



Church
Accruals Accounts
2024-25

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

(ACCRUALS BASIS)

for the year ended 31 August 2025

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

(incorporating Central and Norton Methodist Churches)

Registered Charity - Registration number	1127225
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North Hertfordshire Circuit	Circuit No:	34/15
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Minister:

Reverend Emmanuel Onabanjo

Church Stewards:

Roger Harrison

Richard Allen

Caroline Howard

George Mather

Church Treasurer:

Jonathan Battarbee

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
for the year ended 31 August 2025

Introduction

Structure, governance and management:

We are governed according to the "Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church". Within the Methodist Church we belong to the North Hertfordshire Circuit, which in turn is part of the Bedfordshire, Essex & Hertfordshire District.

Our governing body is the Church Council, which meets twice yearly usually in February and October. Trustees are generally appointed ex officio from leadership of various Church organisations, with provision for six others. There are committees to oversee Finance and Property, Outreach and Pastoral matters with social and other events organised by the Church Leadership Team.

Aims and objectives:

Our objectives are in line with those of the Methodist Church which are: -

Worship - The Church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.

Learning & Caring - The Church exists to help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care.

Service - The Church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.

Evangelism - The Church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Review of the year:

Our churches have undergone a number of changes this year, mostly positive. It has been the second year with Rev Emmanuel Onabanjo and he continues to lead worship assisted by our lay preachers, as is the Methodist system. As a result our worship takes many varied forms from one Sunday to the next, and we try to provide something for everyone to help them on their spiritual journey.

Thanks to the greater accessibility of our booking system through our new website, our room lettings have been growing significantly. Each week we host busy groups of slimmers, choirs and other music groups, table tennis, home schooling and Chinese language lessons, to name a few. At Norton we have been home for many years to an amateur dramatics group. There are also many non-recurring events, such as author talks by the local bookshop, children's birthday parties, and on two occasions this year our church has been hired by the member of parliament for public consultation meetings.

Thus our churches provide a useful service to the wider community. To these groups we should add our own Brigades and Toddler Group at Central, which continue to thrive under the volunteer leadership of our own members. For the first time since the Covid crisis, we resumed our popular pre-Christmas carol sing in the town centre which was well supported by our members and by friends from other organisations.

During the year there have been two significant positive developments. First, the introduction of a "Home Group" which studies various aspects of our faith. This is our second bible study group, alongside the Bible Conversation group which started the year before. Both groups give the opportunities for our members, and indeed non-members, to deepen their faith and their understanding of what Christians believe.

Secondly, a major step in outreach took place in August with the opening of "The Makers Place Café" at Central. Visitors are invited through vestibule at the front of the church and treated to tea and coffee and home baked cakes, together with a sewing table where repairs to clothes and textiles can be carried out either by our expert seamstress or by visitors themselves. The main church sanctuary is also open with a bookstall, music and a relaxing area for reading or conversation. Opening every Saturday morning, Makers Place has proved a great success and is well supported not just by our own members but by friends and passers-by. It increases the visibility of our church and the impact it makes upon the local community.

We have a positive effect from the Covid crisis in that the social group that formed on zoom in that period continues to meet weekly, with games and talks. There is also a daily lunchtime conversation by zoom. All these activities strengthen the bonds of our community.

To serve our housebound members and those who are in care, who are unable to attend the above activities, we continue to send recordings of our services and we also serve them by visits from our minister and from our pastoral secretary and her team.

Plans for 2025-26

We shall continue to build on progress this year, increasing the number of café worship Sunday services to appeal to a wider range of people. The growth plan will build on the success of the Makers Place café, and will emphasise our visibility in the community. The congregation at Norton have asked to join the larger congregation at Central and this is planned to take place in November 2025, though the Norton premises will continue to be available for the existing groups and possible future worship uses.

Financial Review:

Total income of £155.6k (2023-24 £165.6k) reflected a business as usual year, if the £14.1k one off benefit received from the Methodist Pension Reserve Fund (MPRF) is normalised out of the 2023-24 position. Collections and Gift Aid tax reclaims of £75.5k were only £0.1k lower than 2023-24. Whilst general donations (at £7.5k) were £1.6k lower than last year, property use donation income increased by £7.0k to £45.3k (2023-24 £38.3k) due to a combination of increased oversight of opportunities across both of the Church's sites, leading to increased utilisation, and CPI related price increases. Whilst investment income decreased slightly (£20.2k vs £22.2k 2023-24) due to the reduction in the Bank of England base rate, interest remained a significant element of the Church's income in 2024-25. No legacies were received in year (2023-24 also £0k).

Expenditure, at £151.7k, was £5.4k higher than the prior year (2023-24 £146.3k). This movement was mainly due to an £11.3k increase in maintenance costs driven by a £27.6k cost to refurbish toilets on the Central site (major expenditure in 2023-24 was £17.3k to resurface the Central car park). This increase was partly offset by a £3.3k reduction in Circuit assessment (£71.1k vs £74.4k 2023-24), and a £3.6k decrease in utility costs (£18.5k vs £22.1k in 2023-24) following a change of contract on the Norton site.

The surplus for the year was therefore £3.9k (£15.4k lower than 2023-24's £19.4k, although only £1.3k lower excluding the one off MPRF transaction).

The readily available reserves carried forward amount to £469.6k (2023-24 £465.7k).

The Trustees have every reason to believe that the Church is a going concern as there are sufficient members and supporters contributing regularly to meet commitments and liabilities. The Church owns the freehold properties of Central Methodist Church and Norton Methodist Church. Other investments are held in cash deposits which are readily available reserves. There were no unrealised gains.

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

Trustee's Annual Report on Finance and Governance

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with SORP (FRS102) as updated, being the current version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice.

Full Name of Charity/Church: **The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City**
formerly known as Central Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

Registration Charity Number: 1127225

Date of original registration: 17 December 2008

Name change effective: 01 September 2018

Main communication address: Central Methodist Church, Pixmore Way,
Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire SG6 3TR

The members of The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City **Church Council** are the Charity Trustees, who normally meet two times each year in February and October. Membership is made up of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual Church Meeting.

The full list of Church Council members and key lay employees are shown on page 8 of this report.

Treasurer: Jonathan Battarbee (CPFA)

Independent examiner: Bradshaw Johnson (Chartered Accountants)

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

Aims and organisation

Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the community and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. We aim to achieve this by encouraging worship, social, and outreach activities that currently exist, and seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the Church family.

We aim to be:

A Church that welcomes people.

A Church that believes in discipleship and mission.

A Church that does ecumenism.

A Church that rejoices in introducing people to Jesus Christ

A Church that does not mind which church you go to as long as you go.

Through these, we seek to develop the life of the Church in Letchworth Garden City.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

- a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church

Worshipping God through prayer, song and other worship activities.

The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.

The teaching and learning of the Christian faith through sermons, courses and small groups.

The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.

Taking religious assemblies in local schools.

Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.

Provision of chaplaincy services to local schools, care homes and other institutions as appropriate and when able.

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the Church is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the church is undertaken by the Church Leadership team along with the Minister.

The Trustees are appointed at the Annual Church Meeting.

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

Trustees' Responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31 August the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year and to prepare an annual report for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently using the accruals method
- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- followed the applicable SORP and accounting standard, SORP(FRS102) as updated
- adopted the going concern basis

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and ensuring their proper application under charity law, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Church's web site. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements and trustees' reports may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP & KEY LAY WORKERS

MINISTER Reverend Emmanuel Onabanjo Chair (ex officio)

		<u>Appointed</u>		<u>Appointed</u>
CHURCH STEWARDS	Richard Allen	22/05/2022	Caroline Howard	21/05/2023
	Roger Harrison	12/03/2011	George Mather	12/03/2011

CHURCH SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR Ruth Lowe

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL

	<u>Appointed</u>		<u>Appointed</u>
1. Katie Allwright	15/05/2016	11. David Latter	07/07/2019
2. Jonathan Battarbee	12/03/2011	12. John McKean	12/03/2011
3. Cheryl Bidnell	12/03/2011	13. Jennifer Rogers	15/05/2012
4. Stephen Brown	12/03/2011	14. Peter Rogers	21/05/2023
5. Christine Druce	12/03/2011	15. John Sharman	12/03/2011
6. Neil Gibbens	17/01/2018	16. Paul Sharman	12/03/2011
7. Kenneth Gibbs	12/03/2011	17. David Smith	21/05/2023
8. Malcolm Knowles	05/11/2018	18. Sally Woodhouse	12/03/2011
9. Patricia Lander	12/03/2011	19. Susan Woodhouse	12/03/2011
10. Anita Latter	12/03/2011		

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the church and the role of Trustees is given to the Church Trustees at various meetings and/or training sessions.

Related Parties

The Church is part of the North Hertfordshire Circuit, which is part of the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference. None of the trustees made a gift of land or substantial other asset to the Church during the year or seek to influence the Trustees.

Internal organisations linked to this church are:

1st Letchworth Garden City Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association
Central Band
Central Tea & Toddlers
Bible Conversations
The Maker's Place

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Trustees with professional advice taken as required. There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a quarterly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Methodist Church Letchworth Garden City commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Methodist Church Letchworth Garden City commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained persons that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to six months' average expenditure. The Designated Property Fund should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on the church building and to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full expenses including the assessment payable to the Circuit.

We have only two direct employees, both below NI/tax threshold, and therefore have no requirement to provide for redundancy.

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	4			82,986	84,675
- Collections and Gift Aid		75,488		75,488	75,552
- Donations		7,498		7,498	9,123
- Legacies			-	-	-
Charitable activities	5			-	-
- Fund raising				-	-
- Other				-	-
Other trading activities	6			45,312	38,342
- Property Use Donations		45,312		45,312	38,342
- Miscellaneous				-	-
Investments	7, 13	17,090	3,127	20,217	22,224
Other	8			7,085	20,388
- Internal organisations	18	6,985		6,985	6,275
- Miscellaneous		100		100	14,113
Total		152,473	3,127	155,600	165,629
Expenditure on:					
Salaries, NIC & Pension costs				-	-
Circuit Assessment		71,112		71,112	74,352
Maintenance on Church building(s) and property	11	43,349		43,349	32,048
Telephone and Travel				-	-
Utilities (insurance, heat and light, water, etc)		18,515		18,515	22,112
Expenditure on other property				-	-
Depreciation	12			-	-
Provisions - Pension Reserve Fund		-		-	-
Internal organisations	18	7,309		7,309	6,114
Grants and Donations	19	7,106		7,106	8,562
Other expenditure		4,047	239	4,287	3,086
Total		151,439	239	151,679	146,275
Other recognised gains / (losses):					
Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets				-	-
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets					
Actuarial gains /(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes				-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		1,034	2,888	3,921	19,354
Transfers between funds	18	20,515	- 20,515	-	-
Net movement in funds		21,549	- 17,627	3,921	19,354
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		392,034	3,073,656	3,465,690	3,446,337
Total funds carried forward		413,583	3,056,029	3,469,611	3,465,691

For information only - Money received and passed on to External Organisations

Balance brought forward from last year
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations
Balance carried forward

1,682	23
3,615	3,421
5,258	1,762
39	1,682

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

Registered Charity No. 1127225

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

		Unrestricted £	Designated (Unrestricted)	Restricted £	Totals this year £	Totals last year £
Tangible Fixed Assets*						
	Notes					
Land & Buildings	12			3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Equipment						
Investment properties						
Investments						
Total fixed assets				3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Current Assets						
Debtors and Prepayments	14	7,251	1,690		8,941	8,585
Cash at Bank and in hand	14	5,752	934		6,686	16,075
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes				56,029	56,029	73,656
Central Finance Board		390,562	11,400		401,962	374,747
Other						
Total current assets		403,566	14,024	56,029	473,618	473,063
Current Liabilities						
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)	15	2,535	1,472		4,007	7,373
Net current assets (liabilities)		401,030	12,552	56,029	469,611	465,691
Total assets less current liabilities		401,030	12,552	3,056,029	3,469,611	3,465,691
Loans and creditors due after 1 year						
Provisions for liabs. and charges	17					
Net assets		401,030	12,552	3,056,029	3,469,611	3,465,691
Funds of the Church						
	18					
Unrestricted funds		146,541	267,041		413,583	392,034
Restricted funds				3,056,029	3,056,029	3,073,656
Total Funds	18	146,541	267,041	3,056,029	3,469,611	3,465,691

*Details - see Note 12

Notes to the Accounts

1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with SORP(FRS102) as updated, being the current version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice.

2. Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Church which are Unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations. There are no Endowment funds. Details of each material fund are disclosed in note 18. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3. Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Church's financial position and activities.

Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Church becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Church to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Church from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Church accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

Since the Church is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. The freehold property is shown at estimated market value.

Investment Properties

Investment properties - no property is currently deemed to be held as an investment for the long term purposes of the charity.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors include outstanding lettings invoices in August and the amount of Gift Aid accrued but not yet claimed.

Creditors

Creditors include outstanding items relating to utilities, consumables, expenses etc. in August, plus amounts due to third party charities.

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

4. Donations and legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024-25 Total	2023-24 Total
			£	£
Collections	59,998		59,998	58,664
Gift Aid	15,490		15,490	16,887
	75,488	-	75,488	75,552
Donations	7,498		7,498	9,123
Legacies	-	-	-	-
Total	82,986	-	82,986	84,675

5. Charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024-25 Total	2023-24 Total
			£	£
Fund raising			-	-
Other			-	-
Total	-	-	-	-

6. Other trading activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024-25 Total	2023-24 Total
	£	£	£	£
Property Use Donations	45,312		45,312	38,342
Miscellaneous		-	-	-
			-	-
Total	45,312	-	45,312	38,342

7. Investment income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024-25 Total	2023-24 Total
	£	£	£	£
Central Finance Board	17,090		17,090	18,191
Other		3,127	3,127	4,033
Total	17,090	3,127	20,217	22,224

8. Other	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024-25 Total	2023-24 Total
	£	£	£	£
Internal Organisations	6,985		6,985	6,275
Miscellaneous*	100		100	14,113
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
Total	7,085	-	7,085	20,388

*Refund from the Methodist Church Pension Reserve Fund in 2023-24

9. Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting

	This year	Last year
£	Nil	Nil

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

Nil	Nil
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Nature of the expenses

No expenses were paid to Trustees.

Total amount paid

£	Nil	Nil
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10. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

£	720	Nil
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Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor

£	Nil	Nil
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11. Paid employees (cost shown in the SoFA as part of Maintenance on Church buildings and property)

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind

£	7,944	4,417
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Employer's National Insurance costs

£	Nil	Nil
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Pension costs

£	Nil	Nil
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Total staff costs

£	7,944	4,417
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Average number of staff employed during the year were:

1	1
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Note: Maintenance on Church building(s) and property includes the remuneration of part-time cleaners at each site who are self-employed and not paid enough to require NI contributions or tax deductions. Actual Whole Time Equivalents (wte) were 0.293 wte in 24/25 and 0.186 wte in 23/24.

12. Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or valuation

	Church (non investment) land and buildings £	Other non investment land and buildings £	Investment properties (land and buildings) £	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Payments on account and assets under construction £	Total £
Balance brought forward 01/09/2024	3,000,000						3,000,000
Additions							-
Revaluations (+/-)							-
Disposals (-)							-
Transfers * (+/-)							-
Balance carried forward	3,000,000						3,000,000

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward 01/09/2024							
Depreciation charge for year (-)							
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers* (+/-)							
Balance carried forward							

Net book amount

Brought forward	3,000,000	-	-	-	-		3,000,000
Carried forward	3,000,000	-	-	-	-		3,000,000

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

Note: There is no depreciation provision on the church buildings as the impairment review at the end of the year judged the market value to be in accordance with the book value.

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

13. Investments

The investments that support the various funds are held by TMCP in The Trustees' Interest Fund on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

This year Prev year

Change in investment values

	£	£
Value at beginning of year	73,656	79,758
Add: additions		
Less: withdrawals	20,515	9,908
Add: Interest less administration	2,888	3,806
Value at end of year	56,029	73,656

14. Analysis of current assets

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Debtors and prepayments		
Pre paid assessments		
Accrued income (HMRC Gift Aid accrued)	6,950	7,560
Other debtors (Property lettings)	1,991	1,025
Total debtors and prepayments	8,941	8,585

100% [2023-24: 100%] by value of the debtors brought forward at the beginning of the year were recovered during the year. There have been no write-offs in the year.

Analysis of cash at bank

Bank balances held in Co-operative Bank and HSBC Bank	6,686	16,075
Bank balance held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	56,029	73,656
Cash held by Central Finance Board of The Methodist Church	401,962	374,747

15. Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors

Trade Creditors		
Other Creditors (inc. Utilities, property repairs and funds due to third parties)	4,007	7,373
Total Current Liabilities	4,007	7,373

99.8% [2023-24: 94%] by value of the creditors brought forward at the beginning of the year have been paid during the year. A small balance remains to be paid over to a third party as a result of a Special Collection in 2023-24.

16. Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

At the 31st August 2025 the Church had no capital commitments.

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2025.

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

17. Loans and creditors due after one year

Loans

Source	Amount brought forward £	New borrowings £	Loan interest £	Repayable in the year £	Balance at year end £
Nil					
					Nil

Repayment due

Totals

Due within 12 months	
Due after more than 12 months	
Total	Nil

Purpose of loans

None

Creditors due after one year

Name of creditor	Amount on 31-Aug-2025	Amount on 31-Aug-2024
Nil		
Total	Nil	Nil

18. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements 2024-25

Unrestricted Funds						
Internal Organisations	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
Brigades Camp Fund	670	2,100	1,844			926
Brigades General Fund	3,464	1,812	2,232			3,043
Child Sponsorship Fund	736	1,691	1,276			1,151
Central Flower Fund	582		377			205
Central Tea & Toddlers	1,452	729	1,379			801
The Maker's Place		484	187			297
Bible Conversations		170	13			157
Sub totals	6,903	6,985	7,309			6,580
Other Funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
General Fund	135,642	68,268	77,899	20,515		146,526
Norton Methodist Ch.	8,873	20,574	17,768			11,679
Norton Comm. Centre	3,935	19,704	17,773			5,867
Organ Fund	20,091					20,091
Property Fund	216,590	54,556	48,306			222,840
Sub totals	385,131	163,102	161,744	20,515		407,003
Total Unrestricted Funds	392,034	170,087	169,054	20,515		413,583

Restricted Funds						
Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
TMCP - Various Bequests	73,656	3,127	239	-20,515		56,029
Methodist Model Trust Property	3,000,000					3,000,000
Total Restricted Funds	3,073,656	3,127	239	-20,515		3,056,029

Note: £239 expenditure represents TMCP administration charge

Endowment Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
None						
Totals	Nil					Nil

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

18. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements 2023-24

Unrestricted Funds						
Internal Organisations	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
Brigades Camp Fund	843	2,055	2,228			670
Brigades General Fund	2,869	2,489	1,893			3,464
Child Sponsorship Fund	967	940	1,172			736
Central Flower Fund	749		168			582
Central Tea & Toddlers	1,314	792	654			1,452
Warm Spaces						
Sub totals	6,742	6,275	6,114			6,903
Other Funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
General Fund	104,370	93,069	71,705	9,908		135,642
Norton Methodist Ch.	10,504	11,052	7,683	-5,000		8,873
Norton Comm. Centre	5,867	13,173	20,104	5,000		3,935
Organ Fund	20,091					20,091
Property Fund	219,005	41,448	43,863			216,590
Sub totals	359,836	158,741	143,355	9,908		385,131
Total Unrestricted Funds	366,579	165,017	149,469	9,908		392,034

Restricted Funds						
Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
TMCP - Various Bequests	79,758	4,033	227	-9,908		73,656
Methodist Model Trust Property	3,000,000					3,000,000
Total Restricted Funds	3,079,758	4,033	227	-9,908		3,073,656

Note: £227 expenditure represents TMCP administration charge

Endowment Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance
None						
Totals	Nil					Nil

The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City

19. Related party transactions

This year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2025
			£	£	£	£
Methodist Church Fund	Connexional	Donation	Nil	500	Nil	Nil
Mission in Britain Fund	Connexional	Donation	Nil	500	Nil	Nil
Fund for Support of Presbyters & Deacons	Connexional	Donation	Nil	500	Nil	Nil
Fund for Property	Connexional	Donation	Nil	500	Nil	Nil
World Mission Fund	Connexional	Donation	Nil	500	Nil	Nil
All We Can	Connexional	Donation	Nil	1,094	Nil	70
Methodist Homes	Connexional	Donation	Nil	300	Nil	Nil
Total			0	3,894	0	70

Donations to unrelated parties:	3,142	0
Total grants and donations:	7,036	70

Last year

Name of related party	Relationship	Description of transaction	Income from related party during the year	Payments to related party during the year	Loans to / (from) related party during the year	Amounts owed by / (to) related party as on 31-Aug-2024
			£	£	£	£
Methodist Church Fund	Connexional	Donation	Nil	410	Nil	Nil
Mission in Britain Fund	Connexional	Donation	Nil	410	Nil	Nil
Fund for Support of Presbyters & Deacons	Connexional	Donation	Nil	550	Nil	Nil
Fund for Property	Connexional	Donation	Nil	410	Nil	Nil
World Mission Fund	Connexional	Donation	Nil	500	Nil	Nil
All We Can	Connexional	Donation	Nil	744	Nil	Nil
Methodist Homes	Connexional	Donation	Nil	250	Nil	Nil
Total			0	3,274	0	0

Donations to unrelated parties:	5,288
Total grants and donations:	8,562

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of Treasurer	<div>Signed Original Held</div>	Date	<div>13-May-26</div>
Name	<div>Jonathan L Battarbee</div>		
Address	<div>Letchworth Garden City Hertfordshire</div>		

Presentation to the Church Council Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts were presented to the Church Council Meeting on 23rd October 2025 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	<div>Signed Original Held</div>
Name of the Chair of the meeting	<div>Reverend Emmanuel Onabanjo</div>
Date:	<div>13/05/2026</div>

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the Trustees of	The Methodist Church - Letchworth Garden City		
On accounts for the year ended	31 August 2025	Charity No.	1127225
Set out on pages	10 - 21 inclusive		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st August 2024

Responsibilities and basis of report As the charity'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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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.

Independent Examiner's Statement I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- ▶ the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- ▶ the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- ▶ the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed:

Signed Original Held

Date:

15-May-26

Name:

N.C.Harding

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

ICAEW