

**HOPE CHURCH, LANCASTER**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 DECEMBER 2024**

# HOPE CHURCH, LANCASTER

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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# HOPE CHURCH, LANCASTER

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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**The Board of Trustees**

SJ Ehly  
SJ Ellershaw  
AJ Gardner  
JLC Haxby  
TP Morris  
PB Murphy  
JE Osborne  
EJ Sudell  
M Thomson  
H Wilkinson  
NFC Wilkinson

**Principal Address**

Hope Church  
Queen Street  
Lancaster  
LA1 1RX

**Charity Registered Number**

518178

**Independent Examiner**

M R Cornall Esq  
74 Nicol Mere Drive  
Ashton-in-Makerfield  
Wigan  
Lancashire  
WN4 8DH

**Bankers**

Barclays Bank plc  
38 Market Street  
Lancaster  
LA1 1HR

CAF Bank Limited  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

# HOPE CHURCH, LANCASTER

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### **Basis of preparation**

Charities registered in England and Wales that are not companies are allowed under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Charities Act') to prepare receipts and payments accounts provided the charity's gross income is not over £250,000. The Charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with these provisions.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity was established by trust deed dated 09/03/00 (New Scheme) and is registered with the Charity Commission, No 518178. Hope Church, Lancaster is one of a number of Free Methodist Churches in the United Kingdom Conference. The members of the Church elect the trustees on an annual basis. The Annual General Meeting is held in June each year.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### *Objects and aims*

The object of the Hope Church, Lancaster is the furtherance, in Lancaster, of the religious and other charitable work of the Free Methodist Church of North America in accordance with the doctrines, disciplines and usages of that church for the time being as set forth in the book of discipline.

##### *Objectives, strategies and activities*

The church was established for Christian worship, prayer, Bible teaching and the preaching of the gospel. We seek to serve the local community by providing a place of prayer and worship.

##### *Public benefit*

We regularly promote and publicise our activities in the local community.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### **Achievement and Performance**

Looking back over 2024 we are thankful to God for His continued provision of the gifts, tithes and offerings for His work. We count it a privilege to have been able to support many missionary societies and individuals home and overseas. We have continued to reach out into our local community with God's love and care.

#### **Financial review**

##### *Policy on reserves*

Reserves held are usually sufficient to pay on-going expenses for at least two months. Any surplus funds are transferred to interest bearing accounts. Free reserves held at the year end are £69,942 (2023 - £55,599)

##### *Investment policy and objectives*

At the present time the trustees do not have a selection policy for investment as finances are such that there are only low surplus funds.

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Signed on behalf of the trustees



T P Morris

Trustee

Approved by the trustees on 29 October 2025

# HOPE CHURCH, LANCASTER

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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I report on the accounts of the Hope Church, Lancaster for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 4 to 12.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the 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 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 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiners' statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 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 statement below.

#### **Independent examiners' statement**

In the course of 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 2011; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.



**M R Cornall Esq**  
**74 Nicol Mere Drive**  
**Ashton-in-Makerfield**  
**Wigan**  
**Lancashire**  
**WN4 8DH**

29 October 2025

# HOPE CHURCH, LANCASTER

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Donations and Legacies	81,448	62,281	143,729	102,663
Income Tax Refunds – Gift Aid	262	810	1,072	-
Charitable Activities	13,252	-	13,252	13,521
Investment Income	385	218	603	329
Other Income	6,667	-	6,667	1,502
<b>Income Relating to Financial Year</b>	<b>102,014</b>	<b>63,309</b>	<b>165,323</b>	<b>118,015</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable Activities				
<i>Ministry Costs</i>	54,538	40,780	95,318	53,608
<i>Facilities</i>	27,181	-	27,181	19,544
<i>Capital Expenditure</i>	14,301	-	14,301	32,422
<i>Mission Gifts</i>	14,321	3,600	17,921	51,423
<i>Technology Costs</i>	2,002	3,932	5,934	1,456
<i>Youth and Children</i>	568	473	1,041	313
Other Activities	2,400	133	2,533	1,609
Support Costs	3,601	716	4,317	10,004
<b>Expenditure Relating to Financial Year</b>	<b>118,912</b>	<b>49,634</b>	<b>168,546</b>	<b>170,379</b>
Net of (Payments) / Receipts Relating to the Financial Year	<b>(16,898)</b>	<b>13,675</b>	<b>(3,223)</b>	-
<b>Income Relating to Previous Years:</b>				
Income Tax Refunds – Gift Aid	29,930	679	30,609	-
<b>Expenditure Relating to Previous Years:</b>				
Ministry Costs	(9,915)	-	(9,915)	-
Mission Gifts	(3,128)	-	(3,128)	-
<b>Net of Receipts Relating to Previous Years</b>	<b>16,887</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>17,566</b>	-
<b>Total Net of (Payments) / Receipts</b>	<b>(11)</b>	<b>14,354</b>	<b>14,343</b>	<b>(52,364)</b>
<i>Transfer Between Funds</i>	6,680	(6,680)	-	-
<b>Cash and Bank Balances as at</b>				
1 January 2024	25,916	29,683	55,599	107,963
<b>31 December 2024</b>	<b>32,585</b>	<b>37,357</b>	<b>69,942</b>	<b>55,599</b>

**HOPE CHURCH, LANCASTER**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>2024 Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
<b>Cash Funds</b>				
Bank Accounts	<u>32,585</u>	<u>37,357</u>	<u>69,942</u>	<u>55,599</u>

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 29 October 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:



T P Morris  
Trustee