PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY CENTRE CHURCH RECOGNISED AS A PLACE OF SANCTUARY

Chapel Field Road Methodist Church has been awarded the position of <u>Church of Sanctuary</u> by the City of Sanctuary movement in Britain.

The church's Minister, Rev Matthew Olanrewaju said "I am very proud that we have achieved this award. It represents a cumulation of work over many years – the first group from overseas to come here have now been worshipping with us for 18 years and have grown into valued members of our community."

The City of Sanctuary movement is a national group that represents local councils, organisations, arts bodies, community groups and others, who all welcome and support refugees and people seeking asylum here.

Many churches have received this award including Norwich Cathedral and St Peter Mancroft churches in the city of Norwich.

Chapel Field Methodist Church hopes to develop its work further in order to learn about the reasons refugees come to this country, the services they need help with and the way in which they can grow to provide valuable resources to our communities and to others.

The award is expected to be presented formally in February 2025 and Chapel Field Road will hold a special celebration of that occasion.

Further Details from Stephen Osborn (email <u>sdosborn5@outlook.com</u>) or from Rev Matthew (email <u>revmuyiwa@yahoo.co.uk</u>).

