

Lay Delegate Summary Report 2025

The annual Lay Delegate Report is structured around eight characteristics in the life of the Free Methodist Church which we believe make up a healthy church. These are approved by Conference and can be found in the Free Methodist Church UK and Ireland Handbook.

A healthy church consists of:-

- 1) A church that worships in Spirit and Truth
- 2) A church that prays without ceasing
- 3) A church that constantly reaches the lost for Christ
- 4) A church that produces fully devoted disciples
- 5) A church that grows through multiplication
- 6) A church that ministers to the poor and disenfranchised
- 7) A church that engages in our World Missionary Movement
- 8) A church that is committed to placing mission ahead of method

God has called us together at Heysham FM to be a passionate & compassionate family of believers who reach out into our community with the love of Jesus. Our church vision statement is “Helping people find & follow Jesus”

It has been a very fruitful year here at Heysham FM. We have journeyed through some sermon series's in our morning and evening services:-

Journeying through the Gospel of Mark and Christmas and Easter series in the morning. A series in 1 John, 'The Bible Course' by Andrew Ollerton, the Seven Churches of Revelation series and the Book of Psalms series in the evening services.

Our weekly church outreach groups continue to thrive. Monday community coffee morning, Alpha courses and Friday mornings baby and toddler group (Little Fish) are all well attended.

The Heysham WhatsApp group helps people stay connected online. The prayer meetings continue to lead us close to God and many prayers have been answered this year. We are thankful to be able to pray for one another through the difficult times as well as the times of celebration.

The cafe area continues to provide a sanctuary and place for building friendships.

There are day time and evening Growth Groups. We meet together to study Gods Word, share together and support one another. We believe that life is done best when we are part of a smaller community within the larger community of the church.

We continue to be inspired by our growing HFM Youth Group. As they meet on a Sunday evening for fellowship and worship and as they serve in the church and help to lead the service on occasions and fellowship together in other social activities. As they discover a relationship with Jesus and grow in their walk with Him let us continue to pray for them and encourage them. We believe that young people are not just the 'future' of the church, they are an integral part of the church right now.

We are excited about the Ministry Sunday services that are getting underway to be a catalyst for encouraging people of all ages to discover their God given gifts and use them to serve the Lord and others.

We had a fruitful eight day outreach into our community. We were joined by several students from Capernwray Bible College for this. The week included visiting a local Care Home, Coffee Morning, Prayer Meetings & Devotionals, a Youth Service, Prayer Walking in our community, Litter Picking, a Community Car Wash and a Treasure Hunt in the neighbourhood. It didn't stop there, we had a Children's Pancake Party, Ladies Bowling & Supper Night, a Mens Curry Night and a Movie Night for the young people. There was even an afternoon of 'Giving of Gifts' to Community Workers in our area to say thank you for all they do.

We continue to give 15% of our Church Income to our Mission Partners. We have regular updates online and sometimes in person from CAP (Christians against Poverty), Open Doors for the persecuted church worldwide, NISCU for the work of Christians in our schools, Stand By Me, Christian Concern, West End Impact and others. Our Harvest Sunday Offering went to the work of Tearfund in South Sudan. Over 20 bags of groceries, along with bags of fruit & veg from our Harvest display were taken down to West End Impact.

We continue to be Salt and Light to our community as we seek to share the Love of Jesus with everyone. This Church year we had a 'Light Party' which was our Halloween Alternative. It was a well attended outreach with 70-80 people there as we focussed on Jesus as 'The Light Of The World'

The Leadership Team continues to meet fortnightly for Prayer and to seek Gods Vision for His Church. We have all benefited from the vision meetings we have had together in the social area. We are having an increasing number of people worshipping with us on Sundays. Let us seek God together as we see Him moving in our midst.

Being in church on Sunday continues to be a time of blessing. The Baptismal services have been an inspiration to all of us.

The Sunday School & Crèche Teams, the Prayer Groups, Stewards, Catering, Admin & Maintenance, Tech Teams, Worship Group, those who Counsel, Preach, Listen and the many who work behind the scenes! We are truly blessed to serve God together. It is good to be reminded at the end of our working church year just how much we need each other and how blessed we are to serve God together in our community.

We thank God for Pastor Marks faithful ministry and Pastoral Care in the last year. Let us continue to pray together as we seek Gods guidance for an Associate Pastor to come alongside Mark and help us see others finding and following Jesus.

Yours In Christ

Sandra Parker (Lay Delegate)

Morecambe & Heysham Free Methodist Church
Income & Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
INCOME		
General Offerings	47,324	45,820
Gift Aid Offerings	53,335	43,519
Gift Aid (Refund)	19,970	18,383
	120,629	107,721
Other Income		
Pastor's Contingency (previously Acts 2 Fund)	2,200	536
Harvest	1,289	1,139
Love Christmas	-	390
Gift Day Fund	-	3,400
Ladies Dinner	530	450
Teen Challenge	423	-
Children's worker	11,777	-
Open Doors	327	-
Saltmine	61	-
Sunday School	151	-
Tear Fund	-	879
	16,758	6,794
Funds from Heart Church for their share of expenses:		
Faithlife	-	100
CCLI	-	700
ThirtyOne Eight	26	75
Insurance	-	700
Dan's Tax & NI	5,870	4,319
Dan's Pension	3,343	3,089
Dan's Death in service policy	-	-
	9,239	8,983
Heart Church share of expenses netted off expenditure	(9,239)	(8,983)
Total Operating Income	137,387	114,515

Heart Church
Income & Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
INCOME		
General Offerings	25,633	28,670
Gift Aid Offerings	21,213	29,315
Gift Aid (Refund)	5,408	2,895
	52,254	60,879
Restricted Funds		
Other income		
Orchard conference	1,180	1,680
Alpha book donation	-	21
Love Christmas	4,040	5,258
Xcel conference	562	-
	5,782	6,959
Total Operating Income	58,036	67,838
EXPENDITURE		
Church		
Rent & Room hire	4,988	4,853
Ministry Budgets	842	979
	5,829	5,832
Pastor		
Net Salary	26,315	24,200
Pension	3,343	3,089
Death in service	702	747
Tax and National Insurance	5,867	4,294
	36,227	32,330
Other Expenses:		
Publicity	1,671	1,668
New Equipment	1,614	299
Sundry expenses	971	1,082
Pastor Travel	368	584
Pastor Study	1,731	313
Ministry Learning	230	450
ThirtyOne Eight	26	87
Licences	-	700
Insurance	-	700
Visiting Preachers	800	977
Stationery	63	338
Pastoral	183	500
Gocardless Churchsuite	225	178
Evangelical Alliance	108	108
Tithe	3,600	2,500
Independent examination fees	552	600
Orchard conference	1,226	1,632
Community & fellowship events	941	1,357
Xcel conference	1,325	-
Be Still Course	112	-
Website & emails	458	350
Love Christmas	7,075	7,488
	23,277	21,911
Total operating expenditure	65,333	60,073
Operating (deficit)/surplus	(7,297)	7,766

Notes:

1. General offerings includes £6,000 of funding from HFMC.

HFMC Income and Expenditure: Page 2

EXPENDITURE

Church

Water	255	333	
Electricity	2,674	2,108	
Fire/Gas Safety Testing	986	1,159	
Gas	4,482	4,127	
Gardening	1,491	1,283	
Telephone & Broadband	935	877	
Cleaning	3,395	3,174	
General Maintenance	5,058	1,386	
Window Cleaning	212	212	
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		19,487	14,661

Manse

Rates	1,998	1,910	
Telephone	689	757	
Maintenance	981	280	
Water	282	792	
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		3,950	3,738

Pastor

Pension	3,453	3,268	
Net Salary	24,190	23,901	
Death in service policy	681	721	

Assistant Pastor

Pension	(22)	-	
Net Salary	-	-	
Death in service policy	-	-	
Total Tax and National Insurance	5,740	3,477	

Note 2

34,043

31,367

Groups

Creche	250	11	
Little Fish	-	320	
Sunday School	777	711	
HFM Youth/ Teens	312	159	
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		1,339	1,201

Other Expenses

Child Protection (CCPAS)	229	259
Community/Fellowship Events	3,275	2,355
Conference	4,618	4,728
Licenses	1,418	807
External Mission Allocation (15%)	16,372	12,045
Insurance	3,485	2,748
Pastoral & Contingency	1,782	533
Printing & Stationery	719	501
Publicity	299	115
Sundry Expenses	2,449	2,149
Pastor Sabbatical	-	613
Gocardless Churchsuite	318	318
Evangelical Alliance	126	126
Discretionary funding of Heart Church	6,000	5,625
Iris Payroll	209	193
Mailchimp	200	206
Independent examination fees	840	840
	42,338	34,162

Restricted Funds

Acts 2 Fund	-	778
Gift Day Fund	2,174	2,993
Harvest	1,289	1,139
Heart Church	5,408	7,466
Love Christmas	-	500
Tear Fund	-	879
Teen Challenge	423	
	9,294	13,755

Total operating expenditure

110,452	98,883
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Operating surplus

26,935	15,632
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Notes:

1. No Licences or Insurance contributions deemed necessary from Heart Church this year.
2. Employment allowance claimed this year.

**Independent Examiners' Report to the Members of
Morecambe & Heysham Free Methodist Church**

I report on the income and expenditure account of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024.

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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 explanation from you as 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 statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J V Beckett
Taylor, Robertson & Willett Limited
Accountants
95 King Street
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA1 1RH

29 April 2025

Independent Examiners' Report to the Members of

Heart Church

I report on the income and expenditure of the Heart Church bank account for the year ended 31st December 2024. This report is supplementary to my report on the income and expenditure account of Morecambe & Heysham Free Methodist Church.

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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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Independent examiner's statement

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- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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29 April 2025