental of its premises.

Aims and Purposes

The charity's objectives are contained within our:-

Vision and Mission Plan

We are called to live out the creative, inclusive, radical and transforming love of Jesus Christ. We endeavour to do this through blending and partnering with our communities; celebrating what we have in common and respecting differences.

We are a diverse worshipping community with a contemporary programme of praise, reflection and learning which enables us to be transformed to reflect our values.

Targets for 2020-2025
live streaming of Sunday Services

expand current bible study session; enabling more informal sessions, online groups and creative study sessions.
develop weekday opportunities for prayer and reflection. (retreat days, craft days etc)

We are in partnership with a thriving Christian arts centre. As a wider family we believe in the transforming power of the arts, gifted by the Holy Spirit.

Targets for 2020-2025
formalising the partnership between The Lantern Methodist Church and The Lantern Arts.
sensitively update, refresh and improve our buildings through The Lantern Centre Project.

We commit to sharing with our local communities; safe spaces, opportunities and creative tools to explore, develop and deepen our experience as human beings.

Targets for 2020-2025.
strengthen and develop links with the wider communities.
provide accessible buildings (emotionally and physically)

Following the calling of the Methodist Church we endeavour to become lifelong learners; seeking to live with differences and to hold one another in love.

Targets for 2020-2025
deepen our links with Churches Together in West Wimbledon
expand opportunities to gather with other faith communities
provide e-learning services

We believe all are truly welcome; reaching out to the margins of our communities, enabling social justice movements and discerning how we may serve all.

Targets for 2020-2025
improve our environmental impact
affordable access to performances and paid activities
continue to develop our programmes designed to combat loneliness and social isolation.

The purposes of the charity are:-

The advancement of:-

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;

b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, Local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;

c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;

d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;

How Our Activities Deliver Public Benefit - Review of the year

The charity has continued to be a focal point in the local community and had an increasing number of people using the Church premises as Covid-19 restrictions have been reduced.

The use of our buildings has widened, with a joint venture between The Lantern Methodist Church, YMCA and Merton Winter Night Shelter. December 2020 saw the use of the flats at our Wimbledon building used as individual accommodation for the homeless, the hope is to continue this work alongside the YMCA and provide accommodation for those most vulnerable in our communities.

The relationship between The Lantern Methodist Church and The Lantern Arts Centre continues to grow and deepen. Discussions are underway to create a collaboration agreement with a joint working group to further our shared vision and mission whilst remaining distinct. This also includes an exciting and ambitious refurbishment of the Raynes Park site to provide excellent facilities to our diverse communities. The refurbishment of our Grade 2, 110 year old building at Raynes Park will further our commitment to be good stewards of our resources.

In addition to its regular activities the church held; ongoing pastoral support for the Lantern Arts centre with pastoral team members present at all rehearsals and productions/events. The formation of a Project Group to assess the needs of the community in relation to the building and how with careful and thoughtful refurbishment of the entire Raynes Park site we may become a sustainable and welcoming community asset both physically and emotionally for many years to come.

The Lantern Coffee House has been refreshed internally through the hard work of volunteers, unfortunately due to reduced church finances over the past 2 years employment of a coffee house manager still remains at this time impossible. The facilities are used by the church and Lantern Arts Centre but not open to the public. It is hoped that it may open in the future with the commitment of volunteers from the community and run as a social enterprise. This would enable the charity to reach out the local colleges and provide a space for training, work experience and a more affordable meeting place for those on reduced income.

Both sites provide facilities for community organisations to meet and provide social interaction for the local communities.

Financial Review

Income Trends

The charity's income comes from:-

The giving of church members / congregation, either in the Sunday collections or regular giving by standing orders. The reduction in the 2019/20 year of about 30% has during 2020/21 reduced due to the partial re-opening of the church and an increase in members donating via standing orders and BACs transfers has resulted in an increase of 20% over giving in 2019/20.

No fundraising events for church funds were held during the year. Events are expected to resume during 2021/22.

Gift aid tax credit received on the giving by church members and giving by other members of the congregation.

Hall letting income: mainly from external users of the building, plus donations from church organisations and members of the congregation for use of the halls complex. This had been increasing prior to the government imposed COVID 19 lockdown in 2019. The impact of COVID 19 has seen the premises hire receipts decrease by over £30,000 and this has also been the case in 2020/21.

Rental income from two church owned flats which are part of the Wimbledon Church complex increased during 2020/21 as one flat was used by the YMCA to house homeless people during the pandemic.

Ignoring the previous year income of the Lantern Coffee House which is now closed other income of the church increased by about 16%, ignoring grants this drops to 7%.

The church's total income for the year is again below £250k on a cash book account basis. Despite this it has been decided to continue presenting the accounts on an accrual basis.

The impact of COVID19 has made finances (ignoring property revaluation and depreciation) has impacted income, but due to careful management of the church has operating profit for the year of £5.1k (£6.6k when Internal Organisations loses excluded) compared to a loss of £28.5k last year.

Expenditure trends

A major cost is in relation to the assessment paid to the Wimbledon Circuit, this amounts to 18% of our total cost this year. The Circuit assessment which is calculated on the number of members reduced by 3% following a reduction in membership numbers due to deaths and members moving away.

The enforced closure of the Church premises has resulted in savings in Utility Costs though these will return to previous levels when things return to normal after the pandemic. An internal water leak occurred at the Wimbledon site which resulted in a large bill that increase last year. This has dropped to below previous level's this year – some of which is due to incorrect invoicing.

It is planned to lease the Church flats (Wimbledon site) to the YMCA for 5 years who will use the flats to provide "Move on" accommodation under the government scheme to help move homeless into permanent housing.

Trustees' Annual Report on Finance and Governance

Basis of preparation and legal framework

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the SORP 2019 (FRS 102).

Full Name of Charity / Church:
The Lantern Methodist Church of Wimbledon and Raynes Park

Registration Charity Number: 1178284

Date of registration (if registered as a Charity) 8th May 2018

Main communication address

The Lantern Methodist Church,
Tolverne Road
London
SW20 8RA

The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting. Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

Treasurer: Mr Alan Brown

Independent Examiner :- Stephen Jones
% Myrus Smith Chartered Accountants
Norman House,
8 Burnell Road,
Sutton,
Surrey.
SM1 4BW

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Main Activities of the Charity

Worshiping God through the use of prayer, song and other acts of worship. The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.

The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. The resourcing of pastoral work, which includes visiting the sick and bereaved.

Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services. Encouraging links with the local community through providing a community centre for a range of community activities

The Lantern Methodist Church is a Methodist Church within the Wimbledon Circuit and serves the people of Wimbledon and Raynes Park.

Deacon Dawn Canham has ministerial responsibility for the Lantern Methodist Church and is supported in this by the other ministers within the Wimbledon Circuit.

As part of our mission, we continue to encourage links with the church, and our halls and facilities, to enable us to reach out to the local community and respond to their needs. Particularly, we reach out to those who may be less confident about their place in the community and their relationship with the church.

The Lantern Church is a friendly and welcoming church and uses a Café style of worship. The friendship and fellowship within the church is very highly valued by its congregation and we are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our church community.

As a church community, we have continued to support many activities in the local community and our thanks go to all those who have supported all the initiatives, activities and events that take place in our church and in the halls.

The Lantern Church has a close relationship with the Lantern Arts Centre which is based at the Raynes Park site. The Lantern Arts Centre, which was an off shoot of the church focuses on the promotion of the Christian faith through Drama and other arts. The art centre runs activities for the young through to the old.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The Lantern Church provides a range of services. The church is normally laid out in a café style with chairs around round tables. The services usually involve interaction with the congregation for part of the services. Communion services are held when a member of the clergy team in the circuit is available to take the service. Prayer meetings are held on a weekly basis.

Sunday Services

A weekly Sunday Morning service is held at 10.30am at the Raynes Park site and a monthly Dementia Friendly service is held in the afternoon at the Wimbledon Site.

The Church and Church Halls

This year has seen the appointment of Stephen Rees as the Centre Manager with the aim to grow the use of the premises. Both for individual bookings and new groups and organisations.

What's On For Adults

A wide range of activities for adults take place at the Lantern Methodist Church each week, from social and support group (e.g. twice weekly AA meetings and a fellowship group for the retired), through our partnership with the Lantern Arts Centre we offer film and book clubs, fitness and dance, amateur dramatics, prayer meetings and quiet/safe spaces. We also provide rooms on a daily and weekly basis for two foreign language churches to meet, one Korean and the other Brazilian. Our aim is to provide well maintained and well managed church premises and Coffee House for the local community to use for a diverse range of activities throughout the week and at the

weekends. We provide facilities for groups from the church and in the local community, local charities and commercial organisations in order to develop our joint church into a true community church.

What's On For Children and young people

In partnership with the Lantern Arts centre we engage with our young people through the various theatre groups which run weekly - helping to make links between faith and the world, offering a safe space in which to explore difficult subjects and also to have fun. Through the Coffee House we offer a daily play zone for young children and their carers, an enabled space to meet other carers, an opportunity for the children to lean and play and also an opportunity for the charity members interact with the community and provide intergenerational interactions.

Through a diverse programme enabled by the Lantern Arts centre the church community is actively encouraged to offer and enable the wide variety on offer. We are praying and seeking discernment towards the setting up of a “baking church” at our Wimbledon site, and a summer holiday club in partnership with the Lantern Arts Centre. The halls are proving to be a very popular venue for birthday parties and family celebrations and this is enabled and facilitated by the Coffee House. and family celebrations and this is enabled and facilitated by the Coffee House.

Pastoral Care

There is a small team chaired by the Minister and enabled by a pastoral secretary that coordinates all the pastoral visits, and care for both the church/arts centre and community. Weekly bible study in enabled through our Wimbledon site, and we share in quarterly family meals within the main body of the church and this is extended to all who call the Lantern home (Coffee House staff, Arts centre and costume store). Our weekly prayer group is attended by a wide, diverse group from both the church and community as is becoming known as a safe space, with a listening heart for all. Church members and attendees are actively encouraged to see pastoral care as a whole life experience not limited to church space; but extended into every area of their lives.

Mission and Evangelism

The Minister is currently being enabled by the wider Methodist Church to research and promote healthy evangelism and to mission in its widest sense. This has seen the participation by the congregation in surveys to take the temperature of feeling to mission and evangelism, to envision growth and to seek to meet new people in new places, moving beyond the post-christendom position and into the 21st Century enabling a Christ-Centred space for all.

Future Plans

When planning our activities for the year, we consider the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our church community through:

• Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
• Provision of pastoral care for people living in the local area.
• Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate and support this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church and halls buildings of The Lantern Methodist Church. The Raynes Park site, a grade 2 listed building which is about 105 years old is in need of refurbishment in order that it can support the work of the church in the local. A project has been started to explore the way in which the site can be developed in a way that conserves the character of the building.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Lantern Methodist Church operates under the Constitution and Practice of the Methodist Church.

Church Council (CC)

The purpose of the Church Council (CC) with our minister, Deacon Dawn Canham, is to promote the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in the local neighbourhood. The Church Council is the church's governing body. Membership of the CC should therefore be taken seriously as it carries responsibility for financial and legal decisions made on behalf of the church. The CC appoints committees that have the authority to act within pre-defined areas of responsibility; supports the work of all such committees and receives their reports, making decisions on any matter of principle that may arise.

The CC membership includes the clergy, the Church Stewards, the CC Secretary, Church Treasurer, Convenors of Church Committees, Circuit Steward and 6 Ordinary Members. Ordinary Members are elected at the AGM to serve for a term of 3 years and can then be re-elected to serve a maximum of 6 years. Office holders are also elected annually, to serve a maximum of 6 years.

During the past year, the CC has overseen the work of the various Church Committees, giving approval as necessary. Church finances continue to be a matter of concern - see Finance report for more details. Other church business dealt with over the year includes:-

• The requirement for the church to produce an annual report to the Charities Commission to update them on our activities throughout the year, which also allows us to apply for a refund of tax under the 'Gift Aid' scheme. In order to do this, we will need to approve an updated Constitution at the AGM

• Regular review of the church policies, including Fire Safety Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy and training and our Travel Plan, which encourages our hall users to walk or use public transport.

Training of Trustees: Newly appointed trustees are supplied with a booklet of their responsibilities and denominational training sessions are supplied for treasurers.

Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit. This is a group of five local churches served by a team of three ministers. Each has pastoral charge of one or more churches and will preach and lead worship in different local churches in the Circuit, along with Local Preachers.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Trustees with professional advice taken as required. There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things, this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist policies outline commitment to the following principles:

• the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults

• the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults

• the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

• the careful selection and training of all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.

• an immediate response to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.

• a commitment to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

• a commitment to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

• the offer of pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

• in all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice. The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of the Safeguarding Policies of our parent church; government legislation; guidance and safe practice within its church.

The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people which will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

Reserves Policy

This reserves policy covers the unrestricted church funds held by the Lantern Methodist Church.

At 31st August 2021 the Church held unrestricted funds of £9,188,957 (2020 £8,933,847) of which £9,096,411 (2020 £8,845,315) represented the value of the Church Property leaving net unrestricted funds of £92,546 (2020 £88,532)

The Church aims to hold Current Assets in reserve of at least 50% of the budgeted expenditure for the following year £75,000 (£150,000 approximately for 2021/22).

Restricted funds are excluded from the Reserves Policy as they are not available for purposes other than for which they are restricted.

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Statute law requires the Trustees to prepare the Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period under review. In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For and on behalf of the Trustees

Signed ……Deacon Dawn Canham……

Date: 5/12/2021

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2020/21
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
1 Offerings	4	18,015				18,015
2 Donations	5	1,406		415		1,821
3 Gift aid	6	2,464				2,464
4 Interest and investment income	7	322				322
5 Internal organisations	8	2,549				2,549
6 Other charitable income	9	104,010		11,667		115,677
7 **Total income**		**128,766**	**0**	**12,082**	**0**	**140,848**
Expenditure						
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	22,113				**22,113**
9 Grants and donations	10	416				**416**
10 Property maintenance	11	24,005				**24,005**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	34,270				**34,270**
12 Depreciation	13	119,684				**119,684**
13 Office expenses	14	3,184				**3,184**
14 Other expenditure	15	38,412		2,082		**40,494**
15 Internal organisations	8	4,061				**4,061**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**246,145**	**0**	**2,082**	**0**	**248,227**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		3,151				**3,151**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		0				**0**
19 Net income/(expenditure)		**(114,228)**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**	**(104,228)**
20 Transfers between funds		0				**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)	13	370,158				**370,158**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**255,930**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**	**265,930**
23 Total funds brought forward		8,933,347	0	0	0	**8,933,347**
24 Total funds carried forward		**9,189,277**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**	**9,199,277**

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2019-20
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
1 Offerings	4	11,006				11,006
2 Donations	5	4,031				4,031
3 Gift aid	6	3,894				3,894
4 Interest and investment income	7	642				642
5 Internal organisations	8	62,995				62,995
6 Other charitable income	9	99,782				99,782
7 **Total income**		**182,350**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**182,350**
Expenditure						
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	21,356				**21,356**
9 Grants and donations	10	221				**221**
10 Property maintenance	11	37,356				**37,356**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	39,915				**39,915**
12 Depreciation	13	117,234				**117,234**
13 Office expenses	14	3,898				**3,898**
14 Other expenditure	15	45,649				**45,649**
15 Internal organisations	8	65,761				**66,761**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**331,390**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**331,390**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		(381)				**(381)**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		0				**0**
19 Net income/(expenditure)		**(149,421)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(149,421)**
20 Transfers between funds		0				**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)	13	375,927				**375,927**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**226,506**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**226,506**
23 Total funds brought forward		8,706,841	0	0	0	**8,706,841**
24 Total funds carried forward		**8,933,347**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8,933,347**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2021 £	Totals 2020 £
Fixed Assets							
Church building and other property	13	9,096,411				9,096,411	8,845,315
Other Assets	13	1,242				1,242	1,864
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		**9,097,653**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**9,097,653**	**8,847,179**
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	21	6,608				6,608	8,758
Internal Organisations	8	1,995				1,995	3,507
Investments with TMCP	20	58,841				58,841	55,690
Central Finance Board Deposits	21	10,340				10,340	13,130
Cash at Bank and in hand	21	17,672		10,343		28,015	9,619
Total current assets		**95,456**	**0**	**10,343**	**0**	**105,799**	**90,704**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	22	3,832				3,832	4,013
Tenant Deposits	22						500
External Charity	22			343		343	23
Total current liabilities		**3,832**	**0**	**343**	**0**	**4,175**	**4,536**
Net current assets/liabilities		**91,624**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**	**101,624**	**86,168**
Total assets less current liabilities		**9,189,277**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**	**9,199,277**	**8,933,347**
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2018-19						**0**	**0**
Loans to the Church						**0**	**0**
Net assets	**26**	**9,189,277**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**	**9,199,277**	**8,933,347**

Funds of the Church

General Fund (Unrestricted)	26	**9,189,277**				9,189,277	**8,933,347**
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0	0
Total Unrestricted Funds						**9,189,277**	**8,933,347**
Restricted Funds				**10,000**		10,000	0
Endowment Funds					**0**	0	0
Total Funds		**9,189,277**	**0**	**10,000**	**0**	**9,199,277**	**8,933,347**

3

The notes on pages 17 to 24 form part of these accounts.

Charity and Public Benefit Annual Report approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Church Treasurer: Alan Brown *signed*

Chair of Church Council: Deacon Dawn Canham *signed* Date 2/12/2021

Notes to the Accounts

1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with SORP 2019 (FRS102), being the current version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities : Statement of Recommended Practice.

2. Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Church which are Unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations.

3. Accounting policies

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that property, land values and investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year (where it has not been possible to determine the historical costs), on an accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Church's financial position and activities.

Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Church becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Rents will be recorded when they are due / hiring event occurs.

Donated goods for onward transmission to other charities (chiefly food and clothing / bedding for a homeless charity) are passed immediately to that charity and are not included in the statement of financial activities as no benefit accrues to the charity.

The charity has not received any goods for use by the charity itself.

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements.

No services have been donated that would normally have been purchased.

Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Church to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Church from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Church accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

Fixed assets

The freehold property was subject to re-valuation in 2019 by David Ambrose MRICS of Bramptons Chartered Surveyors & Valuers. Use of the Nationwide – All Property Index to calculate the valuation at 31/8/2020. See Note 13.

Investment Properties

No separate Investment Properties are owned by the charity. The flats at the Wimbledon Methodist Church site are an integral part of the Church Building and the valuation of the flats is included within the valuation of the church.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA. Currently no investments are held.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors include outstanding lettings invoices, credits from Utility companies, and Gift Aid claims made in subsequent years.

Creditors

Creditors include out-standings relating to utilities, telephones, etc. and receipts in advance for the next financial year.

		Year Ending 31/08/2021	Year Ending 31/08/2020
4.	**Breakdown of Giving**	**£**	**£**
	Standing Orders	17,570	4,840
	Envelopes & Loose Cash	445	6,166
	Total	**18,015**	**11,006**
5.	**Donations**		
	General Funds	406	4031
	Legacies	1,000	0
	(Restricted – Night Shelter 320 & MHA 95)	415	0
	Total	**1,821**	**4,031**

		31/08/21	31/08/20
6.	**Gift Aid**	**£**	**£**
	Gift Aid	**2,464**	**3,894**

7. **Interest and investment income**	£	£
CFB - Deposit Account interest	17	149
TMCP - Trust Fund Interest	305	493
Total	**322**	**642**
Increase / (Decrease) in TMCP investment value is shown in row 17 on the accounts sheet.	3,151	(381)

8 **Internal Organisations**

There are three internal organisations - The Lantern Coffee; Fellowship and the Flower Fund.

The Lantern Coffee house ceased trading on the 31/8/2020 with some residual financial transactions this year.

A fund has been established to support its re-opening and fund raising has taken place this year.

The Fellowship ceased meeting and the members agreed to transfer its funds to the Lantern Coffee house fund.

	Opening Balance 01/09/2020	Income	Expenditure	Profit / (Loss)	Closing Balance 31/08/2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Lantern Coffee House	3,056	2,549	3,770	(1,221)	1,834
Fellowship	251	0	251	(251)	0
Flower Fund	200	0	40	(40)	160
Rounding error					1
Totals from Internal Organisation Accounts	3,507	2,549	4,061	(1,512)	1,995

		Year Ending 31/08/2021	Year Ending 31/08/2020
9	**Other Charitable Income**	**£**	**£**
	Premises Hire	74,050	74,478
	Costume Store (Joint venture with the Lantern Arts Centre)		
	Included in Premises Hire for 20/21	0	5,175
	Lantern Arts Centre - Contribution for use of premises		
	Included in Premises Hire for 20/21	0	5,700
	Church Flats (Rent)	27,310	11,400
	Refund of shared property costs from Wesley Court flats	0	1,427
	Fund raising	0	1,602
	Fund raising for Lantern Coffee relaunch	1,650	0
	Grants		
	Two restricted funds grants have been received – £1,667 from London District (Via the Wimbledon Circuit for online broadcasting of services during COVID Pandemic and for return of of Face to Face meetings post pandemic. £10,000 for Architect fees for the Lantern Project to upgrade the Raynes Park site.	11,667	0
	Miscellaneous Income	0	0
	Totals	**114,677**	**99,782**

10	**Grants & Donations**	£	£
	Care for Uganda (Child Sponsorship)	216	216
	Tear Fund donation	0	5
	Connexional Funds	200	0
	Totals	**416**	**221**

11	**Property Maintenance**	£	£
	Cleaning	6,158	5,745
	Maintenance	8,348	9,176
	Lift Maintenance	2,724	6,085
	Flats	2,719	12,497
	Flats - Council Tax	4,056	3,853
	Totals	**24,005**	**37,356**

12 **Insurance, utilities etc.**

	Insurance	9,459	9,363
	Gas	9,832	8,820
	Electricity	11,023	14,374
	Water	2,757	6,337
	Waste Collection	1,199	1,021
Totals		**34,270**	**39,915**

13 Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Land Value - No depreciation has been included.

31/8/2019 Valuation £3m

31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £3,131,351

31/8/2021 index change 4.18479% ------ £3,262,391

Buildings –

31/8/2019 Valuation £5.586,000

31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £5.830,576

31/8/2021 index change 4.18479% ------ £5,953,081

Increase in fixed Asset valuation in year ending 31/8./2021 ------- £370,158

Increase in church property & land valuation recorded as "Other gains / losses"

Building Depreciation (2%) --------- £119,062

Net 31/8/2021 Building Valuation ----- £5,713,964

Property Fixed Assets 31/8/2021 ---------- £9,096,411

All other items - Only single items with a purchase price over £1,000 will be included and they will be depreciated over 5 years.

Depreciation will be applied in the year of purchase.

Item	Purchased	Price	Depreciation	
Round Tables & Storage Racks (For Church Use)	17/05/2019	3,108	622	Rate from 2018/19 to 2023/24
			1,244	Depreciation to 31/8/20
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2020		1,864		
Depreciation			622	
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2021		1,242		

			Year Ending 31/08/2021	Year Ending 31/08/2020
14	**Office Expenses**		**£**	**£**
		Telephones	2,020	2,624
		Stationery	79	18
		Photocopier	1,085	1,256
	Total		**3,184**	**3,898**

15	**Other Charitable Expenditure (see note)**	**£**	**£**
	Fund Raising Expenses	0	221
	Pension Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	1,501	5,731
	Tax & NI Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	114	1781
	Church Employee Salaries	9,664	9,329
	Centre Manage (Sub-contract)	21,000	19,500
	Payroll Charges	461	461
	Miscellaneous Expenses	151	114
	Lantern Coffee House – VAT	0	10,732
	Less LCH Internal Organisation Account transfers to cover VAT payments	0	(8,007)
	Lantern Coffee House Support / Equipment Purchases	4	1,400
	Lantern Coffee House – Fund raised transfer to Internal Organisation & Expenses incurred in Church accounts (£74)	1,650	0
	Worship Costs	684	536
	Lantern Project	2,787	2,081
	Wesley Court Shared Costs	488	0
	Charges for Card Machine used for donations	75	150
	Payments to External Charities of Collections taken on their behalf	95	0
	Night Shelter (External Money shown as a liability on balance sheet)	320	0
	Property & Land Valuation	0	120
	Audit / Independent Examination	1,500	1,500
	Total	**40,494**	**45,649**

Note Restricted Funds Expenditure of £1,666

The grant £1,666 was to enable the Church to broadcast services and prepare the premises for re-opening as allowed under government guidance following the COVID19 pandemic. The expenditure covered the improvement of the WIFI in the church, additional cleaning, improved signage (COVID & temporary one-way system) and Sanitizing Stations. It has not been possible to breakout this expenditure across the specific areas.

16. Payment to Trustees

		This year 31/8/21	Last year 31/8/20
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting	£	0	0

Note:- The Methodist Minister are not direct employees of the charity. They are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The charity makes contributions to the Wimbledon Circuit (Circuit Assessment) which among other things funds their stipends.

Number of trustees who were paid expenses		2	4
Nature of the expenses			
All payments were against receipts:-			
Miscellaneous (£151)			
Worship Related (£192)			
Maintenance Items (£50)			
Total amount paid	£	393	356

17. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£	1,500	1,500
Other fees (e.g.: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£	0	0

18a. Paid employees (Directly Employed by the Church)

Staff Costs paid during the year were:		**31/8/21**	**31/8/20**
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	10,333	10,060
Employer's National Insurance costs *(Impact of Statutory Sick Pay on Employer NIC rebate has not been included here)*	£	213	188
Pension costs	£	623	604
Total staff costs	£	11,169	10,852
Average number of staff employed during the year were:		1	1

18b. Paid employees (Internal Organisation Employed [Lantern Coffee House])

(Net wages have been paid from the Lantern Coffee House income; NI; Tax & Pension has been paid from the Charity Accounts)

All Lantern Coffee House Staff were made redundant in August 2020 – Final salaries were paid in September 2020.

Staff Costs paid during the year were:		**31/8/21**	**31/8/20**
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	2,272	43,602
Employer's National Insurance costs *(Impact of Statutory Sick Pay on Employer NIC rebate has not been included here)*	£	42	1,407
Pension costs	£	116	4,839
Total staff costs	£	2,430	49,848
Average number of staff employed during the year were:		0	7

No Employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

19. Report on Pension Scheme

The Lantern Methodist Church uses TPT Retirement Solutions to provide a pension scheme for it employees (both those directly employed and those employed by the Lantern Coffee House an internal organisation). Information on the scheme performance is available is available on the TPT Retirement Solutions website – www.tpt.org.uk

The church offers a Defined Contribution Scheme (The Flexible Retirement Plan) to its employees.

In line with Methodist Church policy the pension scheme is based on a 6% contribution both by the employees and employer.

20. Investments

The investments that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

Change in investment values	**This Year** **£**	**Last Year** **£**
Value at beginning of year	55,690	66,071
,Add: Additions	0	0
Less: Withdrawals (Including interest paid)	(305)	(10,493)
Add: Interest less administration	3456	112
Value at end of year	58,841	55,690

TMCP currently hold legacy funds as shown on the Balance Sheet (Page 15) of this report.

21. Analysis of current assets

	This year 31/8/21	Last year 31/8/20
Debtors and prepayments	**£**	**£**
Prepayments (Credits) – Gift Aid / Utility Credit /	0	0
Other debtors (including lettings & rent)	6,608	8,758
Total debtors and prepayments	6,608	8,758

Analysis of cash at bank

Cash in hand	0		90
Bank balance held in HSBC Account	748		6,667
Bank balance held in Barclays (Lantern Centre Account)	23,585		785
Bank balance held in Barclays (Salaries Account)	313		1,349
Bank balance held in Barclays (Church Account)	3369		728
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Trustees Account)	7,257		10,051
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Revenue Reserve Account)	3,083		3,079
Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes (Trust Funds relating to Legacies) Non-Restricted	58,841		55,690
Total Cash and Bank	**97,196**		**78,439**
Debtors & Pre-payments	*6,608*		*8,758*
Internal Organisations	1,995		3,507
Total Current Assets	105,799		*90,704*

22. Analysis of current liabilities

Trade Creditors	0	0
Other Creditors	3,832	4,013
Less Money held for External Charities & Deposits held	343	523
Total Current Liabilities	**4,175**	**4,536**

23. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

At the 31st August 2021 the Church has no capital commitments.

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2021.

24. Restricted Fund

Fund Name	Opening Balance 1/9/2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Revaluation gains/losses £	Closing Balance 31/8/2021 £
9Lantern Project	0	10,000	0	0	0	10,000
Totals	0	10,000	o	0	0	10,000

Internal Organisation funds are excluded from this analysis.

25. Related Party Transactions

This year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2021
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		21,356		
Total			**0**	**21,356**	**0**	**0**

Last year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2020
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		21,113		
Total			**0**	**21,113**	**0**	**0**

26 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1 September 2020	Income (incl. gains)	Expenditure (incl. losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	8,933,347	502,075	246,145	0	9,189,277
Restricted funds	0	12,082	2,082	0	10,000
Total Funds	**8,933,347**	**514,157**	**248,227**	**0**	**9,199,277**

The comparative figures for the previous year are shown below -

	Balance at 1 September 2019	Income (incl. gains)	Expenditure (incl. losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	8,706,841	558,277	331,771	0	8,933,347
Restricted funds	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	**8,706,841**	**558,277**	**331,771**	**0**	**8,933,347**

In 2019 / 2020 the church did not hold any Restricted funds.

The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer	*signed*	Date	5/12/21
Name	Alan Brown		
Address	53 Richmond Rd West Wimbledon SW20 0QD		

Presentation to the Church Council Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts were, or will be presented to the Church Council Meeting on 5/12/21

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	*signed*
Name of the Chair of the meeting	Deacon Dawn Canham
Date	21/10/21

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2021 which are set out on pages 13 to 29.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity'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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying my examination I have followed all 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed

Stephen Jones FCA

% Myrus Smith, Chartered Accountants

Norman House

8 Burrell Road

Sutton, Surrey

SM1 4BW

Appendix A ----- Church Council as elected at the AGM 8/8/2021

Restrictions as a result of the COVID19 pandemic has resulted in the 2020 AGM being cancelled with the result that all appointments are extended to the AGM to be held on 8th August 2021.

The CC is a body corporate and a charity accepted for registration with the Charity Commission. The CC members that have served until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members

Chair: Deacon Dawn Canham

Treasurer: Alan Brown

CC Secretary: Wendy Siemaszko

Church Stewards: Dawn Downes
Juliette Jaeger
Margaret Redway
Angela Linton-Smith (Safeguarding Officer)

Elected members:

Lorna Giraud
Rosemary Evans
Sue Fuller
Mike Fuller
Anita Brown
Alan Brown *(Treasurer from 1/9/2021)*
Humphrey Jaeger
Ashleigh Linton-Smith (from 1/9/2020)

THE LANTERN METHODIST CHURCH OF WIMBLEDON AND RAYNES PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1178284

Accounts

Charities and Public Benefit Annual Report
For the year ending
31st August 2020

The Lantern Methodist Church

Registered Charity Number - 1178284

The church forms part of the Wimbledon Circuit of the Methodist Church – Circuit Number 35/26.

Minister	**Deacon Dawn Canham**
Church Stewards	**Dawn Downes** **Wendy Siemaszko** **Juliette Jaeger** **Margaret Redway** **Angela Linton-Smith**
Church Treasurer	**Roy Newitt**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2020. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (issued October 2019).

The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting and are listed in appendix A of this document. Further information about the Church Council is provided on page 9.

Governing Documents

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Methodist Church and as such it's governing documents are the sections pertaining to local churches within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Church. A copy is available at https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/governance/cpd/

Introduction

It has been a difficult year for the church as the impact of the COVID19 pandemic severely impacted on the activities that the church could do. The use of the church's premises by both the church and the many community organisations that make use of them effectively stopped and was only starting to resume at the end of the church year. Unfortunately due to COVID19 the Lantern Coffee House has been forced to closed and the staff made redundant.

To continue to support church members and the wider community it has had to adopt new ways of doing things, whilst suspending the many face to face activities it had traditionally carried out. The use of mail, phone and online services such as Facebook and Zoom have been pressed into service.

The start of the year, as in previous years, we have held many events and activities, bringing fresh ideas has been much innovation to the life and worship in our church. This is to be celebrated. The church has taken on new energy and has increased the number of services at the Wimbledon Site. There has been closer working with the Lantern Arts Centre and greater use of the Church Premises by community groups.

Aims and Purposes

The charity's objectives are contained within our:-

Vision and Mission Plan

We are called to live out the creative, inclusive, radical and transforming love of Jesus Christ.

We endeavour to do this through blending and partnering with our communities; celebrating what we have in common and respecting differences.

We are a diverse worshipping community with a contemporary programme of praise, reflection and learning which enables us to be transformed to reflect our values.
Targets for 2020-2025
live streaming of Sunday Services
expand current bible study session; enabling more informal sessions, online groups and creative study sessions.
develop weekday opportunities for prayer and reflection. (retreat days, craft days etc)

We are in partnership with a thriving Christian arts centre. As a wider family we believe in the transforming power of the arts, gifted by the Holy Spirit.
Targets for 2020-2025
formalising the partnership between The Lantern Methodist Church and The Lantern Arts.
sensitively update, refresh and improve our buildings through The Lantern Centre Project.

We commit to sharing with our local communities; safe spaces, opportunities and creative tools to explore, develop and deepen our experience as human beings.
Targets for 2020-2025.
strengthen and develop links with the wider communities.
provide accessible buildings (emotionally and physically)

Following the calling of the Methodist Church we endeavour to become lifelong learners; seeking to live with differences and to hold one another in love.
Targets for 2020-2025
deepen our links with Churches Together in West Wimbledon
expand opportunities to gather with other faith communities
provide e-learning services

We believe all are truly welcome; reaching out to the margins of our communities, enabling social justice movements and discerning how we may serve all.
Targets for 2020-2025
improve our environmental impact
affordable access to performances and paid activities
continue to develop our programmes designed to combat loneliness and social isolation.

The purposes of the charity are:-

The advancement of:-

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;

b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, Local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;

c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;

d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;

How Our Activities Deliver Public Benefit - Review of the year

The charity has continued to be a focal point in the local community and had an increasing number of people using the Church premises until the pandemic hit.

In addition to its regular activities the church held; prayer and praise for the 3rd age, ongoing pastoral support for the Lantern Arts centre with pastoral team members present at all rehearsals and productions/events. The formation of a Project Group to assess the needs of the community in relation to the building and how with careful and thoughtful refurbishment of the entire Raynes Park site we may become a sustainable and welcoming community asset both physically and emotionally for many years to come. There have also been a number of successful fundraising events; for instance the second year of our Christmas Celebration in partnership with Lantern Arts Centre (which includes performances, Christmas market, switch on of the outside Christmas tree and lights and foodie delights from our coffee house).

We were also due to host the Merton Winter Night Shelter, in partnership with other local faith groups beginning in March for 6 weeks; but due to the COVID 19 Pandemic the guests were instead housed in hotels by the government. Links were maintained with those who were due to stay with us and support given.

The Lantern Coffee House provided an open door to the local community through which help can be provided up until it had to close due to the pandemic. Unfortunately in August it was necessary to close the Coffee house completely and make the employees redundant as it was clear that operational limitations due to COVID 19 meant that it could not be operated profitably and the church could not cover the resultant losses.

Both sites provide facilities for community organisations to meet and provide social interaction for the local communities.

Financial Review

Income Trends

The charity's income comes from:-
The giving of church members / congregation, either in the Sunday collections or regular giving by standing orders. This has decreased by about 30% due to the closure of the church under the COVID 19 Pandemic regulations, a special appeal has been made and it is expected that some of the giving normally made at services will be delayed to 2020/21 financial year.
There was a limited number of successful fundraising events held before the government imposed COVID 19 lockdown.
Gift aid tax credit received on the giving by church members and giving by other members of the congregation.

Hall letting income: mainly from external users of the building, plus donations from church organisations and members of the congregation for use of the halls complex. This had been increasing prior to the government imposed COVID 19 lockdown. The impact of COVID 19 has seen the premises hire receipts decrease by over £30,000.
Rental income from two church owned flats which are part of the Wimbledon Church complex.
The income of the church decreased by about 14.5%. The income from the church's internal organisations – mainly the Lantern Coffee House whose income has also been severely hit by the COVID19 Pandemic which means that the church's total income for the year is now below £250k on a cash book account basis. Despite this it has been decided to continue presenting the accounts on an accrual basis.
The impact of COVID19 has made finances (ignoring property revaluation and depreciation) a concern with the operating loss increasing for the year to £28.5k (£32.3k when Internal Organisations included) from £20k last year.

Expenditure trends

A major cost is in relation to the assessment paid to the Wimbledon Circuit, this amounts to 14.5% of our total cost this year. The Circuit assessment which is calculated on the number of members reduced by 11.8% following a reduction in membership numbers due to deaths and members moving away.

Employment costs have been reduced following a review of the paid work undertaken by employees.

The enforced closure of the Church premises has resulted in savings in Utility Costs though these will return to previous levels when things return to normal after the pandemic. An internal water leak occurred at the Wimbledon site which resulted in a large bill that increase this year's cost.

With the church closed the Centre Manager and Caretaker have used the time to carry out redecoration and minor refurbishment at both sites. The remaining work on refurbishing the Church flats (Wimbledon site) has now nearly been completed and are expected to be fully let next year.

The impact of COVID19 has had a major impact on the church's finances. The Lantern Coffee House closed on 31/8/2020 as the church realised it was unable to provide any further financial support to it. Some premises educational hire income is expected to continue during any future lock downs and increased income from the residential flats should help alleviate the losses due to the COVID19 pandemic. A significant amount of giving by Church Members has and is also expected to move to giving by standing orders.

Trustees' Annual Report on Finance and Governance

Basis of preparation and legal framework

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the SORP 2019 (FRS 102).

Full Name of Charity / Church:
The Lantern Methodist Church of Wimbledon and Raynes Park
Registration Charity Number: 1178284
Date of registration (if registered as a Charity) 8th May 2018
Main communication address
The Lantern Methodist Church,
Tolverne Road
London
SW20 8RA

The members of the Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting.

Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

Treasurer: Mr Roy Newitt

Independent Examiners :-

Stephen Jones
% Myrus Smith Chartered Accountants
Norman House, 8 Burnell Road, Sutton, Surrey. SM1 4BW

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Main Activities of the Charity

Worshiping God through the use of prayer, song and other acts of worship.
The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.
The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
The resourcing of pastoral work, which includes visiting the sick and bereaved.
Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
Encouraging links with the local community through providing a community centre for a range of community activities

The Lantern Methodist Church is a Methodist Church within the Wimbledon Circuit and serves the people of Wimbledon and Raynes Park.

Deacon Dawn Canham has ministerial responsibility for the Lantern Methodist Church and is supported in this by the other ministers within the Wimbledon Circuit.

As part of our mission, we continue to encourage links with the church, and our halls and facilities, to enable us to reach out to the local community and respond to their needs. Particularly, we reach out to those who may be less confident about their place in the community and their relationship with the church.

The Lantern Church is a friendly and welcoming church and uses a Café style of worship. The friendship and fellowship within the church is very highly valued by its congregation and we are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our church community.

As a church community, we have continued to support many activities in the local community and our thanks go to all those who have supported all the initiatives, activities and events that take place in our church and in the halls.

The Lantern Church has a close relationship with the Lantern Arts Centre which is based at the Raynes Park site. The Lantern Arts Centre, which was an off shoot of the church focuses on the promotion of the Christian faith through Drama and other arts. The art centre runs activities for the young through to the old.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The Lantern Church provides a range of services. The church is normally laid out in a café style with chairs around round tables. The services usually involve interaction with the congregation for part of the services. Communion services are held when a member of the clergy team in the circuit is available to take the service. Prayer meetings are held on a weekly basis.

Sunday Services

A weekly Sunday Morning service is held at 10.30am at the Raynes Park site and a monthly Dementia Friendly service is held in the afternoon at the Wimbledon Site.

The Church and Church Halls

This year has seen the appointment of Stephen Rees as the Centre Manager with the aim to grow the use of the premises. Both for individual bookings and new groups and organisations.

What's On For Adults

A wide range of activities for adults take place at the Lantern Methodist Church each week, from social and support group (e.g. twice weekly AA meetings and a fellowship group for the retired), through our partnership with the Lantern Arts Centre we offer film

and book clubs, fitness and dance, amateur dramatics, prayer meetings and quiet/safe spaces. We also provide rooms on a daily and weekly basis for two foreign language churches to meet, one Korean and the other Brazilian. Our aim is to provide well maintained and well managed church premises and Coffee House for the local community to use for a diverse range of activities throughout the week and at the weekends. We provide facilities for groups from the church and in the local community, local charities and commercial organisations in order to develop our joint church into a true community church.

What's On For Children and young people

In partnership with the Lantern Arts centre we engage with our young people through the various theatre groups which run weekly - helping to make links between faith and the world, offering a safe space in which to explore difficult subjects and also to have fun. Through the Coffee House we offer a daily play zone for young children and their carers, an enabled space to meet other carers, an opportunity for the children to lean and play and also an opportunity for the charity members interact with the community and provide intergenerational interactions.

Through a diverse programme enabled by the Lantern Arts centre the church community is actively encouraged to offer and enable the wide variety on offer. We are praying and seeking discernment towards the setting up of a “baking church” at our Wimbledon site, and a summer holiday club in partnership with the Lantern Arts Centre. The halls are proving to be a very popular venue for birthday parties and family celebrations and this is enabled and facilitated by the Coffee House.

Pastoral Care

There is a small team chaired by the Minister and enabled by a pastoral secretary that coordinates all the pastoral visits, and care for both the church/arts centre and community. Weekly bible study in enabled through our Wimbledon site, and we share in quarterly family meals within the main body of the church and this is extended to all who call the Lantern home (Coffee House staff, Arts centre and costume store). Our weekly prayer group is attended by a wide, diverse group from both the church and community as is becoming known as a safe space, with a listening heart for all. Church members and attendees are actively encouraged to see pastoral care as a whole life experience not limited to church space; but extended into every area of their lives.

Mission and Evangelism

The Minister is currently being enabled by the wider Methodist Church to research and promote healthy evangelism and to mission in its widest sense. This has seen the participation by the congregation in surveys to take the temperature of feeling to mission and evangelism, to envision growth and to seek to meet new people in new places, moving beyond the post-christendom position and into the 21st Century enabling a Christ-Centred space for all.

Future Plans

When planning our activities for the year, we consider the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our church community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the local area.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate and support this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church and halls buildings of The Lantern Methodist Church. The Raynes Park site, a grade 2 listed building which is about 105 years old is in need of refurbishment in order that it can support the work of the church in the local. A project has been started to explore the way in which the site can be developed in a way that conserves the character of the building.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Lantern Methodist Church operates under the Constitution and Practice of the Methodist Church.

Church Council (CC)

The purpose of the Church Council (CC) with our minister, Deacon Dawn Canham, is to promote the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in the local neighbourhood. The Church Council is the church's governing body. Membership of the CC should therefore be taken seriously as it carries responsibility for financial and legal decisions made on behalf of the church. The CC appoints committees that have the authority to act within pre-defined areas of responsibility; supports the work of all such committees and receives their reports, making decisions on any matter of principle that may arise.

The CC membership includes the clergy, the Church Stewards, the CC Secretary, Church Treasurer, Convenors of Church Committees, Circuit Steward and 6 Ordinary Members. Ordinary Members are elected at the AGM to serve for a term of 3 years and can then be re-elected to serve a maximum of 6 years. Office holders are also elected annually, to serve a maximum of 6 years.

During the past year, the CC has overseen the work of the various Church Committees, giving approval as necessary. Church finances continue to be a matter of concern - see Finance report for more details. Other church business dealt with over the year includes:-

- The requirement for the church to produce an annual report to the Charities Commission to update them on our activities throughout the year, which also allows

us to apply for a refund of tax under the 'Gift Aid' scheme. In order to do this, we will need to approve an updated Constitution at the AGM
- Regular review of the church policies, including Fire Safety Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy and training and our Travel Plan, which encourages our hall users to walk or use public transport.

Training of Trustees: Newly appointed trustees are supplied with a booklet of their responsibilities and denominational training sessions are supplied for treasurers.

Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit

The Lantern Methodist Church is part of the Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit. This is a group of five local churches served by a team of three ministers. Each has pastoral charge of one or more churches and will preach and lead worship in different local churches in the Circuit, along with Local Preachers.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Trustees with professional advice taken as required. There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things, this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist policies outline commitment to the following principles:
• the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
• the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults
• the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
• the careful selection and training of all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
• an immediate response to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
• a commitment to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

• a commitment to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
• the offer of pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
• in all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of the Safeguarding Policies of our parent church; government legislation; guidance and safe practice within its church.

The Lantern Methodist Church commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people which will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

Reserves Policy

This reserves policy covers all church funds held by the Lantern Methodist Church.

At 31st August 2020 the Church held unrestricted funds of £8,933,847 (2019 £8,706,841) of which £8,845,315 (2019 £8,586,000) represented the value of the Church Property leaving net unrestricted funds of £88,532 (2019 £120,841)

The Church aims to hold Current Assets in reserve of at least 50% of the budgeted expenditure for the following year £75,000 (£150,000 approximately for 2020/21).

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Statute law requires the Trustees to prepare the Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period under review. In preparing those Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For and on behalf of the Trustees

Signed
……
Wendy Siemazko

Date: *19th March 2021*

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2019-20
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
1 Offerings	4	11,006				11,006
2 Donations	5	4,031				4,031
3 Gift aid	6	3,894				3,894
4 Interest and investment income	7	642				642
5 Internal organisations	8	62,995				62,995
6 Other charitable income	9	99,782				99,782
7 **Total income**		**182,350**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**182,350**
Expenditure						
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	21,356				**21,356**
9 Grants and donations	,10	221				**221**
10 Property maintenance	11	37,356				**37,356**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	39,915				**39,915**
12 Depreciation	13	117,234				**117,234**
13 Office expenses	14	3,898				**3,898**
14 Other expenditure	15	45,649				**45,649**
15 Internal organisations	8	65,761				**66,761**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**331,390**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**331,390**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		(381)				**(381)**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		0				**0**
19 Net income/(expenditure)		**(149,421)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(149,421)**
20 Transfers between funds		0				**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)	13	375,927				**375,927**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**226,506**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**226,506**
23 Total funds brought forward		8,706,841	0	0	0	**8,706,841**
24 Total funds carried forward		**8,933,347**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8,933,347**

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2019

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2018-2019
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
1 Offerings	4	15,609				**15,609**
2 Donations	5	2,429				**2,429**
3 Gift aid	6	3,961				**3,961**
4 Interest and investment income	7	2,067				**2,067**
5 Internal organisations	8	96,472				**96,472**
6 Other charitable income	9	122,711				**122,711**
7 **Total income**		**243,249**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**243,249**
Expenditure						
8 Circuit assessment or share	25	24,214				**24,214**
9 Grants and donations	10	216				**216**
10 Property maintenance	11	36,451				**36,451**
11 Insurance, utilities etc.	12	42,575				**42,575**
12 Depreciation	13	114,622				**114,622**
13 Office expenses	14	3,800				**3,800**
14 Other expenditure	15	60,160				**60,160**
15 Internal organisations	8	95,764				**95,764**
16 **Total charitable expenditure**		**377,802**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**377,802**
17 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		(686)				**(686)**
18 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		300,000				**300,000**
19 **Net income/(expenditure)**		**164,761**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**164,761**
20 Transfers between funds		0				**0**
21 Other gains/(losses)		0				**0**
22 **Net movement in funds**		**164,761**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**164,761**
23 Total funds brought forward		8,542,080	0	0	0	**8,542,080**
24 Total funds carried forward		**8,706,841**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8,706,841**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2020 £	Totals 2019 £
Fixed Assets							
Church building and other property	13	8,845,315				8,845,315	8,586,000
Other Assets	13	1,864				1,864	2,486
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		**8,847,179**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8,847,179**	**8,588,486**
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	21	8,758				8,758	1,869
Internal Organisations	8	3,507				3,507	4,729
Investments with TMCP	20	55,690				55,690	66,071
Central Finance Board Deposits	21	13,130				13,130	22,844
Cash at Bank and in hand	21	9,619				9,619	35,171
Total current assets		**90,704**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**90,704**	**130,684**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	22	4,013				4,013	12,180
Tenant Deposits	22	500				500	100
External Charity	22	23				23	49
Total current liabilities		**4,536**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4,536**	**12,329**
Net current assets/liabilities		**86,168**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**86,168**	**118,355**
Total assets less current liabilities		**8,933,347**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8,933,347**	**8,706,841**
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2018-19						**0**	
Loans to the Church						**0**	
Net assets	**26**	**8,933,347**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8,933,347**	**8,706,841**
Funds of the Church							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	26	**8,933,347**				**8,933,347**	**8,706,841**
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0	
Total Unrestricted Funds						**8,933,347**	**8,706,841**
Restricted Funds				**0**		0	
Endowment Funds					**0**	0	**0**
Total Funds		**8,933,347**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8,933,347**	**8,706,841**

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these accounts.

Charity and Public Benefit Annual Report approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Church Treasurer: R C Newitt *signed*

Chair of Church Council Deacon Dawn Canham *signed* Date 10th January 2021

Notes to the Accounts

1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with SORP 2019 (FRS102), being the current version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities : Statement of Recommended Practice.

2. Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Church which are Unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations.

3. Accounting policies

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that property, land values and investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year (where it has not been possible to determine the historical costs), on an accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Church's financial position and activities.

Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Church becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Rents will be recorded when they are due / hiring event occurs.

Donated goods for onward transmission to other charities (chiefly food and clothing / bedding for a homeless charity) are passed immediately to that charity and are not included in the statement of financial activities as no benefit accrues to the charity.

The charity has not received any goods for use by the charity itself.

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements.

No services have been donated that would normally have been purchased.

Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Church to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Church from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Church accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

The Church deregistered for VAT in summer 2020 due to the income of the Lantern Coffee House (an Internal Organisation) dropping to zero and hence below the threshold for de-registering. Prior to de-registration the VAT liability was calculated on a composite rate basis agreed with HMRC. The church's income apart, with the exception of the Lantern Coffee House income, is exempt from VAT. All input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

Fixed assets

The freehold property was subject to re-valuation in 2019 by David Ambrose MRICS of Bramptons Chartered Surveyors & Valuers. Use of the Nationwide – All Property Index to calculate the valuation at 31/8/2020. See Note 13.

Investment Properties

No separate Investment Properties are owned by the charity. The flats at the Wimbledon Methodist Church site are an integral part of the Church Building and the valuation of the flats is included within the valuation of the church.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA. Currently no investments are held.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors include outstanding lettings invoices, credits from Utility companies, and Gift Aid claims made in subsequent years.

Creditors

Creditors include out-standings relating to utilities, telephones, etc. and receipts in advance for the next financial year.

		Year Ending 31/08/2020	Year Ending 31/08/2019
4.	**Breakdown of Giving**		
	Standing Orders	4840	940
	Envelopes & Loose Cash	6166	14669
	Total	**11006**	**15609**
5.	**Donations**		
	General Funds	4031	1429
	Legacies	0	0
	Building Development Fund	0	1000
		4031	**2429**

6. **Gift Aid**

Gift Aid for 2016/17; 2017/18 & 2018/19 Financial Years was paid in the 2018/19 Financial Year. This was due to the time Taken following the merging of Raynes Park Methodist Church and Wimbledon Methodist Church to form the Lantern Methodist Church in September 2016 to register the Lantern Methodist Church as a charity with the Charity Commission and then with HMRC. The Gift Aid received in 2018/19 (£11,549) has been allocated to the end date of the tax year in which the money was given.
The 2019/2020 figure is the amount claimed for that tax year.
The amount per year based on which tax year the donations were made are as follows:-

Gift Aid	**3894**	**3961**

7. **Interest and investment income**

Interest on trusts held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) was not paid into the church's Central Finance Board (CFB) account as the account name had been updated; but had not advised to TMCP.
This was corrected in 2018/19 and the back interest paid. As unpaid interest had been added to the trust values no accrual of interest has been made.

CFB - Deposit Account interest	149	146
TMCP - Trust Fund Interest	493	1921
Total	**642**	**2067**
Increase / (Decrease) in TMCP investment value is shown in row 18:	(381)	(686)

£10k transferred from TMCP to CFB Account.

8 **Internal Organisations**

There are three internal organisations - The Lantern Coffee; Fellowship and the Flower Fund.
The Lantern Coffee House manages it's day to day running finances. But due to not being an independent organisation for some financial transactions these are paid via the church's accounts and money is transferred to cover all or part of the transactions. internal organisation income / Expenditure. In 2018/19 the Lantern Coffee house operated at a loss.

	Opening Balance 01/09/2019	Income	Expenditure	Profit / (Loss)	Closing Balance 31/08/2020
Lantern Coffee House	4504	63,866	65,314	(1,448)	3056
Transfers between accounts		(1400)			
Fellowship	211	392	352	40	251
Flower Fund	14	281	95	186	200
Money accounted in Church Account in 18/19 Transferred during 2019/2020		(144)			
Totals from Internal Organisation Accounts	4729	62,995	65,761	(1222)	3507

9 **Other Charitable Income**	**Year Ending 31/08/2020**	**Year Ending 31/08/2019**
Premises Hire	74478	98381
Costume Store (Joint venture with the Lantern Arts Centre)	5175	5400
Lantern Arts Centre - Contribution for use of premises	5700	7500
Church Flats (Rent)	11400	8100
Refund of shared property costs from Wesley Court flats	1427	836
Fund raising	1602	1769
Play zone	0	562
Grants	0	0
Flower Fund Donation	0	144
Miscellaneous Income	0	50
Less Petty Cash transfer to bank account recorded as income	0	(31)
Totals	99782	122711

10 **Grants & Donations**		
Care for Uganda (Child Sponsorship)	216	216
Tear Fund donation	5	
Totals	**221**	**216**

11 **Property Maintenance**		
Cleaning	5745	9582
Maintenance	9176	20008
Lift Maintenance	6085	2682
Flats	12497	494
Flats - Council Tax	3853	3685
Totals	**37356**	**36451**

12 **Insurance, utilities etc.**

Insurance	9363	9194
Gas	8820	9769
Electricity	14374	17975
Water	6337	3238
Waste Collection	1021	2399
Totals	**39915**	**42575**

13 Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Land Value - No depreciation has been included.
31/8/2019 Valuation £3m
31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £3,131,351

Buildings –
31/8/2019 Valuation £5.586,000
31/8/2020 index change 4.37837% ----- £5.830,576

Increase in fixed Asset valuation ------- £375,927
Increase in church property & land valuation recorded as "Other gains / losses"

Building Depreciation (2%) --------- £116,612

Net 31/8/2020 Building Valuation ----- £5,713,964

Property Fixed Assets 31/8/2020 ---------- £8,845,315

All other items - Only single items with a purchase price over £1,000 will be included and they will be depreciated over 5 years. Depreciation will be applied in the year of purchase.

Item	Purchased	Price	Depreciation	
Round Tables & Storage Racks (For Church Use)	17/05/2019	3108	622	From 2018/19 to 2023/24
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2019		2486		
Depreciation			622	
Balance of Tangible Assets at 31/8/2020		1864		

14 **Office Expenses**

	31/08/2020	31/08/2019
Telephones	2624	2501
Stationery	18	68
Photocopier	1256	1231
Total	**3898**	**3800**

15 **Other Charitable Expenditure**

	Year Ending 31/08/2020	Year Ending 31/08/2019
Fund Raising Expenses	221	328
Pension Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	5731	8849
Tax & NI Contributions (Includes Lantern Coffee House Staff)	1781	4208
Church Employee Salaries	9329	25634
Centre Manage (Sub-contract)	19500	10000
Payroll Charges	461	444
Miscellaneous Expenses	114	511
Lantern Coffee House – VAT	10732	
Less LCH transfers	-8007	
Lantern Coffee House Support / Equipment Purchases	1400	3920
Worship Costs	536	1051
Youth Club	0	71
Lantern Project	2081	
Charges for Card Machine used for donations	150	
Flower Fund Donation shown as Income in Internal Organisation line	0	144
Property & Land Valuation	120	2000
Audit / Independent Examination	1500	3000
Total	**45649**	**60160**

16. Payment to Trustees

		This year	Last year
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting	£	0	0

Note:- The Methodist Minister are not direct employees of the charity. They are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The charity makes contributions to the Wimbledon Circuit (Circuit Assessment) which among other things funds their stipends.

Number of trustees who were paid expenses		4	5
Nature of the expenses			
All payments were against receipts:- Fund raising Expenses (£89) Worship Related (£53) Petty Cash & Maintenance Items (£214)			
Total amount paid	£	356	2,722

17. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£	1500	3000
Other fees (e.g.: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£	0	0

18a. Paid employees (Directly Employed by the Church)

Staff Costs paid during the year were:			
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	10,060	28,949
Employer's National Insurance costs *(Impact of Statutory Sick Pay on Employer NIC rebate has not been included here)*	£	188	130
Pension costs	£	1,107	1,724
Total staff costs	£	11,355	30,803
Average number of staff employed during the year were:		1	2

18b. Paid employees (Internal Organisation Employed [Lantern Coffee House])

(Net wages have been paid from the Lantern Coffee House income; NI; Tax & Pension has been paid from the Charity Accounts)

Staff Costs paid during the year were:			
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	43,602	55,785
Employer's National Insurance costs *(Impact of Statutory Sick Pay on Employer NIC rebate has not been included here)*	£	1,407	134
Pension costs	£	4,839	2,699
Total staff costs	£	49,848	58,618
Average number of staff employed during the year were:		7	7

No Employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

19. Report on Pension Scheme

The Lantern Methodist Church uses TPT Retirement Solutions to provide a pension scheme for it employees (both those directly employed and those employed by the Lantern Coffee House an internal organisation). Information on the scheme performance is available is available on the TPT Retirement Solutions website – www.tpt.org.uk

The church offers a Defined Contribution Scheme (The Flexible Retirement Plan) to its employees.

In line with Methodist Church policy the pension scheme is based on a 6% contribution both by the employees and employer.

20. Investments

The investments that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing

guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

Change in investment values

	This Year	Last Year
Value at beginning of year	66,071	86,757
,Add: Additions	0	0
Less: Withdrawals (Including interest paid)	10,493	21,921
Add: Interest less administration	112	1,235
Value at end of year	55,690	66,071

TMCP currently hold legacy funds as shown on the Balance Sheet (Page 14) of this report.

21. Analysis of current assets	**This year**	**Last year**
Debtors and prepayments	**£**	**£**
Prepayments (Credits) – Gift Aid / Utility Credit /	0	263
Other debtors (including lettings & rent)	8,758	1,606
Total debtors and prepayments	8,758	1,869
Analysis of cash at bank		
Cash in hand	90	0
Bank balance held in HSBC Account	6,667	18,018
Bank balance held in Barclays (Lantern Centre Account)	785	9,850
Bank balance held in Barclays (Salaries Account)	1,349	4,438
Bank balance held in Barclays (Church Account)	728	2,865
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Trustees Account)	10,051	14,809
Deposit Account balance Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (Revenue Reserve Account)	3,079	8,035
Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes (Trust Funds relating to Legacies) Non-Restricted	55,690	66,071
Total Cash and Bank	**78,439**	**124,086**
Debtors & Pre-payments	*8758*	*1,869*
Internal Organisations	3,507	*4,729*
Total Current Assets	*90,704*	*130,684*

22. Analysis of current liabilities

Trade Creditors	0	0
Other Creditors	4,013	12,180
Less Money held for External Charities & Deposits held	523	149
Total Current Liabilities	**4,536**	**12,329**

23. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

At the 31st August 2020 the Church has no capital commitments.

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2020.

24. Restricted Funds

No Restricted Funds are currently held by the charity.

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
Totals						

Internal Organisation funds are excluded from this analysis.

25. Related Party Transactions

This year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2020
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		21,356		
Total			**0**	**21,356**	**0**	**0**

Last year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2019
			£	£	£	£
Wimbledon Methodist Church Circuit	Charity is part of the Circuit	Circuit Assessment		24,214		
Total			**0**	**24,214**	**0**	**0**

26 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income (incl. gains) £	Expenditure (incl. losses) £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	8,706,841	558,277	331,771	0	8,933,347
Restricted funds	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	**8,706,841**	**558,277**	**331,771**	**0**	**8,933,347**

Currently the church does not hold any Restricted funds.

The comparative figures for the previous year are shown below -

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £	Income (incl. gains) £	Expenditure (incl. losses) £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2019 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	8,542,080	543,249	378,488	0	8,706,841
Restricted funds	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	**8,542,080**	**543,249**	**378,488**	**0**	**8,706,841**

The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer	*Signed*	Date	7th March 2021
Name	Roy C Newitt		
Address	21 Sandringham Road Worcester Park Surrey		

Presentation to the Church Council Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts were, or will be presented to the Church Council Meeting on	7th March 2021

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	*Signed*
Name of the Chair of the meeting	Deacon Dawn Canham
Date	15th March 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Lantern Methodist Church (of Raynes Park and Wimbledon)
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2020 which are set out on pages 13 to 25.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity'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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying my examination I have followed all 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 in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed

Stephen Jones FCA
% Myrus Smith, Chartered Accountants
Norman House
8 Burrell Road
Sutton, Surrey
SM1 4BW

Appendix A ----- Church Council as elected at the AGM 2/5/2019

Restrictions as a result of the COVID19 pandemic has resulted in the 2020 AGM being cancelled with the result that all appointments are extended to the AGM to be held in 2021.

The CC is a body corporate and a charity accepted for registration with the Charity Commission. The CC members that have served until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members

Chair:	Deacon Dawn Canham
Treasurer:	Roy Newitt
CC Secretary:	Wendy Siemaszko
Church Stewards:	Dawn Downes
	Juliette Jaeger
	Margaret Redway
	Angela Linton-Smith (Safeguarding Officer)

Elected members:

Lorna Giraud
Rosemary Evans
Sue Fuller
Mike Fuller
Anita Brown
Alan Brown
Humphrey Jaeger
Ashleigh Linton-Smith (from 1/9/2020)