LORD STREET WEST UNITED CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name:	Lord Street West United Church
Charity's principal address:	Lord Street West United Church Lord Street West Southport Merseyside PR8 2BH

Trustees during the year and since the year end:

Hilary Ambrose	to 31 December 2025
Dorothy Anderson	
Wendy Aspin	
Joan Bennett	
Barry Edwards	
Maria Edwards	
Timothy Hall	
Gillian Hill	to 16 July 2025
Ruth Lane	
Lesley Meredith	
Karen Phillips	
Ian Wright	
Wendy Wright	
Susan Yelland	

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governing document of Lord Street West United Church is the Constitution adopted on 6 May 2014.

Lord Street West United Church is a charitable unincorporated association.
Lord Street West United Church is a Local Ecumenical Partnership of the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church.

The charity is administered by a body of trustees consisting of:

a) Ex officio Trustees, being the ministers of the Local Ecumenical Partnership for the time being
b) Thirsty six Elected trustees are elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting; and
c) Not more than six co-opted Trustees appointed by the Trustees

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The purpose of the charity is to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the principles and practices of the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

In achieving its purpose, the charity engages in a range of activities including:

a) The celebration of public worship;
b) The teaching of the Christian faith;
c) Mission and evangelism;
d) Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved;
e) The provision of facilities with a Christian ethos for the local community, including the elderly, the young and other groups with special needs; and
f) The support of other charities in the UK and overseas.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Rev. Patrick Evans, a Minister in the Methodist Church, was Minister of Lord Street West United Church throughout 2025. With effect from 1 September 2025, Rev. Hilary Smith, a Minister in the United Reformed Church, was also Minister of Lord Street West United Church.

During the year ended 31 December 2025, Lord Street West United Church celebrated public worship every Sunday at 10.45 except on two Sundays when we had joint services with the other churches in the Southport and Formby United Reformed Church Team Ministry and on one Sunday when we had a joint service with the other churches in the Southport Methodist Circuit. Worship is led by our ministers and by ministers and preachers from the Methodist and United Reformed Churches. The music in our worship is enhanced by our choir and organist. JAM Club (Jesus and Me) for children took place at the same time as the morning service.

On Wednesday mornings there was coffee and fellowship at 10.30am followed by a service from 11.15am to 11.45am.

A Messy Church, for families, was held during the year.

Pastoral care is provided by the minister, outreach and pastoral worker and pastoral visitors. Each member has a pastoral visitor, co-ordinated by our pastoral secretary.

Our Outreach and Pastoral Worker also takes Extended Communion to those who cannot attend church and organises Messy Church, Little Fishes, Baby Boogies and Matewatchers.

The work of the church was also carried out through the following church organisations:
Monday Fellowship
Parent and Toddler Group known as Little Fishes
Baby Boogies
Matewatchers
West End Players
Youth Club

FINANCIAL REVIEW

During the year ended 31 December 2025, on the unrestricted funds, payments exceeded receipts by £268,565. The main item of expenditure was the replacement of the roof on the small hall, kitchen, corridor and toilets at a cost of £251,053. The unrestricted funds had balances of £82,564 at 31 December 2025, comprising General Fund of £6,977 and Sunter Fund of £75,587. The Sunter Fund has been designated to pay for the Lay Worker.
The restricted funds of £3,532 comprised the Benevolent Fund of £323, Heating Fund of £2,393 and the unspent balance of a grant received for the youth club of £816.
The church organisations had opening balances of £6,962, receipts of £4,686, payments of £2,843, contributions to the church of £2,100 and closing balances of £6,705.

RESERVES POLICY

A minimum of £35,000 of unrestricted funds is held to cover six months' assessments, contributions and running costs.

Approved by the Church Council 7 September 2026

H E Smith

Rev H Smith
Chair

CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Lord Street West United	Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 December 2025

Southport	Circuit	Circuit no.	18/19

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number	1163996
If not a registered charity **His Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**	

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

Minister:

Rev Patrick Evans and Rev Hilary Smith

Church Stewards:

Dorothy Anderson	Barry Edwards
Ruth Lane	Lesley Meredith
Wendy Wright	

Treasurer:

Ian Wright

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Lord Street West United Church

	SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year		Totals last year
			£	£	£		£
a1	**RECEIPTS**	**Note**					
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		28,153	6,528	**34,681**		24,331
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		2,152		**2,152**		7,844
a4	Lettings		44,793		**44,793**		44,316
a5	Other receipts		16,766		**16,766**		32,880
a6	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**		**91,864**	**6,528**	**98,392**	**(a7)**	**109,371**
	SECTION B						
b1	**PAYMENTS**						
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		27,393		**27,393**		31,363
b3	Donations						
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		268,244	12,043	**280,287**		24,569
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		29,796		**29,796**		34,228
b6	Lay Worker		17,027		**17,027**		16,971
b7	Other payments		12,364	90	**12,454**		33,727
b8	**TOTAL PAYMENTS**		**354,824**	**12,133**	**366,957**	**(b9)**	**140,858**
	SECTION C						
c1	**NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR**	**(a6-b8)**	(262,960)	(5,605)	**(268,565)**		(31,487)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		343,274	7,980	**351,254**	**(c6)**	380,641
c3	**Sub total**	**(c1+c2)**	80,314	2,375	**82,689**		**349,154**
c4	Transfers and adjustments		2,250	1,157	**3,407**	**(c7)**	2,100
c5	**TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR**	**(c3+c4)**	**82,564**	**3,532**	**86,096**	**(c8)**	**351,254** (c6)

	SECTION D		
d	**FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)**	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		405
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		405
d4	**BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID** (d1+d2-d3)		

Lord Street West United Church

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 December 2025 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	**Flower Fund**	200	182	18		953	971
e2	**Monday Fellowship**	1,464	211	1,253	(1,243)	383	393
e3	**West End Players**	4,991	2,848	2,143	(1,396)	4,500	5,247
e4	**West End Players Juniors**	910	70	840	(768)	145	217
e5	**Youth Club**	985	776	209		167	376
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	8,550	4,087	4,463	(3,407)	6,148 (e11)	7,204 (e12)
e9	**Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)**	**98,392** (a7)	**366,957** (b9)	**(268,565)**	**3,407** (c7)	**351,254** (c6)	**86,096** (c8)
e10	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**106,942**	**371,044**	**(264,102)**		**357,402** (x)	**93,300** (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 December 2025	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand		
f2	Bank Current Account	10,804	12,549
f3	Bank Deposit Account		
f4	Central Finance Board	139,804	18,909
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	200,646	54,638
f6	Other funds		
f7	**SUB TOTAL - Church accounts**	**351,254** (c6)	**86,096** (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	**6,148** (e11)	**7,204** (e12)
f9	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**357,402** (x)	**93,300** (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

		At 1 January 2025	At 31 December 2025
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	2,807	2,773
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	17,365,317	18,407,237
g3	Other Assets		
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5	Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5

Name of Church Lord Street West United Church No 1163996

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 December 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer ..... I Wright ..... Date 11th May 2025

Name and address of treasurer Ian Wright

15 Stretton Drive, Southport, Merseyside Post Code PR9 7DR

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 7th September 2026.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..... H.E.Smith .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting REV HILARY SMITH ..... Date 7/9/26

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Lord Street West United Church

Charity Number 1163996

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Lord Street West United Church for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out on pages 2 to 3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church Lord Street West United Church No 1163996

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

I ~~have~~/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner M.D. Sale

Name of independent examiner MICHAEL DEREK SALE

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCA

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

Address 24 HARBURY AVENUE, SOUTHPORT

MERSEYSIDE

..... Post Code PR8 2TA

Date 05/09/2026

* delete or circle as appropriate