

Emmanuel Methodist Church 448 Oxford Road Reading RG30 1EE

Annual Report

September 2007 to 31st August 2008

Mission Statement

To worship God and to live out the good news of his love for all as shown by Jesus Christ by:

1. Encouraging each other to grow as a whole person through worship and prayer, activities and meetings on or off the premises.
2. Providing welcoming premises and resources to serve the local community, using our talents and time to meet needs which are not met by other groups.
3. Enabling all to be involved in every area of the church's life and work with other Christians.

In this way, our hope and prayer is that God will not only be with us, as the name implies, but also with the people who live in the wider community round and about, whom we aim to serve and witness to.

2007 to 2008 Church services and meetings:

Sunday: 0830 Occasional service for Holy Communion

1030 Morning Service

1230 Polish Lutheran Church (3rd Sunday)

1400 Intercessors Church of Great Britain

1830 Evening Service

Monday: Kingsley Chain Reaction

2nd Reading Brownies

Anonymous Group

Tuesday: Speech Therapy Group

Women's Network alternating with a craft group

2nd Reading Guides

Berkshire School of Philosophy

Wednesday: Speech Therapy group

Baby and Toddler Group

Anonymous Group

Thursday: Kingsley Chain Reaction

Shooting Stars Line Dancing

Prayer Group (alternate Thursdays)

Anonymous Group

Friday: Kingsley Chain Reaction

Boys and Girls Brigade

Saturday: Weight watchers

Coffee Morning (2nd Saturday)

Oxford Road Children's Centre

Departments of Reading Borough Council use our premises occasionally as do other local organisations.

The Ryder Cheshire Volunteers (Reading Branch) use one of our rooms as an office Monday to Fridays.

Report for the year 1st September 2007 to 31st August 2008

A Worship Leaders course was held weekly from 20th September to 1st November led by Deacon Maggie Blake and Sue Rowell.

We held our Harvest Fish and Chip supper on Saturday 22nd September with the harvest gifts being given to CIRDIC and the women's centre. During the harvest morning service Grace Marianne daughter of Yvette and Martin Wrey was baptised.

Mrs Ceri Ellis, our Women's Network President, was inducted as District President on Thursday 4th October at Wesley Church.

As part of the fund raising for the new church fund Jenny Stacey arranged a Variety Evening with members taking part on Saturday 13th October. Chain Reaction and Line dancers (both groups use our premise) also took part. This was part of our Church Anniversary weekend when the next day we welcomed Revd Bernard Arnold who led our morning service. This was also our gift day when monies raised were given to the new church fund.

On that evening, Leroy Davis Badu-Bossman, son of Winifred Nkrumah and David Bossman was baptised. The service was led by Partick Stonehewer and Revd Nina Mead.

Illustrated talks on the Swindon and Cricklade Railway and The Chinnor and Princess Risborough Railways were given on Saturday 20th October. This was also in aid of the New Church Fund.

During the morning service on Sunday 21st October our Pastoral leaders were commissioned.

Some members took part in a Hymnathon at Windsor Methodist Church on Saturday 27th October - part of the proceeds were for our New Church Fund.

Our Christmas Bazaar was held on Saturday 24th November when many visitors came to visit the many stalls.

We held our Christmas celebration on Saturday 15th December, when there were games, food and carols for all ages and we had out Carols Round the Christmas Tree on Wednesday 19th December.

On Saturday 1st March 40 members of the Salvation Army Retired section gave a band Concert in our Church.

During Lent we hosted the Churches Together in West Reading Lent Groups which was well attended.

On Tuesday 22nd April Revd Rosemary Fletcher and her Husband James gave a talk on their life in Sri Lanka. This was their first visit back to England since being appointed Mission partners to that Country.

During the year several of our members have passed away: Eric Coombes, David Maraji, Connie Prior, Mavis Richardson, Les Booth, Gertude Gochera and Eudore Isaacs. They had supported the church in various ways and we give thanks for their lives and influence.

General Church Account

Income and expenditure for the year 01/09/07 to 31/08/08

Income		2007/08	2006/07
		£	
Balance B/F		6,315	2,192
Offering		30,151	29,946
Donations	note 1	830	442
Gift Day		0	0
Gift Aid		4,369	8,797
Coffee Mornings		320	641
Webb Ivory		0	856
Lettings		17,759	14,570
New Church Fund		52,755	55
Photocopying		89	40
Other Income	note 2	664	1,083
Methodist Charities	note 3	1,910	625
None Methodist Charities	note 4	416	300
Bank Interest		321	284
Total		115,899	59,831
Expenditure			
Circuit Assessment		30,885	25,545
Connexional donations	note 5	710	710
Other Methodist Charities	note 6	1,949	805
Non Methodist Charities	note 7	416	295
Web Ivory		0	893
To New Church Fund		53,953	7,923
Photocopying		747	821
Fees		226	369
Gas/Electric/Phones		7,129	5,352
Insurance		1,865	2,305
Cleaner		4,477	2,871
Cleaning Materials		447	285
Property	note 8	3,984	2,385
St Andrews Book Shop		524	603
Sundries	note 9	1,056	2,354
Balance B/F		7,531	6,315
		115,899	59831

Note 1	Donations	
		£
	Individual	536
	Polish Church	80
	Network	60
	CRoW	97
	Kidlington Book Shop	58

		830

Note 2	Other Income	
	Bibles and Notes	121
	Network	140
	St George's Admin	18
	In Memory May Ayres	159
	Baby and Toddlers	227

		664

Note 3	Methodist Charities	
	Easter Offering	239
	Deptford Mission	195
	NCH	280
	Self Denial	189
	Tadley Project	195
	Whitechapel Mission	203
	World Mission	424
	Network Project	102
	Burma Appeal	82

		1,910

Note 4	Non Methodist Charities	
	CIRDIC	11
	Water Aid	295
	T.O.F.S. (Les Booth)	110

		416

Expenditure		
Note 5	Connexional donations	
	Fund for Property	255
	Fund for Training	165
	Ministers Retirement Fund	35
	Ministers Housing Society	55
	LPMA	25
	MHA	55
	Relief and Development Fund	65
	Mission alongside poor	55

		710
Note 6	Other Methodist Charities	
		£
	Easter Offering	265
	Deptford Mission	195
	NCH	280
	Self Denial	193
	Tadley Project	195
	Whitechapel Mission	203
	World Mission	424
	Network Project	110
	Burma Appeal	82

		1,949
Note 7	Non Methodist Charities	
	CIRDIC	11
	Water Aid	295
	T.O.F.S. (Les Booth)	110

		416
Note 8	Property	
	Scaffold Tower	1,724
	Fire Equipment	57
	Lift maintenance	602
	Key pads	253
	Nappy Changing Unit	144
	Other	549
	Projector	656

		3984
Note 9	Sundries	
	Stationary	216
	Abbeyfield May Ayres	159
	Other	437
	Preachers Expenses	80
	Duchess of Kent (Network)	140

		1,032

NEW CHURCH FUND

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Balance B/F	3,121	Chapel Aid	28,953
Donations*	34,981	Loans	25,000
Pledges	4,539		
Gift Aid	3,748		
Thanksgiving Jars	454		
Events	3,442		
Sunday tea/coffee	392		
Gift day	5,625		
Other Income	874		
Tabletop Sales	208		
		Balance C/F	3,431
TOTAL	57,384		57,384

*includes a grant from the circuit of £20,000 and a donation from the general fund of £4,629

Finance report

Some of the gift aid income is included in the New Church fund. Lettings are up about £3,000 on last year. We now have a good number of regular lettings. Webb Ivory has ceased as no one is willing to organise it. Other Income includes money held on behalf of the baby and Toddler Group and donations in the memory of one of our members. The income under charities (both Methodist and non Methodist) is mostly an in and out transaction with gift aid added as necessary. The assessment is slightly up on last year. The giving to Methodist charities has increased this year. Gas Electric etc costs are also higher than last year. Cleaning costs are higher as we increased the hours and also engaged a contract cleaner from August. Property expenditure includes the £1,724 for the scaffold tower, plus the usual lift and fire equipment maintenance.

The balance carried forward includes £117 for the Benevolent Fund, £95 for the flower Fund and £248 held on behalf of the baby and Toddler Group.

The New Church Fund

As at 31st August 2008 we have the following outstanding amount to pay:

	£
Chapel Aid	16,967
Circuit	5,000
Total	21,967