



Trustees Annual Report and Accounts for year ending 31st August 2020

Purpose

We are a body of people, drawn together by the love of God to worship, pray and try to follow the teaching of Jesus. To fulfil our purpose, we will:

Glorify God in worship
Develop our understanding of the love of God and the way of Jesus
Deepen our commitment to the Christian life
Enable and encourage our community to develop and use all their God-given talents
Offer Christian love and friendship to all
Respond to the needs of God's world, especially the people of Beckenham

The Methodist Church exists to exercise the whole ministry of Christ. The Local Church in Beckenham, with its membership and larger church community, exercises this ministry where it is and shares in the wider ministry of the Church in the world. In this one ministry worship, fellowship, pastoral care, mission and service are essential elements, enabled by training and prudent administration.

Organisation and governance

Beckenham Methodist Church (BMC) is part of the Bromley Circuit (No 35/42) of the Methodist Church, and arose from a merger of the Bromley Road and Clock House Road churches on 1 September 2004.

Ministers are appointed to the Circuit and given Pastoral Charge of the Local Church by the Circuit, usually staying for a term of 5 years. The current Minister is Rev. Alex Terrett, who has pastoral charge of the Beckenham and West Wickham churches and started her appointment in Autumn 2018.

The various tasks in carrying out our ministry are undertaken by the local Church, through its Church Council and committees, in union with the ministry of the Circuit of which it is constituent. In accordance with its governing document, the Constitution Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Church, the Trustees are all the members of the Church Council who are over the age of 18 years, some by virtue of posts they hold and some as elected representatives of the whole congregation.

Worship and Prayer

BMC normally gives worshippers the choice of two 10.30 a.m. services on a Sunday, one at Clock House Road and the other at Bromley Road. The preachers at each service are appointed by the Circuit. Occasionally on special occasions, combined services are held at one or other venue. Holy Communion is normally celebrated at Bromley Road on the third Sunday of the month and at Clock House Road on the second, both sites offer a more informal service each month directed at families. A weekly class meeting or Bible Study is held on a Wednesday evening at Clock House Road and other fellowship meetings are also arranged.

The regular congregations at both sites are a mixture of age groups, nationalities and backgrounds and everyone who comes through the doors is afforded a friendly welcome. Service books, hymn books and pew Bibles are provided, as well as printed sheets when appropriate. Audiovisual projection is now normally used at both sites and all appropriate copyright licences are held.

Membership stands at 98 with a further 20 adherents. Average attendance at Bromley Road is 50 and at Clock House Road 15 with many housebound or infirm and others not attending regularly because of work or family commitments. A tape recording of each service at Bromley Road is made available for the housebound.

Due to Covid there were a number of changes in the 2019-20 year. Services at both sites were suspended after the services on Sunday 15 March 2020 and did not restart until September 2020 and then at Bromley Road only. Average attendance, under strict social distance guidelines was then about 35 each week. In the interval an electronic service was sent to all members each week with paper copies going to those without the internet.

Circuit Meeting

Several Members of the Church Council also hold posts at Circuit level and the Church Council elects four representatives from amongst its number. The Circuit Meeting is a separate charity and its members are its trustees. The Local Church pays an assessment to the Circuit each year to cover the stipends and housing of ministerial staff and contributions to the Methodist Church nationally. BMC's assessment for this year was £51,356, which was marginally lower than last year.

The Church Premises

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance of the premises at Bromley Road (BR3 5JE) and Clock House Road (BR3 4JP) Beckenham. The Church premises at both sites are extensively used by the local community as well as by Church members. At Clock House Road there is a long-established pre-school playgroup. Various evening activities include yoga and dance classes and other community meetings.

The premises at Bromley Road are more extensive and are used by some 35-40 community groups on a regular basis as well as for annual meetings of local residents groups and management committees. Activities for young children and the elderly are all available as well as the Church's own sponsored Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Badminton Club and Social gatherings. According to Methodist Practice (CPD) no alcohol is allowed to be brought onto or consumed on the premises. A weekly AA meeting has been held on the premises for many years.

At Bromley Road we have been running a Community Café called TCs since July 2000 when a similar project run by Churches Together in Beckenham (CTiB) was forced to close. This has been very successfully staffed by volunteers from among the church membership as well as non members. At Bromley Road an extensive building project has been underway since November 2018 and during that period TCs was able to continue in one of the upstairs halls, operating from Monday to Thursday for 4 hours each day. In previous years a surplus was made and allocated to various mission projects at home and abroad. The surplus for 2019/20 is being held in reserve to assist with relocating and relaunching of the café within the newly built extension. The TCs management committee reports to the Church Council.

In line with Government covid restrictions all room bookings except certain exempt user groups (eg Pre School Playgroup at the Clock House Road premises and self-help and educational groups at Bromley Road) had to cease bookings in March 2020.

The Property and Finance Committee reports to the Church Council and is responsible for day-to-day management of the bookings through the offices of the two appointed Property Stewards. Cleaning of both churches is carried out by professionals.

Maintenance of the premises is an ongoing expense: In line with last year the overall level of activity was lower than average, which is to be expected when undertaking a major redevelopment. Ongoing servicing of boilers, fire protection equipment and other key facilities was carried out. The main items of renewal were a roof repair at Bromley Road and improvements to the lighting at Clock House Road.

Pastoral Care

The members of the Methodist Church are each allocated to a Pastoral Visitor who works closely with the minister to ensure all pastoral needs are met. The Pastoral Visitors and Church Stewards are members of the Pastoral Committee which reports to the Church Council. Those who are unable to attend services are visited and where requested the minister or some of the pastoral visitors are able to celebrate Holy Communion with them in their own home.

Mission

The Methodist Church supports Mission in Britain as well as Mission in the Wider World. These funds are well supported by the members of BMC as well as other charities. The work of TCs has been mentioned. Others regularly supported are Christian Aid with participation in the street collections and Action for Children, the Methodist Children's charity, one of whose founders was also a member of Beckenham Methodist Church at its original foundation in 1887. Various other charities are supported annually, both locally and worldwide, e.g. Workaid and a food bank and support for homeless men provided at another local church.

Ecumenical relationships

BMC is an active member of CTiB and participates in all its activities. On Ascension Day each year a service is shared with St. Paul's C of E Church in Brackley Road, alternating the venue and preachers. Close relationships are held with our nearest neighbours at St. George's Parish Church and the United Reformed Church, Crescent Road.

Financial review, including reserves policy, designation of material funds and likely timing of expenditure

The financial position is currently stretched reflecting the challenge of funding the redevelopment of Bromley Road where the building works are taking longer than expected and outturn costs are now higher than anticipated. Completion was forecast for November 2019 and was achieved in Summer 2020 but agreement of the final account is still outstanding. It is hoped to bring this matter to a conclusion in Spring 2021.

The year was very much a year of 2 halves to use a football analogy. Pre covid the church benefitted from strong personal giving, many bookings for lettings of church premises, which have held up surprisingly well in view of the building works at Bromley Road, to local community groups, a reduced Circuit assessment, and lower than usual expenses on repairs and maintenance in view of the redevelopment project now underway. Post lockdown income fell away sharply. Bookings were halted except for a small number of exempt users – such as the playgroup at Clock House Road. Personal giving declined as many members tend to give in person on a Sunday and switch to electronic giving has been slow.

The Redevelopment project at Bromley Road, outlined in prior years' reports, is now nearing completion. The works have significantly enhanced the church and plans are in place for a grand opening when we finally emerge from covid. The provision of a kitchen and toilets in the New Room area were removed from the builder's scope when tender returns were higher than expected. It is the plan now to complete these works as soon as possible which will allow the reopening of TCs using the new area.

To fund the redevelopment loans have been sought. A loan of £58,000 was obtained from the Methodist Chapel Aid scheme and repayment commenced in June 2020. Additional loans from members have been gratefully received. A 5 year repayment plan to bring the church out of debit has been drawn up. It is hoped that with strong lettings, continued generous support from the congregation and further grant applications this can be shortened.

During the year our reserves declined by around 25% or just over £100,000 leaving the church balances at £318,000. This was predominately due to redevelopment costs.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others:

Such funds are not material. They may include, during the financial year:

collections made for nominated charitable organisations, detailed in the Notes to the Receipts & Payments Account, but not yet distributed to them. Examples are Action for Children, Mind and on behalf of the Traidcraft Café. Movements of such funds, which are held temporarily on the main bank current account, are separately recorded in the Vestry Journal, receipts and payments ledgers, and documented in other papers on file; and balances of the Benevolence Fund, to be applied at the minister's discretion.

It is policy to disburse such collections in the same financial year in which they were received into the church accounts, except for the Benevolence Fund which may accumulate across year-ends.

Thanks

The Trustees would like to thank all those who work in a volunteer capacity to enable the smooth running of the Church in all its facets. As can be seen, BMC is an organisation devoted to providing public benefit with the assistance of its members. The Trustees, in exercising their powers and duties, complied with their obligation to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

This Report was approved at BMC's Church Council meeting on 4th March 2021, on which date the Trustees were the following:

Rev. Alex Terrett
Deacon Laura MacBean
Jenny Nichols
Christine Handel
Comfort Lawson
David Dingley
Graham McLeod
Sheila Priestman
Barbara Kyei
Cynthia Campbell
Mark Cheesman
Judith Reep
Simon Young
Gordon Hughes
Carol Jefferies
Irene Antwi
Vicky Bessant
Andrew Cloke
Tina Eshun
Joe Krywko
David Jackson
Lum Ntumazah
Mary Jackson
Papa Boateng
Theo Farmer
Ruben Martin
Paulette Tomlinson

Other Trustees during the financial year 2019-20 covered by this Report, included Colin Wilson.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Beckenham	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2020

Bromley	Circuit	Circuit no	35/42
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1138006

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

N/A

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev. Alex Terrent

Church Stewards:

Jenny Nichols, Christine Handel,

Sheila Priestman, Comfort Lawson,

David Dingley, Graham McLeod,

Irene Antwi, Cynthia Campbell,

Lum Ntumazah

Treasurer:

Simon Young

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	285,155	13,221	298,376	71,471
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2,365		2,365	3,932
a4	Lettings	41,380		41,380	60,539
a5	Other receipts	12,158	108,000	120,158	91,077
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	341,058	121,221	462,279 (a7)	227,019

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	51,356		51,356	51,810
b3	Donations	50		50	4,500
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	14,499		14,499	61,116
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	21,712		21,712	20,303
b6					
b7	Other payments	35,927	455,497	491,424	581,661
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	123,544	455,497	579,041 (b9)	719,390

	SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)		217,514	(334,276)	(116,762)	(492,371)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		127,844	307,479	435,323 (c6)	927,982
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)		345,358	(26,797)	318,561	435,611
c4	Transfers and adjustments		(230,370)	230,060	(310) (c7)	(288)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)		114,988	203,263	318,251 (c8)	435,323 (c6)

SECTION D					
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		£		£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		991		1,279
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		590		1,571
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		900		1,859
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)	681		991

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E****Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS		Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1							
e2							
e3							
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds						
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	462,279 (a7)	579,041 (b9)	(116,762)	(310) (c7)	435,323 (c6)	318,251 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	462,279	579,041	(116,762)	(310)	435,323 (x)	318,251 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2020**

		OPENING BALANCES		CLOSING BALANCES	
f1	Cash in hand				
f2	Bank Current Account	146,473		54,442	
f3	Bank Deposit Account				
f4	Central Finance Board	288,336		263,292	
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	514		517	
f6	Other funds				
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	435,323 (c6)		318,251 (c8)	
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)		(e11)		(e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	435,323 (x)		318,251 (y)	

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

		At 1 September 2019	At 31 August 2020
g1	Investments (include Endowments) at TMCP		
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	7,541,292	8,861,022
g3	Other Assets	517,475	529,900
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		142,193
g5	Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

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

S. J. Young

Date

03.03.21

Name

Simon J Young

Address

80 Village Way, Beckenham , Kent BR3 3NR

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on

04.03.21

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Alex Terrett

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev Alex Terrett

Date

9/3/21

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Beckenham Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2020

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below*):

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, 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 appropriate

(3) I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

* Please circle as appropriate

Name John Whittam

Signature 

Relevant Professional qualification or body ICAEW (7735066)

Address 9 Badgers Way, Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire CV37 0UJ

Date 4 MARCH 2021

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

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Alex Terrett

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev Alex Terrett

Date

9/3/21

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Date 4 MARCH 2021