



St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

An Anglican Methodist Partnership

2018 CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

A JOINT ANGLICAN METHODIST PARTNERSHIP

Reference and Administrative Information

Sheffield Methodist Circuit

Circuit Number: 25/01

Charity Registration Number: 1137529

Minister: Revd Gareth Jones

Church Stewards:

Judith Loveman

Anne Hollows

Wardens:

Muriel Roberts

John Boler

Treasurer:

Joseph Dey

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St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

THE ECUMENICAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST ANDREW'S PSALTER LANE CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

The members of the Ecumenical Church Council (ECC) have pleasure in presenting their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018.

Structure, governance and management

St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church is an Anglican-Methodist Local Ecumenical Partnership established in 1998.

Ecumenical Church Council All regular Anglican Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and they, together with Methodist members, are able to stand for election to the ECC. Clergy, Readers, and Methodist Local Preachers are ex-officio members of the ECC. The ECC is responsible for setting the overall mission and vision of the Church, for ensuring that money is spent wisely and appropriately, for employing staff and for looking after all Church property, including Shirley House, together with their repair, maintenance and insurance. This includes the moveable objects of the Church.

The ECC met five times during the year.

Volunteers

The church is very grateful for the services of numerous volunteers who cover a wide variety of jobs including Church Stewards and Wardens, Readers and Methodist Lay Preachers, ECC and other Committee members, Welcomers, readers and intercessors, Working Party Members, and many other roles. The church could not function without the generous gifts of their time and talent given by all these volunteers.

Overview

Our life as a local church takes place in the context of wider changes in the Church of England and the Methodist Church. Both the Methodist Circuit and the Anglican Diocese are facing challenges and developing strategies accordingly. Along with all mainstream churches, both denominations have seen a continuation of the decline in attendance and the raising of their age profile that have been a reality for many decades. For the Diocese, the main challenge at the moment is financial, and one of the ways in which it is meeting this challenge is by a significant reduction in clergy numbers.

The Circuit is having to cope with a fall nationally in the number of people offering for ordained ministry and a shortage of people in pastoral charge of its 58 churches. Here at St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church, we are in a relatively healthy position, but we need to keep in mind the wider picture, and of course we are not immune to the broader trends within our two denominations.

As a church, we have tended to focus less on numbers and statistics than on new ways of deepening our spirituality and serving our community, and this year has seen further examples of these. The house groups' study of Holy Habits has been a recent example of the former, and the growth of the much-valued Tuesday Café an example of the latter. As a member of the Inclusive Church network, SAPLC has, since its inception in 2017, been part of the Open Sheffield group, whose purpose is to provide safe and affirming spaces for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

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The heart of the life of any church includes: its worship, both regular and on special occasions; fellowship and mutual support among its members and welcome to those who are new to the local church; and a commitment to social responsibility through social action and financial giving. These continue to be priorities for us, alongside and including themes to which we have a special commitment, such as inter-faith relations and eco matters.

Our partnerships with other bodies, both religious and “secular”, continue to be of importance. Among these, the Anglican Mission Partnership to which we belong continues to develop strongly; we are glad to be a resource, through our people and our buildings, for the Nether Edge Festival every year; and we look forward to strengthening links with the uniformed organisations that use St Andrew's Hall. A particular highlight of this last year has been the development of Clifford All Saints as a through Primary School on the Psalter Lane and former Ecclesall Junior sites. The Ringinglow Road campus was opened on a wonderful afternoon this February by Bishop Pete, and we look forward to working alongside All Saints Ecclesall as link churches.

As we move into this next year in the life of our church, we look forward to opportunities that lie ahead.

Church membership

Total church membership is 132, made up of 74 Joint members, 24 Anglican - only members and 34 Methodist-only members. 28 people are registered as Friends. A new Electoral Roll will be produced before the Annual Church Meeting in April 2019.

Worship

Our activities and community involvement as a church have at their heart, as always, our Sunday worship and other opportunities for reflecting together on our faith. While we value the particular character of our worship, established after the creation of SAPLC as a Local Ecumenical Partnership, we are always willing to explore new developments such as the Green Communion service, and to update our liturgies to make them ever more suitable.

Our main Sunday Service is at 10.30 am - Holy Communion on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays; Morning Worship on the 2nd and 4th Sunday. Other services are:

- Sandcastles, a service for younger children and their parents/carers, at 9.15 am on the 2nd Sunday
- Holy Communion at 9.15 am (using Common Worship and the Book of Common Prayer) on the 4th Sunday
- Holy Communion at Southcroft, 6.30 pm on the 2nd Sunday
- Wednesday at 10.00 am - Holy Communion or Meditation, when we reflect together on a piece of spiritual writing. This may be from one of the Christian traditions, or sometimes from another tradition of faith.
- Taizé prayer, quiet reflective prayer with repetitive singing, at 7.00 pm on Wednesdays during Advent and Lent, and occasionally at other seasons

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Property developments

Property and Finance Committee met 7 times during 2018-19.

New leases for office tenants are almost complete. We have been obliged to increase rents from April 2019 in line with advice received. Staff salaries were increased to the living wage in line with Methodist policy.

Our energy is now provided from renewable resources.

Shirley House:

Decoration of the Interfaith Room was completed, the carpet replaced and the old safe removed. The free-use of the room for Inter-faith activities has been clarified.

The kitchen door has been fitted with intumescent strip, the lounge ceiling of the caretaker's flat has been replastered and the cellar door has been rehung, to protect the pipework from freezing. A new water boiler has been installed in the kitchen.

Church:

The Dais is now supported on a new floor so it can be removed when required. The floor has been designed to carry the weight of the grand piano.

We have TMCP approval to install 2x large TV screens in Church and installation is imminent.

The toilets off the Narthex are now non-gender specific.

Grounds:

We received an ecological survey of our grounds and the Eco Group has drawn up plans for the design and maintenance of the grounds.

Financial Review

Our main sources of income are offerings (56%) and letting income (31%). Total income in the year was £139,393 (2017 £153,844) and payments were £144,197 (2017 £131,485) resulting in an overall deficit of £4,804 (2017 surplus £22,359).

The main reason for the 2018 deficit was planned expenditure on the New Creation Window of £5,032 which was funded from both restricted and unrestricted funds.

Our policy is to donate 5% of income to good causes. In 2018 we achieved our target making charitable donations of £7,075. In addition, we collected a further £5,052 for external organisations.

Free reserves stand at £53,354 which exceeds our target of £45,000. The financial position remains stable and we continue to operate within our budget.

Pastoral Care

Under the leadership of Judith Roberts, SAPLC has a team involved in and committed to developing pastoral care, with staff and many others reaching out and offering care to both church members and the local community.

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A monthly service suited to people living with dementia is offered at a neighbouring EMI care home and volunteers take Holy Communion to four other residential care homes in the parish. Both clergy and members of the congregation provide regular voluntary support at MHA Southcroft Housing with Care which is situated next to the church. A weekly dementia café, the Tuesday Café, has been offered in church since March 2018; this has been a great success and clearly meets a need in the community.

Music

There continued to be a large number of musical events and bookings at the church, including:

- The Good Friday service – this was a powerful and moving service with music from local ensemble 'Black Velvet'.
- The Community Carol Singing in December 2018 which brought together singers of traditional local carols, singers of more widely-known carols, local craft artists, members of the congregation and all these people's families.
- The Advent Carol, Christmas Carol, and Christingle services
- Weekly Taizé Prayer services in Lent and Advent

There have also been several Sheffield Music Academy and Sheffield Music Club concerts; external organisations continue to hire the church for concerts and musical events. Related to this, there has been continuing dialogue and relations with Sheffield Chamber Orchestra which has led to construction work being undertaken to convert the dais to allow the church to become a more useable performance space for larger ensembles.

Interfaith

Decoration of the Interfaith Centre has been completed this year with a new carpet, plus a few more faith symbols produced in an art and craft afternoon. We have produced a flyer to encourage faith groups or individuals to use the room for interfaith events they wish to organise as part of our ongoing programme. The ECC has also agreed that the room may be booked on the same basis as other rooms in Shirley House if this does not clash with interfaith use.

Our programme included several Food and Friendship events, "My Christian Faith Journey", Film show 'Four Lions', 'A Faith Wedding I attended'; Interfaith Barbecue Lunch with separate grills for each dietary requirement, 'Sounds of the Spirit (3)' (part of Nether Edge Festival), 'The Sikhism Life', The Launch of the Faith Leaders in Sheffield Charter for Education, Faith Within the Family (a discussion Hosted by Islamic Society of Great Britain), 'My Favourite Story from Our Scriptures', a Winter Party, a talk on the 'Faith Action Audit', Film show 'Wesley'.

Family and Children's Ministry

- Mission Partnership - The Mission Partnership Children's Work group continues to meet and plan events. In this year we have had a Pancake Party, Messy Church at Pentecost, a Halloween/Light Party, and a Covenant Service. These have been well attended and brought in many families who are not part of our regular church communities.
- Clifford All Saints - the school has now become a through primary on two sites, at Psalter Lane and Ringinglow, and has adopted its new name and logo. It has input from both

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ourselves and All Saints Ecclesall. The assembly rota involves both churches. The school will continue (as a whole) to come to SAPLC for services from time to time and at the end of each term.

- Junior Church - this continues to happen whenever there are children in church, though numbers are low. Sandcastles has a good regular group at the services and we have new leaders on the rota.

Peace and Justice

This report brings together a number of activities within the church under the broad heading of Justice and Peace. There were many more actions at an individual level, along with a number of grants to organisations engaged locally, nationally and internationally in the cause of justice and peace.

- Refugees and asylum seekers – the Lent small change collection raised over £150 for LASS, the Sheffield group supporting lesbian asylum seekers in which one of our members is closely involved. A number of church members are involved in activities to support and campaign for the rights of refugees including ASSIST and City of Sanctuary.
- Poverty - the church continues to collect food and other materials to assist the work of the food bank at St Cuthbert's where some members of the church provide support. Some individuals are involved with work at the Parsons Cross initiative as well as the wider Sheffield Foodbank Network. The introduction of Universal Credit took place in Sheffield in December 2018 and estimates suggest a likely 50% rise in food bank use.
- Baby Basics – the church continues to collect items for Baby basics and church members are actively involved in the work of sorting and preparing items for this service.
- Palestine - a successful event was held for some 40 people at which Rev John Howard (recently returned Mission Partner at the Methodist Liaison Office in Jerusalem) and Caitlin Procter (currently researching in Gaza with UNRWA) spoke about the current situation. A supper raised a total of £500 for the support of breast cancer care in Gaza through the Amos Trust. Arising from that, a party of church members are planning a visit to Palestine in early 2020.
- World Church/Development - this year the harvest festival focussed on the work of All We Can in Malawi and work is underway to develop closer links with Malawi. The Christian Aid collection took place alongside other collections for disaster emergencies.
- LGBTQ – the church has supported the development of Open Sheffield at St Mark's Church. After discussion and in respect of the needs of transgender people, all the toilets have been labelled as for general, rather than gendered, use.

Charitable Giving

The ECC aims to support a number of charities each year. A budget is set by the ECC for support from general funds and recommendations for the distribution are made by an appointed group of ECC members. In order to ensure that the annual allocation of such funds is predictable, transparent and generous the ECC has agreed to allocate an agreed fixed percentage of the income of the Church.

Members of the church support Fir Vale Food Bank and Baby Basics (King's Centre project) with regular donations of foodstuffs and baby equipment; members take part in Christian Aid Week door-to-door collections in the locality. The Christingle service raises money for the Children's Society, and

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collections on Christmas Day and the following Sunday are sent to Action For Children. There are frequent collections during the year in response to emergency appeals.

Eco-Church

After a really busy and successful year in 2017, we made a conscious decision to take life a little easier in 2018, but there were still achievements. The main two have been:

- We kept to our usual commitment to have an event in the Sheffield Environment Weeks' brochure, as a visible sign that churches DO care about the environment. The event was a Carbon Footprint Drop-in. Numbers attending were not large, but everyone had the chance to complete up to 3 different carbon footprint surveys, and hopefully as a result to have new knowledge to help them reduce their individual carbon footprint.
- We embarked on a project to make the church garden more wildlife friendly. We commissioned a wildlife survey before starting this work and are building on previous plans for the grounds. We will plant more fruit trees and wildlife-friendly seeds. Some of the initial parts of the project, e.g., hiring a shredder and building compost bins in the back compound, have already been done; the rest of the work will take another couple of years.

We are building good relations with our local fellow Eco Church at Banner Cross Methodist, attending each other's meetings and generally aiming to support each other.

Deanery Synod and Methodist Circuit Meeting

Representatives of the church are members of the Deanery Synod and the Methodist Circuit Meeting, reporting to the Annual Church Meeting.

Trustees of the charity

The trustees who have served during the year were as follows:

Revd Gareth Jones
Mr David Body (Chair)
Mr Bill Atherton
Mrs Barbara Booler
Mr John Booler
Miss Imogen Clout
Dr Caroline Cripps
Dr John Cripps
Mr Joseph Dey
Mr Rodney Godber
Mrs Alison Gregg

Professor John Harding
Dr Anne Hollows
Mrs Mary Kenward
Ms Clare Loughridge
Mrs Janet Loughridge
Mrs Judith Loveman
Mrs Chris Lowry
Mrs. Rachel Morris
Mrs Judith Roberts
Mrs Muriel Roberts
Mrs Katrin Hackett
Revd Phillip Borkett

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David Body
Chair

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Receipts & Payments Account

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2018 Total £	2017 Total £
RECEIPTS				
Offerings & Tax Recovered	86,247	-	86,247	79,944
Bank Interest	95	-	95	85
Lettings	46,204	-	46,204	44,847
Other Receipts	5,506	-	5,506	18,478
Internal Funds	-	861	861	10,184
Internal Organisations	-	480	480	306
TOTAL RECEIPTS	138,052	1,341	139,393	153,844
PAYMENTS				
Circuit Assessment	47,940	-	47,940	47,232
Diocesan Share	14,185	-	14,185	13,953
Donations	7,075	-	7,075	4,025
Repairs & Maintenance	20,596	-	20,596	14,568
Utilities	21,603	-	21,603	18,096
Other Payments	26,941	-	26,941	21,144
Internal Funds	-	5,857	5,857	12,388
Internal Organisations	-	-	-	79
TOTAL PAYMENTS	138,340	5,857	144,197	131,485
NET RECEIPTS/(Payments) FOR THE YEAR	(288)	(4,516)	(4,804)	22,359
Brought Forward From Last Year	54,827	18,066	72,893	50,534
Internal Organisations Transfers	(1,185)	1,185	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	53,354	14,735	68,089	72,893

MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	2018 £	2017 £
Offerings & Tax Recovered	5,052	3,235
Passed on to external organisation	(5,052)	(3,235)

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Restricted Funds

	Opening Balances	Receipts	Transfers	Payments	Closing Balances
	£	£	£	£	£
Internal Funds					
W Davey Bequest	13,348	58	-	-	13,406
New Creation Window Restoration Fund	3,822	-	1,210	5,032	-
J Simpson Bequest	753	3	-	-	756
War Memorial Appeal	50	800	(25)	825	-
Total	17,973	861	1,185	5,857	14,162
Internal Organisations					
Parent & Baby Group	20	280	-	-	300
Story Lunch	73	-	-	-	73
Dementia Cafe	-	200	-	-	200
Total	93	480	-	-	573

Declarations

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

Joseph Dey FCA

Treasurer

Dated: 12/02/2019

Presentation to the Ecumenical Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the accounts have been presented to the Ecumenical Church Council on 12/02/2019 and were approved.

David Body

Chair of the Meeting

Dated: 12/02/2019

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Statement of Assets & Liabilities

	2018	2017
	£	£
Cash & Bank Balances		
Cash in Hand	305	25
Bank Current Account	31,754	36,995
Central Finance Board Deposit Account	21,866	21,773
TMCP Account	14,164	14,100
TOTAL	68,089	72,893

Divided as follows:

Church Funds	53,354	54,827
Internal Funds	14,162	17,973
Internal Organisations	573	93
TOTAL	68,089	72,893

	2018	2017
	£	£
Other Assets (Unrestricted Funds)		
Debtors	17,702	14,447
Church Building (Insurance Value)	9,190,156	8,797,540
St Andrew's Church Centre (Insurance Value)	993,599	949,018
Shirley House (Insurance Value)	2,809,951	2,696,729
	13,011,408	12,457,734

Other Liabilities (Unrestricted Funds)

Creditors	1,000	3,315
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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

This report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2018.

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 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 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:

- 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 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.
- 3 I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other Trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, which are in excess of £10,000 at the balance sheet date.

S L Bladen ACA

Dated: 25/02/2019

Hawsons Limited

Chartered Accountants

Pegasus House

463a Glossop Road

Sheffield

S10 2QD

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Reserves Policy

We have given careful consideration to the level of reserves we require to meet our financial responsibilities and cover unforeseen expenditure.

We believe this to be an amount of £45,000 and at present unrestricted reserves are standing at £53,000.

Further expenditure may arise resulting from the implementation of initiatives resolved at our Away Day.

After making this expenditure, we believe we will be left with sufficient reserves.

It is our policy to review the level of required reserves each year in line with our current needs and requirements.

Joseph Dey FCA
Treasurer
Dated: 12/02/2019

David Body
Chair
Dated: 12/02/2019