

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Stricklandgate Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Circuit	Circuit no	9/13
---------	------------	------

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1126952

If not a registered charity **Her 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 Melanie Greenall

Church Stewards:

Thomas Fryers	Iris Diggle
Hilary Louise Pealing	Stuart Helliwell
Eric John Bartlett	David William Metcalf
Janet Margaret Kitching	Anne Pater
Sylvia Mary Friend	Christine Thomas
Alan Reed	Michael Pearson
Lynn Margaret Doherty	Denise Fogarty
Suzanne Gramina Flynn	

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	65,423		65,423	64,606
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	981		981	1,627
a4	Lettings	14,375		14,375	20,607
a5	Other receipts	10,410		10,410	10,785
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	91,189		91,189 (a7)	97,625

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	57,508		57,508	56,752
b3	Donations	1,850		1,850	1,350
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	7,508		7,508	11,300
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	5,977		5,977	6,803
b6					
b7	Other payments	12,636	50	12,686	17,174
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	85,479	50	85,529 (b9)	93,379

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	5,710	(50)	5,660		4,246
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		133,648	623	134,271	(c6)	130,025
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	139,358	573	139,931		134,271
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	139,358	573	139,931	(c8)	134,271 (c6)

SECTION D			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures)	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		(348)
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	3,357	3,661
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	3,357	3,313
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID		
	(d1+d2-d3)		

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 August 2021 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	Friendship Group	70		70		176	246
e2	Tuesday Lunches					1,550	1,550
e3	Stricklandgate Stitches	0		0		653	653
e4	Under Fives Group	160		160		1,189	1,349
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	230		230		3,568 (e11)	3,798 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	91,189 (a7)	85,529 (b9)	5,660	(c7)	134,271 (c6)	139,931 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	91,419	85,529	5,890		137,839 (x)	143,729 (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 August 2021**

		OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand		
f2	Bank Current Account	25,725	20,265
f3	Bank Deposit Account	11,255	16,766
f4	Central Finance Board	22,875	28,484
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	74,416	74,416
f6	Other funds		
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	134,271 (c6)	139,931 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	3,568 (e11)	3,798 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	137,839 (x)	143,729 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

		At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	37,872	44,824
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	3,626,224	3,626,224
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)

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 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  Date 26/1/22

Name and address of treasurer Helen Speed

18, Queen Katherine Street, Kendal LA9 7DG

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on January 26 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting ... Rev Melanie Greenall

Date Jan 27 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Stricklandgate Methodist Church

Charity Number 1126952

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Stricklandgate Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages ... to 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.

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 *H Boardman*

Name of independent examiner Heidi Boardman

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner *N/A*

Name of firm (where appropriate) ABC Accounting

Address: Heatherlea, Firbank, Sedbergh LA10 5EN

Date *27/1/22*

* delete or circle as appropriate

STRICKLANDGATE METHODIST CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2020 TO AUGUST 2021

During the year being reported on, we tried to carry out the Aims and Objectives of our mission, namely:

- To encourage a personal faith
- To share a life of fellowship and mutual support
- To reach out to the community in Christian service
- To co-operate with other Christian churches

These are in line with the Methodist Church nationally which seeks to [respond to the Gospel of God's love in Christ](#) and to live out its discipleship through worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.

All public acts of worship at Stricklandgate Methodist Church are open to members of the Church and non-members alike. The same applies to the teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.

Membership at the end of this year was 115 members, which represents a loss of 17 (due to deaths and people moving to be nearer relatives). There were another 36 people on our community roll, plus 5 retired (supernumerary) ministers were part of our fellowship.

Due to concerns around Covid-19 infections, the church premises were largely closed for public worship and for hire (apart from essential services) from November 2020 to March 2021. One fellowship group managed to continue online and a regular act of online worship was provided (with a home worship sheet for people without internet access). In addition, members supported each other via phone calls/letters etc. A Christmas and Easter card was sent to every regular attender as well as some suggested Lent devotions. At the time of writing, some church groups are gradually re-starting.

Social Outreach

Prior to the national lockdown, a large number of community groups used the Church premises: Parents/grandparents and toddlers singing groups; a play group, with church volunteers providing drinks and biscuits; Rainbows, Brownies and Guides; a Youth Choir 'Amabile' 'Slimming World', Kendal South Choir, Kendal Recorded Music Society and Kendal Ramblers. Child Contact used the premises to enable parents and children to

maintain their relationships. The Church also provided accommodation for the South Lakes Talking Newspaper Association and a studio for a local artist.

Sadly, most of these activities ceased after March 2020, apart from Child Contact, the Talking Newspaper and the local artist studio. At the time of writing, some community activities have restarted e.g. youth choir.

During the year in question, we were one of six Kendal churches who agreed to form a partnership to fund the setting up of a [CAP \(Christians Against Poverty\)](#) debt centre to provide drop-in advice and support for families struggling to manage in these hard economic times. At the time of writing sufficient funds have been raised and a manager appointed with a view to launch the service in January 2022.

Ecumenical relationships

Throughout the year we continued to work with other Churches in Kendal to look at ways in which we could come together within a Mission Community. An online meeting of ministers in Kendal and District has met regularly to share good practice and discuss how we can work better together in the future, sharing gifts and skills. This yielded a joint venture during Holy Week 2021 when a series of daily reflections were filmed and uploaded onto [YouTube](#).

In October 2020 a new minister arrived to take oversight of Fellside, Sandylands and Stricklandgate Methodist Churches. There was scope in the circuit budget to appoint another 0.5FTE lay worker as support. Discussions are ongoing to discern the best use of this person.

Stewardship and Giving

The extra present appeal during Advent 2020 raised £870 to provide Bee Hives in Kenya. As the majority of this was gift-aided, Christian Aid was able to raise a further £172.50. In total 17 families were able to set up their own beekeeping business and get a sustainable source of honey and income. In December 2020, church members and others made up, and sent approximately 100 [‘Boxes of Hope’](#) to Romania for children who would otherwise not receive any gifts.

Along with other Churches in Kendal we continued to support the local food bank.

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

Stricklandgate Church Council

To

Kendal Circuit Meeting

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

- (i) The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money
- (ii) Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s

- (iii) We have agreed a Reserves Policy which is set out overleaf and is recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report

- (iv) We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Circuit/District/Connexion

- (v) Our Report is attached overleaf

* please delete as appropriate



To be completed by Receiving Body

The

*Circuit Meeting/District received the RESERVES POLICY of

*Church Council/Circuit Meeting/District

Policy accepted and acknowledgement sent to the trustees

YES ☐ / NO ☐

Policy noted and the following enquiries made of the trustees

Responses received and any further action taken

*Circuit/District

Signatures

Date.....

* Please delete as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY of

Stricklandgate Church Council

1.	General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2021	£64,941
2.	Restricted Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2021	£4141
3.	Endowment Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2021	£44824

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

The policy for this fund seeks to ensure that funds are sufficient for the Church's viability and future, but funds are not excessive.

The policy is to reserve 50% of our average annual turnover to provide a cushion for a sudden reduction in income or a large item of expenditure such as an urgent repair or equipment replacement. With a usual annual turnover of around £110,000 (although this was reduced in FY 20-20-21 to £93,500 during the pandemic) this indicates a reserve of £55,000. We additionally hold £55,000 for property repairs linked with the Quinquennial property report.

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

The restricted funds are held and used for specific purposes. They comprise the Benevolent Fund and the 4 internal church organisations (Stricklandgate Stitchers, Friendship Group, Tuesday Lunches and Under 5s Group) and funds are used for those purposes only.

The balance needed for these funds is dictated by the specific purpose of each fund.

6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

Endowment funds are held by TMCP, as custodian trustee, on behalf of the Managing Trustees.

Stricklandgate's endowment funds are held by TMCP under the terms of 'Trust Type B - Model Trust Bequests'.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

Stricklandgate Methodist Church Council

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Helen Speed	Full Name
Signature	Signature