

Bethel Independent Methodist Church
Victoria St, Newtown, Wigan WN5 9BL

Trustees' Annual Report for 1st Jan to 31st Dec 2023

Charity name: **Bethel Independent Methodist Church**

Charity registration number: **1178313**

1. Objectives and Activities

The principal object of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Statements of Faith and Practice of the Independent Methodist Connexion. The charity may also carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

The church is community based providing a range of spiritual and social needs for the general public and the church membership. The facilities are used for a variety of purposes for all ages and is available for public worship, christenings, weddings and funerals. As a church we provide a range of social fellowship opportunities and instruction and respond to related needs (support and pastoral) for individuals and families identified within the community. The charity may also support other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

2. Achievements and Performance

The Church premises were revamped over the years from 2020 to 2022 following sale of the adjacent Sunday School building. The flooring was dug out and replaced and most of the pews were sold and replaced with comfortable chairs, giving flexibility to reconfigure the layout for other activities. A new kitchen was installed and the heating and sound systems were upgraded, plus an overhead projector was installed along with the Internet and CCTV coverage.

The whole ambience of the church has improved considerably, allowing us to have drinks after the church services and regular coffee mornings. We have been able to hold more activities and our congregation has grown, with new members being attracted by the friendly atmosphere. Furthermore, members have become more active and most attendees have a specific role to play.

Our Fellowship meetings have been resurrected after Covid and we have been able to assist other charities with an increase in annual donations.

3. Financial Review

The finances are in a strong position following the sale of the former Sunday School building, which is no longer required and had become a burden on resources. The funds from the sale were used to refurbish the Church.

4. Governance and Management

The Charity is managed in accordance with the established Governance document issued by the Association of Independent Methodist Churches.

Trustees are selected and approved by the church members at an official Church Members' Meeting.

5. Names of the Charity Trustees who manage the charity

<u>Trustee Name</u>	<u>Office Held (if any)</u>	<u>Dates Acted (if not full year)</u>
Pauline Smith	Minister & Secretary
Christine Ormerod	Minister
Roy Tague	Treasurer
Sue Gregory	Finance Officer
Kevan Booth	Organist
Brian Mills	Property Steward
Eileen Melling	Plan Secretary
Janice Fairclough	Congregation Representative
David Parkinson	Health & Safety Officer

All the above served for the full year.

6. Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's trustees P.W. Smith

Full Name PAULINE SMITH

Position MINISTER

Date 14 / 8 / 24

Statement of Accounts as at 31st December 2023

	TOTAL DONATIONS	£4,760.00
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Bethel Independent Methodist Church, Newtown.

Statement of Income For The 12 Months Ended 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
Weekly Collections	797.95	805.20
Gift Aid	13155.00	12366.00
Appeals	0.00	0.00
Donations (Church Groups)	80.00	90.03
Donations (Other inc. Funerals & Weddings)	1140.00	470.00
Ground Rent		14.00
G.F.Cantata		505.64
Bank Interest (Treasurer's Account)	162.92	23.04
Grant from IM Connexion	4000.00	
Tea Party for Storehouse	200.00	
Circuit Carol Service for Storehouse	500.00	
MCA A/C Interest	2103.20	2103.20
HMRC - Gift Aid	3299.86	2828.59
Coffee Mornings	349.21	331.44
Christmas Cards	88.00	
Sundry Income		158.19
Church Weekend	2000.00	
	27876.14	19695.33
Signed by: <i>J. Thomas</i>	- Auditor	
<i>S.B. Barnes</i>	- Treasurer	

Statement of Expenditure For The 12 Months Ended 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
Donations by Church - external	4760.00	3428.47
Cleaning Expenses	390.00	440.00
Building Repairs & Renewals	1667.96	2882.30
Printing, Stationery & Advertising	488.64	496.61
Telephone		9.00
Fuel, Power & Utilities	3080.43	1981.49
Benevolence	200.00	125.00
Speakers Expenses	180.00	180.00
Auditors Fees	150.00	100.00
I.M.Connexional Fees	3220.00	
Repayment of Connexional Loan		
Website Fees/ Broadband	470.15	99.39
Refreshments	390.31	93.25
Church Weekend Part Payment	1000.00	
Ground Rent	9.75	
Treasurers Expenses	0.00	0.00
Fire Prevention/Security	724.55	118.37
Flowers & Wreaths	82.89	
Church Insurance	1334.98	1223.18
Annual Meeting expenses	168.50	
Equipment - Sound/ Defibrillator/ Hymn Books	2694.37	1236.00
Sundry Expenses	100.53	560.66
Totals	21113.06	12973.72
Signed by: <i>[Signature]</i> - Auditor		
<i>S.B.Bates.</i> - Treasurer		



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

BETHEL INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH NEWTOWN, WIGAN

On accounts for the year
ended

31ST DECEMBER.2023

Charity no
(if any)

1178313

Set out on pages

1,2 & 3.

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

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

Signed:

Date:

21st JANUARY.2024

Name:

IAN THOMAS

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

ACMA: GCMA

Address:

FIRS END, 4 FIRS ROAD,
OVER HULTON, BOLTON
BL5 1EZ