

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1127682

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-01-22

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Solihull Methodist Church
Blossomfield Road
Solihull
B91 1LG

Phone 01217057367

Email office@solihull-methodist.org.uk

Website www.solihull-methodist.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 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 the 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.

Activities: Public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members. The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses & groups. Pastoral work including visiting the sick & bereaved. The provision of meetings with a Christian ethos for all ages. Making the premises available to outside organisations & establishing Christian contact wherever possible. Supporting charities in the UK & overseas.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE LOCAL
- Solihull

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£461,847	£326,586	-	-
2024-08-31	£324,219	£334,073	-	-
2023-08-31	£301,081	£294,594	-	-
2022-08-31	£258,102	£248,739	-	-
2021-08-31	£219,355	£214,000	-	-

Trustees

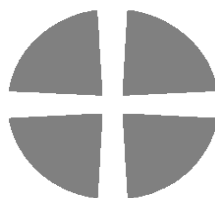
Name	Role	Appointed
ANDREW DAVID HUNT		2013-10-21
ANN MARGARET POLSON		
Alan Faulkner B.Phil Ed.		2018-06-01
Alison Faulkner		2023-06-11
CHRISTOPHER TUCKER		2013-10-21
Caroline Elizabeth Hinchliffe		2021-06-08
Catherine Coleman BA Hons		2019-06-10
Christine Mary Burr		2024-04-28
DAVID ALASTAIR GREY		
Deborah Margaret Install		2023-06-11
Derek Richard Giles		2017-06-01
Diane Webb		2016-09-01
Elizabeth Jayne Pickles BEd		2022-06-01
FIONA MARY BEADLE		2017-06-01
Glen Mullineux		2022-06-01
HELEN JUDITH BANKS		2012-05-31
Ian Russell Hancock		2024-04-28
Ioanna Burnell		2026-04-26
JUDITH ANN LINGARD		2014-10-14
JUDITH FARNDON		
Jacqueline Patricia Lancaster		2024-04-28
Jonathan Tuckey		2017-02-01
Karen Jane Handford		2024-04-28
Karen Jayne Robertson		2021-06-08
Lawrence James Day		2023-02-06
MARGERIE BENSON		
MARJORIE ANNE ROPER		

Name	Role	Appointed
MRS JENNI KITSON		2012-01-25
PAMELA MARY BEATTIE		2012-05-31
Peter Anthony Farndon		2024-04-28
Peter James Austin		2021-06-08
Rev CHRISTINE GILES		2012-02-20
Rev Cleopas Sibanda		2022-09-01
Rev Donald Paul Ker		2025-11-20
Rev Farai Mapamula		2022-09-01
Richard George Burr BSc		2022-06-01
Rubina Thakor		2025-05-11
SUSAN KATHRYN KELLY		2018-06-10
Sian Louise Musgreave-Spiby BA		2022-05-08
TIMOTHY JAMES WEATHERUP		2026-04-26
Wai Lun Hung		2026-04-26
Yan Yeung		2024-04-28

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1127682

Accounts



Church
Accruals Accounts
2024 - 2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)

For the year ended 31st August 2025

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Registration number 1127682

BIRMINGHAM

Circuit No

5.1

Minister

REVEREND MOLLY CHITOKWINDO

Church Stewards

Mrs Elizabeth Pickles (until 11.05.25)

Mr Glen Mullineux

Mrs Alison Faulkner

Mrs Yan Yeung

Mr Ade Gbadebo

Mrs Jacki Lancaster

Mrs Christine Burr

Mr A. Chidzya (from 11.05.25)

Church Treasurer

Caroline Hinchliffe

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2025

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For the year ended 31st August 2025

Section 1 Overview Report

1.1 Introduction

The charitable objects of Solihull Methodist Church are those of the Methodist Church, and include commitment to Christian service through worship, prayer and community involvement, which provides significant public benefit.

1.2 Mission Statement

We believe that to make the all-embracing love of Jesus Christ known, we need to be brave in God's changing world, so that all can belong and find hope.

1.3 Worship, Care and Mission in 2024-2025

Reverend Molly Chitokwindo continues to be the minister responsible for SMC, as well as two other nearby churches in the Birmingham Circuit. Molly has continued to work to support members and non- members alike and seeks to facilitate our growth in faith.

The number of worshippers, who have emigrated from Hong Kong to the Solihull area continues to grow. We continue to have the Bible readings in both Cantonese and English at our Sunday morning family services. The Hong Kongers are making a positive impact as they get more and more involved in the community.

There have again been five additional members to the Church, it was a joy to welcome them.

Youth Church meets each week. It continues to flourish and there are a lot of volunteers who assist under the guidance of our Youth and Family worker. She has now led two, 10 week Youthscape training sessions to develop the skills of those involved in this important work.

Youth Club meets each week on a very informal basis with a wide range of young people attending.

Youth Bible study is a smaller group that meets to delve more deeply into all things Christian.

Some Sunday morning services are still streamed live on You Tube – usually two services per month. A small number of people watch these live, but many tens of viewers “catchup” and watch the service online in the days after each recording.

Every Tuesday morning at 9.30am, there is a service of Holy Communion. On the fourth Sunday in each month, the evening service of Holy Communion with prayers for healing has continued. This service is accompanied by quiet choral music. On the second Sunday in each month, “Prayer Space” takes place, in which individual prayer and reflection by those attending is encouraged and stimulated via prompts from those leading.

The Prayer Group meets via Zoom every Wednesday morning. Prayers for the world and current issues are offered. Anyone can request prayers for specific people and situations and each such request is considered prayerfully.

There continues to be a number of very active house groups. These meet for fellowship and worshipful study and they are organised according to the wishes of the members: some meet weekly, fortnightly or monthly. A new one added this year is called ‘Explorers’. It is aimed primarily

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at those who are new to house groups, exploring the Bible and the Christian way of life. It meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (term time only) in Room 4.

A series of breakfasts was held in the Community Hall on the Saturdays in Lent. These were a joint effort co-ordinated by Churches Together in Central Solihull (of which SMC is a part). Speakers from SMC and other churches followed the themes from 'Lent and Easter for everyone' by Tom Wright. Talks were both challenging and uplifting.

The church project in 2024/5 was to support a local charity 'ENTRAIDE' working to support refugees in the community. In August a cheque for £9,200 was presented to Felix Kupay the founder and CEO of the charity. Felix spoke of the work of his charity supporting people new to our country and of the real difference our help had made.

The church project for 2025/6 will support the Awareness Foundation, a Christian, ecumenical, educational charity which was founded by The Revd Nadim Nassar in London in 2003 to empower Christians everywhere to be a counter force of love and peace to the intolerance and mistrust that now prevail in so many communities. Currently, the foundation is active in the UK, North America (USA and Canada), the Middle East (Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine), and in Hong Kong.

The Church newsletter, The Messenger, is provided by personal delivery to church members and wider afield by e-mail to those who have requested it. This newsletter contains a message from our Minister; news of the Church's activities; and articles and encouragement about local, national and international matters.

The weekly church notices can also be received by e-mail. Currently around 200 copies are sent out each week. This keeps recipients informed about church services and other activities.

With the help of the Greener Church Group, Solihull Methodist Church has become the first church in the Birmingham Circuit and the first church of any denomination in Solihull to gain A Rocha UK's Eco Church Gold Award. On Thursday 3rd April a small team of A Rocha assessors (Sir Martin Harris, Lim Ho and Dr Jan Firth) visited Solihull Methodist Church to assess whether we had done enough to be given the award. The award was made soon afterwards.

Office Administrator, and Finance Assistant, continue to do a huge service to the community from their work in the Office.

Our Church and Community building continue to be used, both by ourselves and by outside organisations. There are currently over 60 regular groups using the facilities.

1.4 Groups run by Solihull Methodist Church

Shall We Talk

Shall We Talk (SWT) remains a vibrant and popular group, bringing together often around 80 Cantonese-speaking attendees and English-speaking volunteers each week. Together, they explore and share British history and culture alongside their own, fostering meaningful integration within our church and community. This year there have been presentations from volunteers on a wide range of topics, for example: Grace Darling, the Cotswolds and Ireland. They have also had visitors to speak, including: the Police to warn about fraud and scams; representatives from Solihull Public Health team to give information about vaccines and a person from a group called *On Your Side* who gave excellent information about hate crime. All were pleased and honoured on the 28th of April to

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welcome both the Mayor of Solihull, Shahin Ashraf, and Major Lam, who is originally from Hong Kong and spoke about his army service and VE Day.

In addition, a representative from Solihull Council spoke to all participants about safeguarding on Monday morning. Then church members, ran a short course on safeguarding for all our volunteers which was very much appreciated.

SWT has also started to arrange other activities based at SMC for the HK community. These include formal courses in the English language, and Art classes.

Bible study

Bible study sessions continue to be offered on Tuesday mornings in both English and Cantonese.

Classic Cantonese Fellowship

This group was started in January 2023 as an offshoot from Shall We Talk originally meeting every other week with less than 10 people. It is intended for the more senior members of the Cantonese community to socialize as they play games such as table tennis and mah jong and also sing songs in English. It also helps members with making friends, with their well-being and with learning about the local community. Now, they meet every Friday from 10am to 12pm doing chair yoga and Tai Chi together, still playing mahjong and table tennis. Sometimes over 40 people have attended when there is a birthday.

Pushchair Club

This is a stay and play group for parents (and grandparents and carers) of toddlers and preschool children. It offers opportunities for everyone to chat and play in a safe friendly environment. It meets every Monday morning (during term time) and is run by a volunteer member of the Church. Other church members help with the sessions and with providing refreshments.

Soupa Talks

Soupa Talks meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. It is open to all with a Soup and roll lunch followed by a talk on almost any topic. This year it celebrated the 80th anniversary of V E Day in style with World War 2 music played by Two's Harmony Duettists, and recollections of V E Day.

Men's Coffee Club

This group of (mainly retired) men of the Church meet each Tuesday morning to enjoy coffee, cake and conversation, often debating the big news issues of the day.

Friendship Cafe

The group meets on the second and fourth Fridays each month at 10.30am. It is an opportunity to meet others, have a chat, enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and a cake/biscuit, and play some board games.

Badminton Club

The club meets on a Thursday evening at 8.15pm in the Community Hall. The membership of the group is fluid, with a core of four or five members who play most weeks, and a number of other members who play, when other commitments permit.

Youth Club

The Church Youth Club meets every Friday evening during term time and provides games and sports activities alongside times of reflection and fellowship.

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SMASH: SMC's Drama Group

The group comprises a large number from the Church and outside. In April 2025, SMASH performed a musical version of Peter Pan. The highly professional programme was more than a souvenir, and one glance gave a flavour of what was to come. The performance was fresh, with new innovations and using imagination beyond most of us. It was lively, active, told the story faithfully, yet entertained with so much good humour and music.

Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Brownies and Rainbows

These groups all meet weekly during term time in the Community Hall, successfully delivering a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities to provide skills for life. The Church provides valuable storage facilities for sports equipment and camping equipment for these groups.

Rambling Club

Rambles are held on the third Thursday of each month. This normal includes a lunch stop at a suitable establishment. All church members and friends are welcome.

Bookworms: Book Club

Books for reading are chosen by members and the club meets approximately every six weeks to discuss the latest choice.

1.5 Groups from the wider community

The Church is pleased to offer space for numerous groups for people. Some of these are support groups for people with health problems: these are heavily subsidised by the Church as an indication of its care for the more vulnerable in society.

Support groups include

Birmingham Ileostomy Society: A coffee morning for people with ileostomies and their carers for mutual support.

Breast Friends and Breast Cancer Now: Both support groups for people with breast cancer.

Deaf Feel Good: A group which meets in alternate weeks to communicate using British Sign Language.

Dementia Voice and Singing for the Brain: Both groups run by the Alzheimers Association for those with dementia.

Gamblers Anonymous: Supporting those who have struggled with addiction.

Parkinsons: A large group of people who meet for weekly exercise to help their condition. This also serves as a support group over their tea break.

Solihull Prostrate Support Group: A monthly meeting for those with prostate cancer. Speakers from various medical departments and a buddy system of support are both a big part of these meetings.

West Midlands Autism: Morning and evening groups run for Adults with autism as a support group and for talks about their condition.

RVS Activity group: This group has running to support those with Dementia.

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Compassionate Friends: Supports bereaved parents.

Sandant Care: Offers Mental Health drop in sessions.

Interest Groups

A number of interest groups use our premises. Many of these are linked to the University of the Third Age with sub groups for ukulele players, gardening, craft, quiz group, choral singing, painting and history.

Other groups meeting regularly include: The National Trust, King's Trust, Magic Loop, Advanced Motorists, Solihull Photographic Society, Sans Souci Speakers Club, Solihull and District Beekeepers, Chai and Chat, Creative Textiles and other craft groups, exercise groups and several choirs.

1.6 Further service to the community and beyond

The Church continues to collect non perishable goods for a local food bank. Many of the groups using the Community Hall also contribute which enables us to donate a large amount of food.

During the year, members of the congregation collect monetary donations for the work of the Sweet Project which is a social enterprise not-for-profit venture supporting children, families and vulnerable adults.

Members of the congregation also support the Teams4U Shoebox Appeal by providing simple presents which go as Christmas gifts to poor communities in Eastern Europe.

This year's Church Project raised over £9k for ENTRAIDE (see section 1.3).

Pastoral visiting has continued with a large team of visitors each of whom goes to see a small number of church members (and some others) each month, partly to deliver a copy of The Messenger. This ensures that people are kept in touch with the Church and allows possible welfare needs to be identified and solutions sought.

One of our lay workers, maintains links with local care homes and organises and conducts simple services at these on a regular basis. She has also been involved in running 'Alpha' Courses.

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Section 2: Finance and Governance

2.1 Basis of preparation and Legal Framework

Solihull Methodist Church is a church within the Methodist Connexion in Great Britain and these Financial statements including the Trustees Annual Report have been prepared in accordance with the constitution, practice and discipline of that Church. Solihull's Methodist Church's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102:

Registration Charity Number: **1127682**

Date of registration: **January 2009**

Main communication address: **Solihull Methodist Church, Blossomfield Road,
Solihull, B91 1LG**

The members of the Solihull Methodist Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up, in accordance with Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church in Great Britain, of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the General Church Meeting.

A Full list of Church Council members (i.e. Managing Trustees) is shown in [Appendix A.](#)

Treasurer: Caroline Hinchliffe

Caroline Hinchliffe acted as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the church during the year.

Auditors: FWC Advisory Ltd, Wallace House, 20 Birmingham Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2LT

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Funds are Held at: CAF Bank, Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes & Central Finance Board of The Methodist Church

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2.2 Aims and Purposes

The charitable objectives of Solihull Methodist Church are in accordance with the Purposes of the Methodist Church of Great Britain as set out in Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976. That section states that: -

"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."

The aims and calling of Solihull Methodist Church are in line with the Methodist Church of Great Britain which are:

- 1. Worship – to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- 2. Learning and Caring – to help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- 3. Service – to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- 4. Evangelism – to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Within those aims and purposes, Solihull Methodist Church has its vision to make the all-embracing love of Jesus Christ known, being brave in God's changing world, so that all can belong and find hope.

2.3 Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in compliance with its duties under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011.

At Solihull Methodist Church, we seek to provide public benefit in the ways mentioned in section 2.2 above by building relationships with all members of our community. That includes those who worship with us regularly, those who make use of our premises, those who commute past our grounds, and those who live in the neighbourhood.

2.4 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 Model Trusts, and the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) published by order of the annual conference.

Day to day management of the church is undertaken by the Church Leadership Team, consisting of Stewards and other officers along with the Minister.

The Trustees are appointed ex officio in accordance with Standing Order 610 of CPD, or at the annual General Church Meeting.

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2.5 Trustee Training

The guidance produced by the Methodist Church of Great Britain to support the effective running of the church and the role of Trustees is given to the Church Trustees when they are asked to complete the declaration of eligibility for newly appointed trustees.

2.6 Related Parties

"The Church is part of the Birmingham Circuit which is part of the Birmingham District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The internal organisations linked to this church are: -

1. SMASH (Solihull Methodist Acting & Singing in Harmony), 2. Pushchair Club, 3. Soupa Talks, 4. Badminton Club, 5. Youth Club (ENRG), 6. Men's Coffee Club, 7. Contact Choir. 8. JMA (Junior Mission for All) 9. Shall We Talk (Support for BNO newcomers) 10. Greener Church Group

2.7 Income trends

The Church income is primarily drawn from the giving of the congregation in weekly offerings in the context of worship and by regular bank standing orders. The latter have seen a steady small decline over recent years and this year that trend has reversed for the first time. Despite falls in income from cash and envelopes there has been an overall small increase in income from donations. External lettings have also increased in number giving a further increase in income from this source. Interest rates remained high and interest has made a welcome contribution to overall income. The result is a surplus for the year.

2.8 Expenditure trends

Monitoring expenditure is done using the General fund figures (excluding the depreciation of fixed assets and the interest/charges associated with the Pam Brown legacy). The major item of expenditure is in relation to the assessment paid to the Birmingham Circuit. A significant amount of the Circuit assessment is used to pay the district assessment, Ministers stipends, and related costs to Ministers and Family and Community workers. £115,000 was paid in 2024/25 representing 46% of our general fund expenditure (£249,597). This figure has been reduced due to the decision to partially (one third) fund the Salary of the Youth and Family worker from general funds. It is hoped that the Circuit Assessment will be raised again and the overall surplus means extra contributions above budget are very likely in 2025-26.

Energy costs have continued to be high but have remained under a fixed contract and so were budgeted for accurately. The electricity supply contract change in April 2024 meant a lower expenditure on electricity in this year.

33% (£83,090) of the church's expenditure relates to property expenses i.e., heating, lighting, water, insurance, maintenance of grounds, pianos, and organ as well as other repairs and renewals to keep the buildings in good repair. Property expenditure has been covered by the total lettings including car park and contributions from church internal organisations, enabling the premises to be kept in good order. Other Church expenditure is used firstly to provide and communicate, within the community, the Christian teaching and worship of the Church, and secondly to maintaining an office with all its associated costs.

The budget for 2025/26 starts with a healthy reserve but was set against a background of increasing costs and general giving that had not kept pace in recent years. There have been some significant changes since the budget was set and the overall improvement in figures for 2024/25 resulted in a decision to reassess the budget in January 2026. This has been left until that point as in September 2025 there will be a special appeal for funds towards a new boiler, an advert for a paid lettings officer will be published. By January 2026 we will know the outcome of these and there will also be greater clarity about the planning of building works to Room 3 of the Community Hall. On 29.08.25

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planning permission was obtained. Any unrestricted, undesignated funds are being set aside as a basis for the church's contribution to the build (approx. £85,000) and grant funding will be sought to try to cover the rest of the expense.

2.9 Fund balances including Reserves Policy

Model Trust Legacy

The use of the Model Trust Legacy has continued to support the ministry of the church. It has enabled the appointment of a full time Family and Youth worker for the church over a 3-year time period. It has now been made possible to extend this for a further 3 years from March 2026. The Church Council have agreed that this legacy should form a guarantor of funds that might be needed but that the church will also aim to encourage giving to increase so that the post may become fully funded by within the budget. A first step was taken as the church included one third of the salary in the budget for 24/25. This will continue for 25/26.

Unrestricted Funds

The church has substantial property and believes (**as stated in its Reserves Policy**), that it is prudent to maintain between 3 and 5 months of expenditure in its general unrestricted fund reserves to provide for normal, planned and reactive maintenance costs, in addition to paying the circuit assessment which according to CPD (Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church) is the first call on our reserves.

On 31st August 2025 the General fund total stood at £4,447,856. Removing tangible fixed assets of £4,193,200 and without Model Trust Legacy funds of £113,857 General Fund reserves were £140,799. This represents 6.2 months of expenditure.

Designated funds

Balance at 31.08.25 of £167,489 relates to

- Youth & Children's work £8,841
- Property reserve £19,766
- Gifts with no binding obligation £50,354 which has been set aside towards the development of Room 3
- Online and other electronic upgrades £6,677
- Provision for small mission/community projects £4,634
- Donations and Model Trust funds allocated to Family and Youth Worker £46,799
- Funds for a short-term Pastoral Worker £30,850
- Room3. £-432. Plans are underway and incurring expense but funding has not yet been moved here until the go-ahead is confirmed.

Details are given in [Note 14](#) of these accounts.

Restricted funds

Balance at 31.08.25 of £134,282 relate to gifts/legacies and other monies that are only used within the terms attached to them.

- £99,400 is due to be given to the church by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council after a grant application in December 2024. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) ESOL Fund is part of the UK Government's support for Hong Kong BN(O) visa holders, aimed at helping new arrivals improve their English and integrate into UK society.
- £1,801 of the restricted funds is held in the Benevolent Fund which receives donations from the retiring collection after communion services and the Church is able to react immediately to local and worldwide emergency appeals after natural disasters etc.

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- Special Collection. £5000. The 32-year-old boiler needs replacing. An appeal will start in September and part of a legacy has already been allocated towards this at the request of the family.
- The Church Council has agreed to give money to a carbon offsetting organisation to cover the energy use by the church from carbon sources. The Net Zero fund gives members an opportunity to contribute directly to these costs. It currently holds £27.
- In 2024/25 the Church Project was the local charity Entraide. £9,200 has already been paid and there will be a smaller contribution additionally in September totalling £647 including the £39 in gift Aid still to come.
- Other restricted funds amounting to £2,735 relate to monies held for various Church groups and these are released as and when requested by those organisations.
- £25,320 represents the balances held by the internal organisations linked to the church.

Details are given in [Note 14](#) of these accounts.

Endowment fund

Balance at 31.08.25 of £5,166 is restricted. The accumulated interest (£945 at 31.08.25) is restricted to fund children's and youth work. The capital has been invested in a Managed Fixed Interest Fund through TMCP. The valuation at 31.08.25 was £4,217 with a balance of £4 held by TMCP.

2.10 Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and a Health & Safety officer sits on the Church Council and regularly reviews all aspects of risk management and reports to the Trustees.

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

A biannual financial review is undertaken to help minimise risks in the income and expenditure processes.

2.11 Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation 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.
- the selection and training of 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.

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- the response, 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.
- seeking to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- challenging any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- offering 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

Solihull Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice within our Church premises.

Solihull Methodist Church commits itself through its safeguarding officer and team to the provision of support, advice and training for all volunteers, lay and ordained people 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.

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Section 3: Accounts

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

		Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
			£	£	£	£	£	£
Income								
1	Weekly Collections & Standing orders		110,288				110,288	111,666
2	Gift aid including GASDS		27,066	1,250	1,112		29,428	28,356
3	Donations		4,717				4,717	3,523
4	Legacies		135	41,250	5,000		46,385	15,311
5	Interest and investment income	2,2a	18,112			140	18,252	19,860
6	Internal organisations				31,617		31,617	34,277
7	Other charitable income-collections, donations & charity fundraising activities	3,3a	350		117,196		117,546	18,265
8	Income from use of premises	4,4a	101,431				101,431	92,092
9	Other Income	5,5a	1,307		876		2,183	869
10	Total income		263,406	42,500	155,801	140	461,847	324,219
Expenditure								
11	Circuit assessment or share		115,000				115,000	127,300
12	Salaries, N.I. & Pension Costs	8	37,708	24,015			61,723	56,440
13	Donations to Methodist connexional Funds and other Charities		50		16,618		16,668	16,697
14	Property repairs and maintenance		63,932	2,484			66,416	60,780
15	Insurance, utilities etc		19,085				19,085	21,289
16	Depreciation		4,400				4,400	4,400
17	Office expenses including advertising, marketing & legal requirements eg copyright licence & audit	6,11	10,128	56	264	14	10,462	11,660
18	Other expenditure-including Christian teaching, worship, activities and fund raising costs		4,048	1,217	3,280		8,545	9,581
19	Internal organisations				24,287		24,287	25,926
20	Total charitable expenditure		254,351	27,772	44,449	14	326,586	334,073
21	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments					-98	-98	3,059
22	Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0	0
23	Net income/(expenditure)		9,055	14,728	111,352	28	135,163	-6,796
24	Transfers between funds		8,116	-8,116			0	0
25	Other gains/(losses)						0	0
26	Net movement in funds		17,171	6,612	111,352	28	135,163	-6,796
27	Total funds brought forward		4,430,685	160,877	22,930	5,138	4,619,630	4,626,426
28	Total funds carried forward		4,447,856	167,489	134,282	5,166	4,754,793	4,619,630
For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations								
	Balance brought forward from last year					2025	2024	
						1,074	0	
	Money/Gifts etc - received for External Organisations					4,116	5,279	
	Money/Gifts etc - passed to External Organisations					5,053	4,205	
	Balance carried forward					137	1,074	

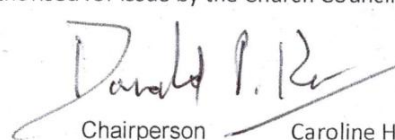
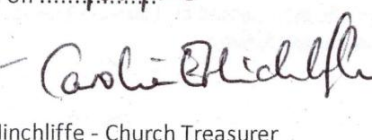
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3.2 Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2025	Totals 2024
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Church buildings & Equipment	9	4,193,200				4,193,200	4,197,600
Investment properties						0	0
Investments	10				4,217	4,217	4,315
Total fixed assets		4,193,200	0	0	4,217	4,197,417	4,201,915
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	12	46,350		99,641		145,991	44,627
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes-(TMCP)-Model Trust		113,857				113,857	109,011
TMCP					4	4	4
Central Finance Board Deposits		94,755	167,489	10,152	945	273,341	255,168
Cash at Bank and in hand	12	6,256				6,256	17,955
- Other- Internal Organisations	12			25,320		25,320	17,990
Total current assets		261,218	167,489	135,113	949	564,769	444,755
Current liabilities							
Creditors & accruals (due in under 1 year)	13	6,562		831		7,393	27,041
Grants payable within 2022-23						0	0
Total current liabilities		6,562	0	831	0	7,393	27,041
Net current assets/liabilities		254,656	167,489	134,282	949	557,376	417,715
Total assets less current liabilities		4,447,856	167,489	134,282	5,166	4,754,793	4,619,630
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23						0	0
Loans to the Church						0	0
						0	0
Total Net Assets		4,447,856	167,489	134,282	5,166	4,754,793	4,619,630
Funds of the Church	14						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		4,447,856				4,447,856	4,430,685
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			167,489			167,489	160,877
Total Unrestricted Funds						4,615,345	4,591,562
Restricted Funds				134,282		134,282	22,930
Endowment Funds					5,166	5,166	5,138
Total Funds		4,447,856	167,489	134,282	5,166	4,754,793	4,619,630

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Church Council on 16/02/26

Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees



 Chairperson Caroline Hinchliffe - Church Treasurer

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3.3 Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/25

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared based on 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.

Solihull Methodist Church is a Charity registered in England. The address of the registered office is given in the [charity information](#) of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in [section 1](#) of this report.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

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.

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VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are the custodian trustees for the Church land and premises which is a Model Trust property and they hold the freehold title. Solihull Methodist Trustees are the managing trustees of the buildings and as such they are in the financial statement.

The Church, Church Hall and their contents are shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values. No depreciation is provided on these assets because the trustees consider the current residual fair values to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The assets have been reviewed for impairment.

In 2018/19 a lift was installed and the total cost of this was capitalised and will be depreciated over 10 years.

Tangible fixed assets are considered for capitalisation by the Ways & Means committee if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £2,500.

Investment Properties

Investment properties - no property is currently deemed not to be held for the long term purposes of the charity.

Debtors and Creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising of a General Funds held for any purpose of the Church and a Model Trust Legacy held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP): Designated Funds which are unrestricted funds set aside for a future purpose or reserve e.g. Property reserve which is any unspent budget transferred to the next year's property budget. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations. There is also an Endowment Fund as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in [Note 14](#). Any of the funds may be represented by more than just cash.

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2. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2025 Total
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	12,769				12,769
Bank Account CAF A/c	143				143
Dividends/Interest CFB Mngd				140	140
Fxd IntFund/TIF £3.89					
TMCP - Interest on Model Trust Legacy	5,200				5,200
	18,112	0	0	140	18,252
2a. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024 Total
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	10,256				10,256
Bank Account CAF A/c	146				146
Dividends/Interest -TMCP- Corporate Bond/TIF £3.89	1,114			186	1,300
TMCP - Interest on Model Trust Legacy	8,158				8,158
	19,674	0	0	186	19,860
3. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2025 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
SWT SMBC Grant			99,400		99,400
Other collections , donations & charity fundraising activities	350		17,796		18,146
Total	350	0	117,196	0	117,546
3a. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Café Connect payments			0		0
Other collections , donations & charity fundraising activities			18,265		18,265
Total	0	0	18,265	0	18,265
4. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2025 Total
	£		£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	74,919				74,919
Car Park licence	10,802				10,802
Contributions from Church Organisations	13,917				13,917
Donations for Car Park discs from members	1,793				1,793
	101,431				101,431

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4a. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024 Total
	£		£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	66,905				66,905
Car Park licence	10,527				10,527
Contributions from Church Organisations	13,249				13,249
Donations for Car Park discs from members	1,411				1,411
	92,092				92,092

5. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2025 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	0				0
Sales	30				30
Miscellaneous receipts	1,277		876		2,153
Total	1,307	0	876		2,183

5a. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024 Total
	£		£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	100				100
Sales	0				0
Miscellaneous receipts	769				769
Total	869	0			869

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			This year 2025	Last year 2024
6. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts				
	Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£	2,960	2,880
	Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£	0	0
7. Payment to Trustees				
	Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting	£	–	–
	Names of trustees remunerated for other services:			
	Number of trustees who were paid expenses			
	There were no trustees who were paid expenses			
	Total amount paid	£		
8. Paid employees				
	Staff Costs paid during the year were:			
	Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	53,731	49,775
	Employer's National Insurance costs	£	4,774	3,689
	Pension costs	£	2,839	2,658
	Pension accrual	£		
	Salary admin.costs- Apprentice Levy & Payroll administration costs	£	379	318
	Total staff costs	£	61,723	56,440
	Average number of staff employed during the year were:		3	2
No employee received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 (€70,000) upwards.				

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9. Tangible Fixed Assets.
(General Fund Unrestricted)

	Church (non investment) land and buildings	Other non investment land and buildings	Investment properties (land and buildings)	Other fixed assets including pipe organ	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total £
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Balance brought forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996
Additions							
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	26,396						26,396
Depreciation charge for year	4,400						4,400
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	30,796						30,796

Net book value

Brought forward	3,692,600	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,197,600
Carried forward	3,688,200	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,193,200

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10. Investments

The funds that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds 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 polity as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

The Model Trust held by TMCP holding the Unrestricted funds of the Pam Brown Legacy has all remaining monies in the Trustees Interest Fund.

Within the Lambert Trust which is the only endowment fund that the Church has as an investment (originally a Corporate Bond purchased through TMCP in the year 2014/15) held in the TMCP Managed Fixed Interest Fund.

	£	£	£
	Unrestricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total of Investments
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year		4,315	4,315
Add: additions to investments at cost			
Less: disposals at carrying value			
Net gain/-loss on revaluation		-98	-98
Carrying (market) value at end of year		4,217	4,217

11. Leasing Commitments

A 5 year lease was taken out on a Ricoh phocopier/scanner commencing 01/12/2023

Committed to be paid:

	2025	2024
Expiring within 1 year	472	472
Between 2 and 5 years	1,062	1534
	1534	2006

During the year 2024/25 £472 was expensed through the SoFA in relation to this operating lease

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12. Analysis of current assets (all funds)

	This year 2025	Last year 2024
	£	£
<u>Debtors and prepayments</u>		
Pre paid assessments	27,500	27,500
Prepayments on insurance etc	3,121	3,037
SMBC Grant	99,400	
Other debtors	15,970	14,090
Total debtors and prepayments	145,991	44,627

Analysis of cash at bank

Bank balance held in CAF		
Bank	6,256	17,955
(2024 £464 in transit)		
Total Cash at Bank	6,256	17,955

<u>Internal Organisations</u>	Opening balance 01/09/24	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Closing balances 31/08/25
SMASH	6,462	14,330	14,292	38	6,500
Pushchair Club	1,373	2,148	1,210	938	2,311
Soupa Talks	1,173	5,966	6,566	-600	573
Badminton	58	878	885	-7	51
Men's Coffee	60	1,746	1,746		60
Contact Choir	345	527	872	-345	
Shall We Talk	8,519	16,088	8,782	7,306	15,825
Junior Mission for All (JMA)		506	506		
TOTAL	17,990	42,189	34,859	7,330	25,320
Internal Transactions		-10,572	-10,572		
Post Adjustments		31,617	24,287		

13. Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors

	This year 2025	Last year 2024
	£	£
Trade Creditors	1,264	21,762
Utility & other accruals	4120	4205
Deferred income	1872	
Agency Collections	137	1074
	7,393	27,041

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14. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements 2024/25

Unrestricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
General	4,430,685	263,406	254,351	8,116		4,447,856	The main fund for the running and maintaining a place of worship and fellowship within the community. There is a Model Trust legacy (held at TMCP) with a balance at 31.08.25 of £113,857 which is classed as unrestricted Funds
Totals	4,430,685	263,406	254,351	8,116		4,447,856	

Designated

Unrestricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Youth and Family Worker	65,821	5,000	24,022			46,799	To fund new salaried worker for young people & families
Pastoral Worker	30,850					30,850	The post has not been filled this year
Youth & Children's	3,191	6,250	600			8,841	For Youth & Children's work.
Legacies Unrestricted	19,581	31,250	477			50,354	Unrestricted legacies. Willett added. To be used towards Rm3 development
Room 3			432			-432	New fund alongside plans to develop Room 3
Streaming and Electronic upgrades	8,867		2,190			6,677	Small adjustments to current scheme. Remaining funds any electronic upgrades.
Small mission projects Fund	4,685		51			4,634	Provision for small mission/community projects
Property Reserve Fund	27,882			-8,116		19,766	Unspent property budget c/fwd to next year.
Totals	160,877	42,500	27,772	-8,116		167,489	

Restricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Church Internal Organisations	17,990	31,617	24,287			25,320	Social, Learning & Devotional Groups within the Church. Detailed breakdown Note 12
SWT SMBC		99,400				99,400	SMBC grant received Nov25
Easter Offering		538	538				Collection for the Methodist church world mission fund
Youth Club/ENRG	486	890	711			665	Activities fund for Youth Club
Fellowship Lunch & Catering Fund	1,520	529	763			1,286	Catering at Church events such as Church lunches etc
Green Church Fund	329	642	720	-37		214	Promoting a greener Church & Community
Benevolence Fund	2,323	5,022	5,544			1,801	To respond to appeals/emergencies/natural disasters for help both local & international
Net Zero	175		148			27	To support carbon offsetting
Sweet Project	107	662	200			569	Works with children, families and vulnerable adults to provide protection, safeguarding, empowerment, problem-solving skills and support.
Church Project Fund 2024/25		9,116	11,342	2,226			Supporting Entraide, working to support refugees in the community
Special Collection		5,000				5,000	To fund new boiler needed autumn 2025
Church Christmas Card Donations		2,264	75	-2,189			Donations received for entry in Church Christmas card and money raised given to the Church Project
Totals	22,930	155,680	44,328			134,282	

Endowment Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Lambert Youth Bequest	5,138	140	14		-98	5,166	Youth work
Totals	5,138	140	14		-98	5,166	

Total of all funds

4,754,793

Reasons for transfer between funds

The transfers are between the different classes of funds and balance each other out in total.

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15. Related party transactions

	2024/25						
	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
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Methodist Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		115,000		
from Easter Offering Fund	Methodist World Mission Fund	Connexional Fund	Collection made		538		
	Total			0	115,538		

	2023/24						
	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
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		127,300		
from Easter Offering Fund	Methodist World Mission Fund	Connexional Fund	Collection made		337		
from Benevolence Fund	Methodist Ministers Housing Society	Connexional Fund	Donation made		650		
	Total			0	128,287	0	0

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Appendix A

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

MINISTER(S)

Rev Molly Chitokwindo

(Also Superintendents of Circuit - Rev Farai Mapamula, Rev Cleopas Sibanda)

COMMUNITY WORKER

Mrs Diane Webb

CHURCH STEWARDS

Mr Glen Mullineux,

Mrs Elizabeth J. Pickles (until 11.05.25),

Mrs Alison Faulkner, Mr Ade Gbadebo,

Mrs Yan Yeung, Mrs Jacki P. Lancaster,

Mrs Christine M Burr, Mr Allen Z Chidzya (from 11.05.25).

SENIOR OFFICERS

CHURCH TREASURER

Miss Caroline E. Hinchliffe

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Mrs Helen J. Banks

SECRETARY OF PASTORAL COMMITTEE

Mrs Christine L. Cooke

OFFICERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES

Mrs Jennifer Kitson (Church Safeguarding Officer)

Rev. Christine Giles (Pastoral Co-ordinator)

Mrs Margery Benson (Pastoral Committee Representative)

Mr Christopher Tucker (Ways & Means Committee Officer)

Mr David A. Grey (Ways & Means Committee Representative)

Mr Jonathan Tuckey (Property Committee Officer)

Mr Richard G. Burr (Property Committee Representative)

Mr Lawrence J. Day (Health & Safety Officer)

Mr Andrew D. Hunt (Young Church Council)

Mrs Pamela M. Beattie (Catering Committee Representative)

Mrs Marjorie A. Roper (Churches together in Solihull)

Mrs Sue K. Kelley (Greener Church Representative)

Mrs Fiona Beadle (Church Life and Mission Committee)

Mr Peter A. Farndon (Worship Committee Representative)

REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CHURCH MEETING

Mr Ian R Hancock,

Mr Alan Faulkner

Mr Roger Wellings (until 11.05.25)

Mrs Karen J Handford,

Mrs Jane Garnett (until 11.05.25),

Mrs Ann M. Polson

Mr Derek R. Giles

Mrs Judy A. Lingard

Mrs Judith Farndon,

Mrs Cathy Coleman

Mrs Sian L. Musgreave-Spiby

Mrs Deborah M Install

Mr Peter J Austin,

Mrs Karen Robertson,

Ms Tsui Chung, (from 11.05.25)

Mrs Elizabeth J. Pickles (from 11.05.25)

Mr Graham S. Mackenzie (until 11.05.25)

Mrs Rubina Thakor (from 11.05.25).

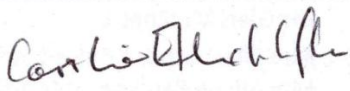
SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2025

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

	Date
16/02/26	
Name and address of Treasurer	
Caroline Hinchliffe	
445 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull, B91 1QZ	

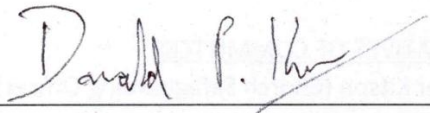
Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2025 were, presented to the Church Council at its meeting on 16/02/26 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Date of meeting


DONALD KER
16/02/26

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Disclosure to the Independent Auditor

- a) So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information of which the independent examiner is unaware and:
- b) The trustees have taken all steps that ought to have been taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent auditor is aware of that information.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2025

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Solihull Methodist Church (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2025

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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For the year ended 31st August 2025

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, it is the primary responsibility of trustees, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the Charities Act 2011, and we considered the extent to which noncompliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to the posting of inappropriate journal entries and management bias in key accounting judgements and estimates. In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in and how the charity is complying with the legal and regulatory framework;
- inquired management and trustees, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud;
- reviewed minutes of meetings of the Board of Trustees to identify significant or unusual transactions and known or suspected instances of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations
- reviewed accounting estimates for bias and evaluating whether circumstances producing any bias, represent a risk of material misstatement due to fraud; and

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud

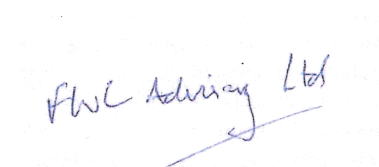
SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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For the year ended 31st August 2025

rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "FWC Advisory Ltd" with a stylized flourish underneath.

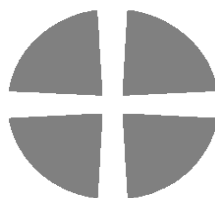
FWC Advisory Ltd
Wallace House
20 Birmingham Road
Walsall
West Midlands
WS1 2LT

Date: 16/02/26.....

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1127682

Accounts



Church
Accruals Accounts
2023 - 2024

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)

For the year ended 31st August 2024

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Registration number 1127682

BIRMINGHAM

Circuit No

5.1

Minister

REVEREND MOLLY CHITOKWINDO

Church Stewards

Mrs Karen Robertson (until 28.04.24)

Mr Peter Austin (until 28.04.24)

Mrs Elizabeth Pickles

Mr Glen Mullineux

Mrs Alison Faulkner

Mrs Yan Yeung (from 28.04.24)

Mr Ade Gbadebo (from 28.04.24)

Mrs Jacki Lancaster (from 28.04.24)

Mrs Christine Burr (from 28.04.24)

Church Treasurer

Caroline Hinchliffe

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2024

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For the year ended 31st August 2024

Section 1 Overview Report

1.1 Introduction

The charitable objects of Solihull Methodist Church are those of the Methodist Church, and include commitment to Christian service through worship, prayer and community involvement, which provides significant public benefit.

1.2 Mission Statement

We believe that to make the all-embracing love of Jesus Christ known, we need to be brave in God's changing world, so that all can belong and find hope.

1.3 Worship, Care and Mission in 2023-2024

Reverend Molly Chitokwindo continues to be the minister in charge of SMC, and she is also in charge of two other nearby churches in the Birmingham Circuit. It has been wonderful to deepen our relationship with Molly, knowing that in her loving hands our faith will grow.

The number of worshippers, who have emigrated from Hong Kong to the Solihull area continues to grow. We continue to have the Bible readings in both Cantonese and English at our Sunday morning family services.

The Hong Kongers are gradually becoming more involved in Church: One has become a church steward; two are vestry assistants stewards; others have become welcome stewards, some are helping with the children in Young Church; and one regularly plays the piano for Sunday morning services. In addition, many from the Hong Kong community do voluntary work in the church and beyond.

We have been pleased to welcome five additional members to the Church: three are new members, the other two have transferred membership from elsewhere.

The numbers of children and young people regularly attending Young Church on Sunday mornings and the Youth Club on Friday evenings continues to grow (particularly the older ones). On each Sunday morning we have 20-35 young people, Young Church come to join the main congregation towards the end of the service and share their morning's activities with the congregation. Babies and very small children are welcome to use the creche during the service and this is now situated at the front of the Church.

Some of the teenagers attending the Youth Club have expressed an interest in doing more serious things. In response, two discussions sessions were organised looking at aspects of Bible study and the Christian life, and it is planned to continue these with the organisation being undertaken by the young people themselves.

Some Sunday morning services are still streamed live on You Tube – usually two services per month. A small number of people watch these live, but many tens of viewers “catchup” and watch the service online in the days after recording.

Every Tuesday morning at 9.30am, there is a service of Holy Communion. On the fourth Sunday in each month, the evening service of Holy Communion with prayers for healing has continued; this was resumed last year after its discontinuation during the Covid crisis. On the second Sunday in each

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For the year ended 31st August 2024

month, a new form of worship has been started. This is "Prayer Space" in which individual prayer and reflection by those attending is encouraged and stimulated via prompts from those leading.

The Prayer Group meets via Zoom every Wednesday morning. Prayers for the world and current issues are offered. Anyone can request prayers for specific people and situations and each such request is considered prayerfully.

There continues to be a number of very active house groups. These meet for fellowship and worshipful study and they are organised according to the wishes of the members: some meet weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

A series of breakfasts was held in the Community Hall on the six Saturdays in Lent. At each, a speaker talked on a selected subject. The first two of these were organised by the Churches Together in Central Solihull (of which SMC is a part), and the last four by SMC itself. The speaker at the first breakfast was the founder of ENTRaide, a local charity supporting asylum seekers, and this has now been proposed as the charity which the church project in 2024/5 will support.

The church project for 2023/4 has organised a number of fund-raising events to support the Matthew Rusike Children's Home (MRCH) in Zimbabwe (via the UK charity, the Friends of MRCH). It is planned that the funds will support a new classroom equipped with solar panels for the improvement of the Early Child Development Centre in the Home.

The Church newsletter, The Messenger, is provided by personal delivery to church members and wider afield by e-mail to those who have requested it. This newsletter contains a message from our Minister; news of the Church's activities; and articles and encouragement about local, national and international matters.

The weekly church notices can also be received by e-mail. Currently 188 copies are sent out each week. This keeps recipients informed about church services and other activities.

The Greener Church group has continued to work towards gaining a Gold Eco-award, and it provides useful green tips each month in The Messenger.

The church now has three lay workers and these require office space within the Community Hall. It was decided to move the office to a larger room in the Hall and refurbish it so that better interaction could be achieved with users (and potential users) of the facilities.

The Community Hall is a significant part of the outreach of SMC to the local area. We use it for our own outreach activities and rooms are available for hire by local groups. Sadly, one of the key players in the lettings organisation died suddenly in January 2024. The church is very grateful to those who stepped in to fill the void. The opportunity has also been taken to review the lettings procedures and the associated paperwork. New approaches have been proposed and are being accepted and implemented.

1.4 Groups run by Solihull Methodist Church

Our Church building and Community Hall continue to be used, both by ourselves and by outside organisations. There are currently over 60 regular groups using the facilities.

Shall We Talk

Shall We Talk remains a vibrant and popular group, bringing together over 80 Cantonese-speaking attendees and English-speaking volunteers each week. Together, they explore and share British history and culture alongside their own, fostering meaningful integration within our church and

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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For the year ended 31st August 2024

community. Topics have ranged from the King's coronation and gardening to navigating services like the post office, visiting the doctor, and going to the dentist.

Recently, the group, joined by members from other church groups, visited the Black Country Living Museum, offering a hands-on look at British history from the Industrial Revolution through to the post-World War II era. Additionally, they've shared insights into the Lunar New Year celebrations, explaining the significance of each year's associated animal, further enriching the cultural exchange.

Bible Study

Bible study sessions continue to be offered on Tuesday mornings in both English and Cantonese.

Classic Cantonese Club

This group was started in March 2023 as an offshoot from Shall We Talk. It is intended for the more senior members of the Cantonese community and gives an opportunity for them to learn and practise English as they play games such as table tennis and mah jong and also sing songs in English. It also helps members with making friends, with their well-being and with learning about the local community.

Pushchair Club

This is a stay and play group for parents (and grandparents and carers) of toddlers and preschool children. It offers opportunities for everyone to chat and play in a safe friendly environment. It meets every Monday morning (during term time) and is run by a volunteer member of the Church. Other church members help with the sessions and with providing refreshments.

Men's Coffee Club

This group of (mainly retired) men of the Church meet each Tuesday morning to enjoy coffee, cake and conversation, often debating the big news issues of the day.

Friendship Cafe

The group meets on the second and fourth Fridays each month at 10.30am. It is an opportunity to meet others, have a chat, enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and a cake/biscuit, and play some board games.

Badminton

The club meets on a Thursday evening at 8.15pm in the Community Hall. The membership of the group is fluid, with a core of 4 or 5 members, who play most weeks and a number of other members who play, when other commitments permit.

Youth Club

The Church Youth Club meets every Friday evening during term time and provides games and sports activities alongside times of reflection and fellowship.

SMASH, Solihull Methodist Church's Drama Group

The group comprises a large number from the Church and outside. In April 2024, SMASH performed "The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Operatic Society's Production of The Mikado" – a musical about a somewhat disastrous staging of a Savoy Opera.

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Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Brownies and Rainbows

These groups all meet weekly during term time in the Community Hall, successfully delivering a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities to provide skills for life. The Church provides valuable storage facilities for sports equipment and camping equipment for these groups.

Contact Choir

This group has continued to meet and share their love for singing.

Rambling Club

Rambles are held on the third Thursday of each month. This normal includes a picnic lunch or a stop at a suitable establishment. All church members and friends are welcome.

Bookworms: Book Club

Books for reading are chosen by members and the club meets approximately every six weeks to discuss the latest choice.

1.5 Groups from the wider community

The Church is pleased to offer space for numerous groups for people with health problems. These are heavily subsidised by the Church as an indication of the care for the more vulnerable of our society.

Support Groups

Alzheimers Activity Group: A weekly group, run by the Alzheimers Association and RVS, which meets weekly in the Church building.

Birmingham Ileostomy Society: A coffee morning for people with ileostomies and their carers for mutual support.

Breast Friends: A monthly support group for people with breast cancer.

Deaf Feel Good: meet alternate weeks to communicate using British Sign Language.

Focus on Dementia: Small group for those with dementia.

Gentle Exercise: This exercise class used to be run by the Osteoporosis Society and still has a number of people with this condition as well as those who are unable to do strenuous exercise.

Parkinsons: A large group of people who meet for weekly exercise to help their condition. This also serves as a support group over their tea break.

Sandant Care: A drop in session for people with mental health issues. They meet on Saturdays.

Singing For The Brain: People with dementia and their carers meet once a month for singing which is recognised as a therapeutic aid for those whose memories are failing.

Solihull Prostrate Support Group: A monthly meeting for those with prostate cancer. Speakers from various medical departments and a buddy system of support are both a big part of these meetings.

West Midlands Autism: Adults with autism meet once a month as a support group and for talks about their condition.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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For the year ended 31st August 2024

Interest Groups

A number of interest groups use our premises. Many of these are linked to the University of the Third Age with sub groups for ukelele players, gardening, craft, book group, choral singing, painting and history. Creative Textiles and other textile groups are regular users. Other groups meeting regularly include: The National Trust, Solihull Photographic Society, Sans Souci Speakers Club, Solihull and District Beekeepers, Chai and Chat, and some choirs and exercise groups.

1.6 Further service to the community and beyond

The Church continues to collect non perishable goods for food banks. Many non-Church user groups also contribute to this which enables us to donate a large amount of food.

During Advent, members of the congregation are asked for monetary donations to work of the Sweet Project which is a social enterprise not-for-profit venture supporting children, families and vulnerable adults.

Members of the congregation also support the Teams4U Shoebox Appeal by providing simple presents which go as Christmas gifts to poor communities in Eastern Europe.

This year's Church Project raised over £10k for the Matthew Rusike Children's Home (see section 1.3).

Pastoral visiting has continued with a large team of visitors each of whom goes to see a small number of church members (and some others) each month, partly to deliver a copy of The Messenger. This ensures that people are kept in touch with the Church and allows possible welfare needs to be identified and solutions sought.

One of our lay workers maintains links with local care homes and organises and conducts simple services at these on a regular basis.

1.7 Ministerial Plans for 2024-2025

a. Faith and Spiritual Growth

- **Discussion Groups:** Organize small, informal discussion groups that focus on understanding the Christian faith alongside aspects of other religions. These groups will support spiritual growth and shared values.
- **Bible Study and Small Groups:** Form diverse small groups based on various interests, such as young families, retirees, and singles. These groups will focus on Bible study, prayer, and fellowship, encouraging deeper personal connections and faith growth.
- **Courses:** Offer courses for members interested in deepening their faith and taking on leadership roles within the church.
- **Prayer and Support Groups:** Create regular meeting spaces for prayer, spiritual support, and fellowship, building deeper community bonds

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
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b. Focused Sermons and Guest Speakers

- **Sermon Planning:** Develop sermon topics around relevant life issues, such as finding purpose and building healthy relationships.
- **Guest Speakers:** Invite diverse guest speakers to provide varied perspectives and enrich the congregation's understanding.
- **Inclusive Worship Experiences:** Vary worship styles to include traditional, contemporary, and multicultural elements, catering to the diverse tastes and backgrounds of the church community.

c. Youth and Family Programs

- **Family Activity Days:** Organize family-friendly events that appeal to both Cantonese and English-speaking families, including picnics, sports, Bible study days and arts and crafts activities.
- **Children's Language and Culture Classes:** Offer sessions where children can learn about cultures, fostering a sense of heritage and shared identity.
- **Volunteer Days:** Plan community service projects where members work together on local causes, such as park cleanups and charity events, while recognizing and celebrating the efforts of volunteers.

d. Cultural Engagement

- **Cultural Story Nights:** Host gatherings where members can share traditional stories or customs, fostering mutual understanding and interest. Encourage members to document and share their personal experiences through written or video formats.
- **Language Partnerships:** Pair Cantonese and English speakers as language partners to facilitate language practice and deeper cultural exchange.
- **Local History Walks and Talks:** Continue organizing tours and talks around historical sites and local attractions to help newcomers connect with local heritage.
- **Cultural Celebrations:** Invite the congregation to celebrate both British and Chinese festivals, like the Lunar New Year and Harvest Festival, incorporating educational components for attendees.

e. Practical Support Workshops

- **Life in the UK Workshops (*at Shall We Talk sessions*):** Continue practical sessions covering essentials like healthcare, postal services, banking, and public transportation, including Q&A sessions for attendees.

f. Expanding Outreach and Welcoming New Members

- **Church Open Days:** Host open days to invite the wider community to learn about church programmes and engage with the congregation.

g. Emphasizing Financial Health and Sustainability

- **Regular Giving Campaigns:** Conduct transparent campaigns to encourage regular giving, clearly explaining how donations support church programmes and community outreach. Utilize digital giving options to simplify contributions.
- **Budgeting and Financial Stewardship:** Continue providing information on budgeting and financial management, empowering members to practise good stewardship and support church growth.

These initiatives aim to strengthen integration, foster mutual understanding, and enhance the sense of belonging for both newcomers and long-standing church members. This comprehensive plan focuses on expanding outreach, enhancing community engagement, and fostering spiritual development, ensuring Solihull Methodist Church grows in 2024-2025 while deepening connections within the community.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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Section 2: Finance and Governance

2.1 Basis of preparation and Legal Framework

Solihull Methodist Church is a church within the Methodist Connexion in Great Britain and these Financial statements including the Trustees Annual Report have been prepared in accordance with the constitution, practice and discipline of that Church. Solihull's Methodist Church's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102:

Registration Charity Number: **1127682**

Date of registration: **January 2009**

Main communication address: **Solihull Methodist Church, Blossomfield Road,
Solihull, B91 1LG**

The members of the Solihull Methodist Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up, in accordance with Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church in Great Britain, of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the General Church Meeting.

A Full list of Church Council members (i.e. Managing Trustees) is shown in [Appendix A.](#)

Treasurer: Caroline Hinchliffe

Caroline Hinchliffe acted as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the church during the year.

Auditors: Wallace Crooke, Wallace House, 20 Birmingham Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2LT

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Funds are Held at: HSBC Bank (until 26/02/24), CAF Bank, Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes & Central Finance Board of The Methodist Church

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2.2 Aims and Purposes

The charitable objectives of Solihull Methodist Church are in accordance with the Purposes of the Methodist Church of Great Britain as set out in Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976. That section states that: -

"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."

The aims and calling of Solihull Methodist Church are in line with the Methodist Church of Great Britain which are:

- 1. Worship – to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- 2. Learning and Caring – to help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- 3. Service – to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- 4. Evangelism – to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Within those aims and purposes, Solihull Methodist Church has its vision to make the all-embracing love of Jesus Christ known, being brave in God's changing world, so that all can belong and find hope.

2.3 Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in compliance with its duties under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011.

At Solihull Methodist Church, we seek to provide public benefit in the ways mentioned in section 2.2 above by building relationships with all members of our community. That includes those who worship with us regularly, those who make use of our premises, those who commute past our grounds, and those who live in the neighbourhood.

2.4 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 Model Trusts, and the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) published by order of the annual conference.

Day to day management of the church is undertaken by the Church Leadership Team, consisting of Stewards and other officers along with the Minister.

The Trustees are appointed ex officio in accordance with Standing Order 610 of CPD, or at the annual General Church Meeting.

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2.5 Trustee Training

The guidance produced by the Methodist Church of Great Britain to support the effective running of the church and the role of Trustees is given to the Church Trustees when they are asked to complete the declaration of eligibility for newly appointed trustees.

2.6 Related Parties

"The Church is part of the Birmingham Circuit which is part of the Birmingham District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The internal organisations linked to this church are: -

1. SMASH (Solihull Methodist Acting & Singing in Harmony), 2. Pushchair Club, 3. Soupa Talks, 4. Badminton Club, 5. Youth Club (ENRG), 6. Men's Coffee Club, 7. Contact Choir. 8. JMA (Junior Mission for All) 9. Shall We Talk (Support for BNO newcomers) 10. Greener Church Group

2.7 Income trends

The Church income is primarily drawn from the giving of the congregation in weekly offerings in the context of worship and by regular bank standing orders. The latter have seen a steady small decline over recent years and this year that trend has continued despite an awareness raising campaign which resulted in many members increasing their giving. The loss of members who pass away has been noticeable this year and this has had a significant impact on our income. External lettings have had a 10% increase in charges applied from January but an increased use of the buildings has added further income from this source. Interest rates remained high and interest has resulted in a welcome contribution to overall income. The increased income from lettings and interest rates has allowed us to have a small surplus for the year.

2.8 Expenditure trends

Monitoring expenditure is done using the General fund figures (excluding the depreciation of fixed assets and the interest/charges associated with the Pam Brown legacy). The major item of expenditure is in relation to the assessment paid to the Birmingham Circuit. A significant amount of the Circuit assessment is used to pay the district assessment, Ministers stipends, and related costs to Ministers and Family and Community workers. £127,300 was paid in 2023/24 representing 53% of our general fund expenditure.

Energy costs have continued to be high but have remained under a fixed contract and so were budgeted for accurately. The electricity supply contract change in April 24 will mean a lower expenditure on electricity in the coming year. A change of cleaning company has resulted in higher costs but should provide better service moving forward. A finance assistant is also now being paid to assist with bookkeeping, an addition of around £2,600 to this year's expenditure.

33% (£81,090) of the church's expenditure relates to property expenses i.e., heating, lighting, water, insurance, maintenance of grounds, pianos, and organ as well as other repairs and renewals to keep the buildings in good repair. This is an increase since last year as work that has been delayed due to Covid is undertaken. Property expenditure has been more than covered by the total lettings including car park and contributions from church internal organisations enabling the premises to be kept in good order. Other Church expenditure is used firstly to provide and communicate, within the community, the Christian teaching and worship of the Church, and secondly to maintaining an office with all its associated costs.

The budget for 2024/25 starts with a healthy reserve but is set against a background of increasing costs and general giving that has not kept pace in recent years. Again the church is budgeting for a deficit, i.e. expenditure is more than the income. The Ways and Means Committee have made a decision to fund one third of the Family and Youth Worker Salary from General Funds to allow legacy funds to continue over a longer period. The Circuit Assessment has been cut to £110,000 in order to

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reduce the potential deficit for 2024-25. If lettings income and interest rates continue at a high level we may be able to add to our Circuit Assessment later in the year, as has been done in the past.

2.9 Fund balances including Reserves Policy

Model Trust Legacy

The use of the Model Trust Legacy has continued to support the ministry of the church. It has enabled the appointment of a full time Family and Youth worker for the church over a 3 year time period. The Church Council have agreed that this legacy should form a guarantor of funds that might be needed but that the church will also aim to encourage giving to increase so that the post may become a permanent one in future. A first step has been taken as the church has included one third of the salary in the budget for 24/25. There has also been a Pastoral worker appointed using these Funds. Unfortunately, the first appointee left within the probationary period and the post is currently vacant.

Unrestricted Funds

The church has substantial property and believes (**as stated in it's Reserves Policy**), that it is prudent to maintain between 3 and 5 months of expenditure in its general unrestricted fund reserves to provide for normal, planned and reactive maintenance costs, in addition to paying the circuit assessment which according to CPD (Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church) is the first call on our reserves. On 31st August 2024 General fund reserves (without Model Trust funds) were £124,073. This represents 6.2 months of expenditure.

Model Legacy Unrestricted Fund balance as at 31.08.24 of £109,011 is classed as unrestricted funds.

Designated funds

Balance at 31.08.24 of £160,877 relates to

- Youth & Children's work £3,190
- Property reserve £27,882
- Gifts with no binding obligation £19,581
- Online and other electronic upgrades £8,867
- Provision for small mission/community projects £4,685
- Donations and Model Trust funds allocated to Family and Youth Worker £65,821
- Funds for a Pastoral Worker £30,850

Details are given in [Note 14](#) of these accounts.

Restricted funds

Balance at 31.08.24 of £22,930 relate to gifts/legacies and other monies that are only used within the terms attached to them.

- £2,323 of the restricted funds is held in the Benevolent Fund which receives donations from the retiring collection after communion services and the Church is able to react immediately to local and worldwide emergency appeals after natural disasters etc.
- The Church Council has agreed to give money to a carbon offsetting organisation to cover the energy use by the church from carbon sources. The Net Zero fund gives members an opportunity to contribute directly to these costs. It currently holds £175.
- The 2022-23 Church project that the church raised funds for is Building 4 Hope. The remaining funds of £129 were transferred at the start of the year.
- In 2023/24 the Church Project was the Mathew Rusike Children's home in Zimbabwe. The £10,467.54 raised has been included in the Accruals and will be paid early in September.
- Other restricted funds amounting to £2,442 relate to monies held for various Church groups and these are released as and when requested by those organisations.

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- £17,990 represents the balances held by the internal organisations linked to the church. Details are given in [Note 14](#) of these accounts.

Endowment fund

Balance at 31.08.24 of £5,138 is restricted. The accumulated interest (£819 at 31.08.24) is restricted to fund children's and youth work. The capital has been invested in a Managed Fixed Interest Fund through TMCP. The valuation at 31.08.24 was £4,315 with a balance of £4 held by TMCP.

2.10 Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and a Health & Safety officer sits on the Church Council and regularly reviews all aspects of risk management and reports to the Trustees.

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

A biannual financial review is undertaken to help minimise risks in the income and expenditure processes.

2.11 Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation 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.
- the selection and training of 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.
- the response, 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.
- seeking to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- challenging any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- offering 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

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Solihull Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice within our Church premises.

Solihull Methodist Church commits itself through its safeguarding officer and team to the provision of support, advice and training for all volunteers, lay and ordained people 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.

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Section 3: Accounts

3.1 Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024

		Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
			£	£	£	£	£	£
Income								
1	Weekly Collections & Standing orders		111,666				111,666	112,516
2	Gift aid including GASDS		26,897	15	1,444		28,356	32,105
3	Donations		2,891	432	200		3,523	3,615
4	Legacies		15,288	23			15,311	16,200
5	Interest and investment income	2,2a	19,674			186	19,860	12,521
6	Internal organisations				34,277		34,277	20,974
7	Other charitable income-collections, donations & charity fundraising activities	3,3a			18,265		18,265	28,345
8	Income from use of premises	4,4a	92,092				92,092	73,570
9	Other Income	5,5a	869				869	1,235
10	Total income		269,377	470	54,186	186	324,219	301,081
Expenditure								
11	Circuit assessment or share		127,300				127,300	125,000
12	Salaries, N.I. & Pension Costs	8	20,123	36,317			56,440	25,309
13	Donations to Methodist connexional Funds and other Charities		100	800	15,797		16,697	31,570
14	Property repairs and maintenance		59,801	979			60,780	44,615
15	Insurance, utilities etc		21,289				21,289	19,204
16	Depreciation		4,400				4,400	4,400
17	Office expenses including advertising, marketing & legal requirements eg copyright licence & audit	6,11	11,474	39	135	12	11,660	9,158
18	Other expenditure-including Christian teaching, worship, activities and fund raising costs		2,730	691	6,160		9,581	13,905
19	Internal organisations				25,926		25,926	21,433
20	Total charitable expenditure		247,217	38,826	48,018	12	334,073	294,594
21	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		2,842			217	3,059	-3,475
22	Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0	0
23	Net income/(expenditure)		25,002	-38,356	6,167	391	-6,796	3,011
24	Transfers between funds		-99,540	99,540			0	0
25	Other gains/(losses)						0	0
26	Net movement in funds		-74,538	61,184	6,167	391	-6,796	3,011
27	Total funds brought forward		4,505,223	99,693	16,763	4,747	4,626,426	4,623,415
28	Total funds carried forward		4,430,685	160,877	22,930	5,138	4,619,630	4,626,426
For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations								
	Balance brought forward from last year					2024	2023	
						0	190	
	Money/Gifts etc - received for External Organisations					5,279	2,858	
	Money/Gifts etc - passed to External Organisations					4,205	3,048	
	Balance carried forward					1,074	0	

3.2 Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

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3.3 Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/24

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared based on 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.

Solihull Methodist Church is a Charity registered in England. The address of the registered office is given in the [charity information](#) of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in [section 1](#) of this report.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

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.

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VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are the custodian trustees for the Church land and premises which is a Model Trust property and they hold the freehold title. Solihull Methodist Trustees are the managing trustees of the buildings and as such they are in the financial statement.

The Church, Church Hall and their contents are shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values. No depreciation is provided on these assets because the trustees consider the current residual fair values to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The assets have been reviewed for impairment.

In 2018/19 a lift was installed and the total cost of this was capitalised and will be depreciated over 10 years.

Tangible fixed assets are considered for capitalisation by the Ways & Means committee if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £2,500. (Fixed by Ways & Means committee Sept 2024)

Investment Properties

Investment properties - no property is currently deemed not to be held for the long term purposes of the charity.

Debtors and Creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising of a General Funds held for any purpose of the Church and a Model Trust Legacy held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP): Designated Funds which are unrestricted funds set aside for a future purpose or reserve e.g. Property reserve which is any unspent budget transferred to the next year's property budget. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations. There is also an Endowment Fund as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in [Note 14](#). Any of the funds may be represented by more than just cash.

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2. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024 Total
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	10,256				10,256
Bank Account CAF A/c	146				146
Dividends/Interest -TMCP- Corporate Bond/TIF £4	1,114			186	1,304
TMCP - Interest on Model Trust Legacy	8,158				8,158
	19,674	0	0	186	19,864
2a. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 Total
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	5,788				5,788
Bank Account CAF A/c	107				107
Dividends/Interest -TMCP- Corporate Bond/TIF £4	2,254			114	2,368
TMCP - Interest on Model Trust Legacy	4,257				4,257
	12,407	0	0	114	12,521
3. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Other collections , donations & charity fundraising activities	0		18,265		18,265
Total	0	0	18,265	0	18,265
3a. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Café Connect payments			5,000		5,000
Other collections , donations & charity fundraising activities			23,345		23,345
Total	0	0	28,345	0	28,345
4. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024 Total
	£		£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	66,905				66,905
Car Park licence	10,527				10,527
Contributions from Church Organisations	13,249				13,249
Donations for Car Park discs from members	1,411				1,411
	92,092				92,092

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4a. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 Total
	£		£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	52,559				52,559
Car Park licence	9,626				9,626
Contributions from Church Organisations	10,831				10,831
Donations for Car Park discs from members	805				805
	73,820				73,820
5. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2024 Total
	£		£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	100				100
Sales	0				0
Miscellaneous receipts	769				769
Total	869	0			869
5a. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 Total
	£		£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	150				150
Sale of Projector	0	60			60
Miscellaneous receipts	1,012	13			1,025
Total	1,162	73			1,235

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			This year 2024	Last year 2023
6. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts				
	Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£	2,880	2,760
	Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£	0	0
7. Payment to Trustees				
	Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting	£	–	–
	Names of trustees remunerated for other services:			
	Number of trustees who were paid expenses			
	There were no trustees who were paid expenses			
	Total amount paid	£		
8. Paid employees				
	Staff Costs paid during the year were:			
	Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	49,775	22,433
	Employer's National Insurance costs	£	3,689	1,430
	Pension costs	£	2,658	836
	Pension accrual	£		475
	Salary admin.costs- Apprentice Levy & Payroll administration costs	£	318	135
	Total staff costs	£	56,440	25,309
	Average number of staff employed during the year were:		2	1
	No employee received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 (£70,000) upwards.			

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9. Tangible Fixed Assets.
(General Fund Unrestricted)

	Church (non investment) land and buildings	Other non investment land and buildings	Investment properties (land and buildings)	Other fixed assets including pipe organ	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total £
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Balance brought forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996
Additions							
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	21,996						21,996
Depreciation charge for year	4,400						4,400
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	26,396						26,396

Net book value

Brought forward	3,697,000	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,202,000
Carried forward	3,692,600	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,197,600

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10. Investments

The funds that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds 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 polity as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

The Model Trust held by TMCP holding the Unrestricted funds of the Pam Brown Legacy has an investment purchased through TMCP, a CFB Managed Fund Bond. These were sold during the year with proceeds entering the Trustees Interest Fund.

Within the Lambert Trust which is the only endowment fund that the Church has an investment - a Corporate Bond purchased through TMCP in the year 2014/15. This investment was merged into the TMCP Managed Fixed Interest Fund during the year.

Change in investment values

	£	£	£
	Unrestricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total of Investments
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	73,178	4,098	77,276
Add: additions to investments at cost			
Less: disposals at carrying value	76,020		76,020
Net gain/-loss on revaluation	2,842	217	3,059
Carrying (market) value at end of year		4,315	4,315

11. Leasing Commitments

A 5 year lease was taken out on a Ricoh phocopier/scanner commencing 01/12/2018

Committed to be paid:

Expiring within 1 year

Between 2 and 5 years

	2024	2023
		117
		117

During the year 2023/24 £117 was expensed through the SoFA in relation to this operating lease

A new 5 year lease was taken out on a Ricoh phocopier/scanner commencing 01/12/2023

Committed to be paid:

Expiring within 1 year

Between 2 and 5 years

	2024	2023
	472	
	1534	
	2006	

During the year 2023/24 £354 was expensed through the SoFA in relation to this operating lease

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12. Analysis of current assets (all funds)

	This year 2024	Last year 2023
	£	£
<u>Debtors and prepayments</u>		
Pre paid assessments	27,500	30,000
Prepayments on insurance etc	3,037	2,880
Other debtors	14,091	11,335
Total debtors and prepayments	44,628	44,215

Analysis of cash at bank

Bank balance held in HSBC		654
Bank balance held in CAF Bank	17,955	3,971
(£464 in transit)		
Total Cash at Bank	17,955	4,625

<u>Internal Organisations</u>	Opening balance 01/09/23	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Closing balances 31/08/24
SMASH	6868	9157	9563	-406	6,462
Pushchair Club	1059	1568	1254	314	1,373
Soupa Talks	913	6633	6373	260	1,173
Badminton	63	845	850	-5	58
Men's Coffee	41	1701	1682	19	60
Contact Choir	695	500	850	-350	345
Shall We Talk		13362	4843	6033	8,519
Junior Mission for All (JMA)		511	511		
TOTAL	9,639	34,277	25,926	5,865	17,990

13. Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors

	This year 2024	Last year 2023
	£	£
Trade Creditors	21,762	2,341
Accruals	4205	4120
Agency Collections	1074	
	27,041	6,461

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2024

14. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements 2022/23

Unrestricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
General	4,505,222	269,377	247,217	-99,540	2,842	4,430,685	The main fund for the running and maintaining a place of worship and fellowship within the community. There is a Model Trust legacy (held at TMCP) with a balance at 31.08.24 of £109,015.42 which is classed as unrestricted Funds
Totals	4,505,222	269,377	247,217	-99,540	2,842	4,430,685	

Designated

Unrestricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Youth and Family Worker	24,232		33,411	75,000		65,821	To fund new salaried worker for young people & families
Pastoral Worker			3,150	34,000		30,850	To fund new salaried pastoral worker
Youth & Children's	3,919	447	1,175			3,191	For Youth & Children's work.
Legacies Unrestricted	19,904	23	346			19,581	Fund combining R. Bywell, B. Ellis & M. Bryan and any unrestricted legacies.
Streaming Online Services and	9,501		634			8,867	Small adjustments to current scheme. Remaining funds any electronic upgrades.
Small mission projects Fund	4,795		110			4,685	Provision for small mission/community projects
Property Reserve Fund	37,342			-9,460		27,882	Unspent property budget c/fwd to next year.
Totals	99,693	470	38,826	99,540		160,877	

Restricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Church Internal Organisations	9,639	34,277	25,926			17,990	Social, Learning & Devotional Groups within the Church. Detailed breakdown Note 12
Easter Offering		337	337				Collection for the Methodist church world mission fund
Youth Club/ENRG	348	580	442			486	Activities fund for Youth Club
Fellowship Lunch & Catering Fund	1,674	1,460	1,614			1,520	Catering at Church events such as Church lunches etc
Green Church Fund	484	506	447	-214		329	Promoting a greener Church & Community
Benevolence Fund	1,562	4,753	3,342	-650		2,323	To respond to appeals/emergencies/natural disasters for help both local & international
Shall We Talk	2,486	725	3,211				Group supporting BNO families relocating from HK
Net Zero	212	125	162			175	To support carbon offsetting
Sweet Project	230	637	760			107	Works with children, families and vulnerable adults to provide protection, safeguarding, empowerment, problem-solving skills and support.
Church Project Fund 2023/24		8,370	11,503	3,133			Supporting the Matthew Rusike Children's Home
Building 4 Hope	129		129				Final payment to previous years project.
Church Christmas Card Donations		2,415	145	-2,270			Donations received for entry in Church Christmas card and money raised given to the Church Project
Totals	16,763	54,185	48,018			22,930	

Endowment Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Lambert Youth Bequest	4,747	186	12		217	5,138	Youth work
Totals	4,747	186	12		217	5,138.06	

Total of all funds

4,619,630

Reasons for transfer between funds

The transfers are between the different classes of funds and balance each other out in total.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2024

15. Related party transactions

	2023/24						
	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-2021
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		127,300		
from Easter Offering Fund	Methodist World Mission Fund	Connexional Fund	Collection made		337		
from Benevolence Fund	Methodist Ministers Housing Society	Connexional Fund	Donation to work in Sri Lanka		650		
	Total			0	128,287	0	0

	2022/23						
	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-2022
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Methodist Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		125,000		
from Easter Offering Fund	Methodist World Mission Fund	Connexional Fund	Collection made		366		
from Benevolence Fund	All We Can (Methodist Relief & Dev Fund)	Connexional Fund	Donations for Ukraine, Turkey/Syria earthquake appeals and an unassigned gift.		2,500		
from Benevolence Fund	Methodist Ministers Housing society	Connexional Fund	Donation		500		
	Total			0	128,366	0	0

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2024

Appendix A

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

MINISTER(S)

Rev Molly Chitokwindo

(Also Superintendents of Circuit - Rev Farai Mapamula, Rev Cleopas Sibanda)

COMMUNITY WORKER

Mrs Diane Webb

CHURCH STEWARDS

Mrs Karen J. Robertson (until 28.04.24),

Mr Peter J. Austin (until 28.04.24),

Mrs Elizabeth J. Pickles, Mr Glen Mullineux

Mrs Alison Faulkner, Mr Ade Gbadebo (from 28.04.24),

Mrs Yan Yeung (from 28.04.24), Mrs Jacki P. Lancaster (from 28.04.24), Mrs Christine M Burr (from 28.04.24).

SENIOR OFFICERS

CHURCH TREASURER

Miss Caroline E. Hinchliffe

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Mrs Helen J. Banks

SECRETARY OF PASTORAL COMMITTEE

Mrs Christine L. Cooke

OFFICERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES

Mrs Abi R Godfree (Children, youth and family worker)

Mrs Jennifer Kitson (Church Safeguarding Officer)

Rev. Christine Giles (Pastoral Co-ordinator)

Mrs Margery Benson (Pastoral Committee Representative)

Mr Christopher Tucker (Ways & Means Committee Officer)

Mr David A. Grey (Ways & Means Committee Representative)

Mr Jonathan Tuckey (Property Committee Officer)

Mr Richard G. Burr (Property Committee Representative)

Mr Lawrence J. Day (Health & Safety Officer)

Mrs Jane Garnett (Young Church Council)

Mrs Pamela M. Beattie (Catering Committee Representative)

Mrs Marjorie A. Roper (Churches together in Solihull)

Mrs Sue K. Kelley (Greener Church Representative)

Mrs Fiona Beadle (Church Life and Mission Committee)

Mr Peter A. Farndon (Worship Committee Representative)

REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CHURCH MEETING

Mr Ian R Hancock (from 28.04.24),

Mrs Cathy Coleman

Mr Alan Faulkner

Mrs Sian L. Musgreave-Spiby

Mr Andrew D. Hunt

Mrs Deborah M Install

Mrs Karen J Handford (from 28.04.24),

Mr Peter J Austin (from 28.04.24),

Mrs Sandra Ker (until 28.04.24),

Mrs Karen Robertson (from 28.04.24),

Mrs Ann M. Polson

Mr Roger Wellings

Mrs C. Joy Wadsworth (until 28.04.24),

Mr Derek R. Giles

Mrs Judy A. Lingard

Mr Graham S. Mackenzie

Mrs Judith Farndon (from 28.04.24),

Mrs Susan V Bates (until 28.04.24).

CIRCUIT STEWARD REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs Sharon Clutterbuck (until 28.04.24).

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2024

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer		Date	10/02/2025
Name and address of Treasurer	Caroline Hinchliffe		
	445 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull, B91 1QZ		

Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2024 were, presented to the Church Council at its meeting on _____ and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	
Name of the Chair of the meeting	Rev. Molly Chitokwinda
Date of meeting	10 th February 2025

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Disclosure to the Independent Auditor

- a) So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information of which the independent examiner is unaware and:
- b) The trustees have taken all steps that ought to have been taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent auditor is aware of that information.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2024

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Solihull Methodist Church (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2024

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2024

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, it is the primary responsibility of trustees, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the Charities Act 2011, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to the posting of inappropriate journal entries and management bias in key accounting judgements and estimates. In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in and how the charity is complying with the legal and regulatory framework;
- inquired management and trustees, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud;
- reviewed minutes of meetings of the Board of Trustees to identify significant or unusual transactions and known or suspected instances of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations
- reviewed accounting estimates for bias and evaluating whether circumstances producing any bias, represent a risk of material misstatement due to fraud; and

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2024

become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

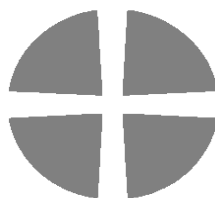


Wallace Crooke
Chartered Accountants &
Registered Auditors
20 Birmingham Road
Walsall
West Midlands
WS1 2LT

Date: 10 February 2025

Wallace Crooke is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Trust by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Accounts



Church
Accruals Accounts
2022 - 2023

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)

For the year ended 31st August 2023

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Registration number 1127682

BIRMINGHAM

Circuit No

5.1

Minister

REVEREND MOLLY CHITOKWINDO

Church Stewards

Mrs Cathy Coleman (until 11.06.23)

Mr Howard Staight (until 11.06.23)

Mr Peter Austin

Mrs Karen Robertson

Mrs Elizabeth Pickles

Mr Glen Mullineux

Mrs Alison Faulkner (from 11.06.23)

Church Treasurer

Caroline Hinchliffe

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
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SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

Section 1 Overview Report

1.1 Introduction

The charitable objects of Solihull Methodist Church are those of the Methodist Church, and include commitment to Christian service through worship, prayer and community involvement, which provides significant public benefit.

1.2 Mission Statement

We believe that to make the all-embracing love of Jesus Christ known, we need to be brave in God's changing world, so that all can belong and find hope.

1.3 Worship, Care and Mission in 2022-2023

Reverend Molly Chitokwindo continues to be our minister, as well as the Minister of two other Churches. It has been wonderful to deepen our relationship with Molly, knowing that in her loving hands our faith will grow.

In May 2023, Abi Godfree was appointed to be the Children, Youth and Family Worker at Solihull. It was felt that SMC needed a leader to support the growing numbers of children and families that are now attending Solihull. She has made an excellent start and has many ideas for taking Young Church forward and helping them to grow in their faith.

We are fortunate that we have been able to welcome many new worshippers over the last twelve months. We welcomed 13 worshippers into Church membership in July. This includes people who have relocated to Solihull from other parts of the UK as well as people from abroad. The number of worshippers, who have emigrated from Hong Kong continues to grow. We continue to have the Bible Readings in both Cantonese and English.

The Hong Kongers are gradually becoming more involved in Church; two of them are Vestry Assistants, some of them have become Welcome Stewards, others have helped with the children in Young Church and a few have played the piano before and during Church services. Many do voluntary work in Church and in the community.

There has been an increase in the numbers of children and young people regularly attending Young Church and "En.gage" (for young people) on Sunday mornings. They come into Church towards the end of the service to share their morning's activities with the congregation.

Babies and very small children are welcome to use the creche mat and toys, which are situated at the front of the Church, during the service.

Sunday services are still streamed live on YouTube but the frequency has dropped from every week to twice a month. A small number of people watch live, but many tens of viewers "catch-up" and watch the service online in the days after recording.

Every Tuesday morning at 9.30am, there is a service of Holy Communion. It has also been possible to resume the monthly evening service of Holy Communion with prayers for healing. Prayers for the

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

world continue to be held via Zoom, every Wednesday. Requests for prayers for specific situations and people are considered prayerfully.

There continues to be a number of very active house groups, meeting weekly, fortnightly or monthly for fellowship and worshipful study.

This year our minister has started weekly groups for Bible Study, one in English and another in Cantonese. During Lent this year, in our groups, we discussed the concepts of, and possible applications of, 'Hospitality' and 'Sanctuary'. We had one group meeting on zoom and this was led by our Church Link student minister Mrs Michaela Barker.

The Church newsletter, The Messenger, is provided by email or personal delivery. This newsletter contains a message from our Minister; news of the Church's activities and articles and encouragement about local, national and international matters.

168 individuals and families receive the electronic notices sent out weekly with further emails as needed to keep members informed about services and other Church activities.

The Greener Church group continues to work towards a Gold Eco-award and provides useful green tips each month in The Messenger.

Lawrence Day has been appointed as the Health and Safety officer for the Property Committee. He has drawn up a comprehensive Health and Safety Report which has been discussed and a number of identified actions will be taken forward on a prioritised basis.

The property committee has overseen new display screens for the Church to enable hymns and group resources to be seen more clearly.

Screens, telephones and mains plug sockets have been updated in the office and vestry. Breeze and Earle, our electrical contractors, have installed a new ring main in the Church Vestry. Thanks should also go to all our volunteers in ensuring this and other work has been completed during the year.

1.4 Groups run by Solihull Methodist Church

Our Church and Community Centre continues to be used by over 60 regular groups.

Shall We Talk

Shall We Talk continues to be a very popular group, with over 80 Cantonese and/or English speaking people meeting each week to discuss British history and culture. They have covered everything from The King's coronation to gardening, using the post office and visiting the doctor or dentist. Recently, close to a hundred people went on a trip to Southfields Farm and experienced the British way of unstructured exploration as they looked around the farm and took the trailer to the riverside.

Bible Study

Throughout Lent, approximately 13 people met fortnightly for Bible Studies in Cantonese and English, studying the Book of Mark. The studies were led by Rev Molly and members of the group in English, alternating weekly with one led in Cantonese by Ms Patrice Li, a Chinese missionary from Leeds. The study gave the attendees a different perspective on the Book of Mark and they continue to study – fortnightly.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

Classic Cantonese Club

In March 2023 our minister started a new group as an extension of Shall We Talk (Cantonese Senior Citizens) - meeting separately from the bigger group. They learn English as they play games such as table tennis, mah jong and singing in English. This group helps members with making friends, wellbeing and learning about the local community. This group is led by our minister and two other volunteers Yan and Edmond.

Pushchair Club

This is a stay and play group for parents and carers of preschool children. It offers opportunities for play and friendship every Monday morning during term time. It is run by a paid worker and members of the Church help to make refreshments and chat to the parents.

Tuesday Men's Coffee

The retired men of the Church meet each Tuesday morning to enjoy coffee, cake and conversation, often debating the big news issues of the day.

Friendship Cafe

The group meets on the second and fourth Fridays each month at 10.30am. It is an opportunity to meet others, have a chat and a cup of tea/coffee, and play some board games.

Badminton

The club meets on a Thursday evening at 8.15pm in the Community Hall. The membership of the group is fluid, with a core of 4 or 5 members, who play most weeks and a number of other members who play, when other commitments permit.

ENRG

ENRG is the Church youth club and meets every Friday evening during term time and provides games and sports activities alongside times of reflection and fellowship.

SMASH, Solihull Methodist Church's Drama Group

The group comprises a large number from the Church and outside. In March 2023, SMASH performed "Honk" – a dramatisation of "The Ugly Duckling" with a focus on diversity. The Church was transformed into a theatre for the week of the performance.

Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Brownies and Rainbows

These groups all meet weekly during term time in the Community Hall, successfully delivering a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities to provide skills for life. The Church provides valuable storage facilities for sports equipment and camping equipment for these groups.

Contact Choir

This group has continued to meet and share their love for singing.

1.5 Groups from the wider community

The Church is pleased to offer space for numerous groups for people with health problems. These are heavily subsidised by the Church as an indication of the care for the more vulnerable of our society.

Concessionary Lettings

Alzheimers Activity Group meets weekly in the Church building. It is a weekly group run by the Alzheimers Association.

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Birmingham Ileostomy Society: A coffee morning for people with ileostomies and their carers for mutual support.

Breast Friends: A monthly support group for people with breast cancer.

Deaf Feel Good: meet alternate weeks to communicate using British Sign Language.

Focus on Dementia: Small group for those with dementia.

Gentle Exercise: This exercise class used to be run by the Osteoporosis Society and still has a number of people with this condition as well as those who are unable to do strenuous exercise.

Mental Health Matters: A drop in session for people with mental health issues. They meet on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Parkinsons: A large group of people who meet for weekly exercise to help their condition. This also serves as a support group over their tea break.

Singing For The Brain: People with dementia and their carers meet once a month for singing which is recognised as a therapeutic aid for those whose memories are failing.

Solihull Prostrate Support Group: A monthly meeting for those with prostate cancer. Speakers from various medical departments and a buddy system of support are both a big part of these meetings.

West Midlands Autism: Adults with autism meet once a month as a support group and for talks about their condition.

Interest Groups

A number of interest groups use our premises. Many of these are linked to the University of the Third Age with sub groups for ukelele players, gardening, craft, book group, choral singing, painting and history. Creative Textiles and other textile groups are regular users.

A Speakers Club meets fortnightly.

There are also three choirs using the premises.

1.6 Further service to the community and beyond

The Church continues to collect non perishable goods for food banks. Many non-Church user groups also contribute to this which enables us to donate a large amount of food.

Pastoral visiting

This has continued with our large team of visitors going to see a number of people each month to look after their welfare.

This year's Church Project raised over £17k from a number of fundraising activities led by a team of Church members. The project supported a local charity offering skills development supporting employment opportunities for young adults.

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1.7 Plans for 2023-2024

The church aims to focus on these areas:

- The growth in faith of young people.

We wish to enable the young people to develop a deeper understanding of God. This will be achieved by identifying and developing the talents and gifts of the young people and encouraging links between young and old. This will be facilitated by our newly appointed Children, Youth and Family Worker who is delivering engaging activities aimed at developing and maintaining the children's interest in the activities and life of the church.

- The appreciation of and support for communities and the environment overseas.

It is proposed to use the 2023/24 church project to support the provision of solar panels for Matthew Rusike Children's Home in Zimbabwe

- The appreciation of and support for communities at home.

The church is endeavouring to meet the needs of Cantonese people many of whom have recently arrived in the UK. Plans include the expansion of the small groups (such as house groups and Bible studies), the possible employment of a lay Cantonese/English speaker to assist Cantonese speakers who are part of the congregation and the provision of courses to equip members and leaders to grow in faith.

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Section 2: Finance and Governance

2.1 Basis of preparation and Legal Framework

Solihull Methodist Church is a church within the Methodist Connexion in Great Britain and these Financial statements including the Trustees Annual Report have been prepared in accordance with the constitution, practice and discipline of that Church. Solihull's Methodist Church's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102:

Registration Charity Number: **1127682**

Date of registration: **January 2009**

Main communication address: **Solihull Methodist Church, Blossomfield Road,
Solihull, B91 1LG**

The members of the Solihull Methodist Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up, in accordance with Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church in Great Britain, of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the General Church Meeting.

A Full list of Church Council members (i.e. Managing Trustees) is shown in [Appendix A.](#)

Treasurer: Caroline Hinchliffe

Caroline Hinchliffe acted as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the church during the year.

Auditors: Wallace Crooke, Wallace House, 20 Birmingham Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2LT

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Funds are Held at: HSBC Bank, CAF Bank, Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes & Central Finance Board of The Methodist Church

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2.2 Aims and Purposes

The charitable objectives of Solihull Methodist Church are in accordance with the Purposes of the Methodist Church of Great Britain as set out in Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976. That section states that: -

"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."

The aims and calling of Solihull Methodist Church are in line with the Methodist Church of Great Britain which are:

- 1. Worship – to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- 2. Learning and Caring – to help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- 3. Service – to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- 4. Evangelism – to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Within those aims and purposes, Solihull Methodist Church has its vision to make the all-embracing love of Jesus Christ known, being brave in God's changing world, so that all can belong and find hope.

2.3 Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in compliance with its duties under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011.

At Solihull Methodist Church, we seek to provide public benefit in the ways mentioned in section 2.2 above by building relationships with all members of our community. That includes those who worship with us regularly, those who make use of our premises, those who commute past our grounds, and those who live in the neighbourhood.

2.4 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 Model Trusts, and the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) published by order of the annual conference.

Day to day management of the church is undertaken by the Church Leadership Team, consisting of Stewards and other officers along with the Minister.

The Trustees are appointed ex officio in accordance with Standing Order 610 of CPD, or at the annual General Church Meeting.

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2.5 Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by the Methodist Church of Great Britain to support the effective running of the church and the role of Trustees is given to the Church Trustees when they are asked to complete the declaration of eligibility for newly appointed trustees and at meetings.

2.6 Related Parties

"The Church is part of the Birmingham Circuit which is part of the Birmingham District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The internal organisations linked to this church are: -

1. SMASH (Solihull Methodist Acting & Singing in Harmony), 2. Pushchair Club, 3. Soupa Talks, 4. Badminton Club, 5. ENRG (Youth Club), 6. Men's Coffee Club, 7. Contact Choir. 8. JMA (Junior Mission for All) 9. Shall We Talk (Support for newcomers from Hong Kong) 10. Greener Church Group

2.7 Income trends

The Church income is primarily drawn from the giving of the congregation in weekly offerings in the context of worship and by regular bank standing orders. The latter have seen a steady small decline over recent years and this year that trend has continued. However new people coming to the church predominantly give cash offerings during the service and these have increased with a resultant small increase in the total offerings compared to last year. The most significant change in income has been caused by changes in interest rates which have resulted in a welcome contribution to overall income. External lettings are still significant, raising a similar amount to last year. There has been a reluctance to increase the rates at what has been a difficult time for many, but the plan is to increase lettings rates in the next financial year.

2.8 Expenditure trends

Monitoring expenditure is done using the General fund figures (excluding the depreciation of fixed assets and the interest/charges associated with the Pam Brown legacy). The major item of expenditure is in relation to the assessment paid to the Birmingham Circuit. A significant amount of the Circuit assessment is used to pay the district assessment, Ministers stipends, related costs to Ministers and Family and Community workers and also Youth Workers within the Circuit. £125,000 was paid in 2022/23 representing 60% of our general fund expenditure. As last year, the commitment was to give £120,000 but later in the year Ways and Means Committee approved payment of an additional £5,000.

Energy costs have continued to be high but have remained under a fixed contract and so were budgeted for fairly accurately. The electricity supply contract will need renewing in April 2024 and so budgeting for 2023-24 was more difficult. Wage costs have increased more than could be anticipated at the time of budgeting and this has impacted on cleaning costs as well as office salaries.

27% (£56,019) of the church's expenditure relates to property expenses i.e., heating, lighting, water, insurance, maintenance of grounds, pianos, and organ as well as other repairs and renewals to keep the buildings in good repair. Property expenditure has been more than covered by the total lettings including car park and contributions from church internal organisations enabling the premises to be kept in good order. Other Church expenditure is used firstly to provide and communicate, within the community, the Christian teaching and worship of the Church, and secondly to maintaining an office with all its associated costs.

The budget for 2023/24 starts with a healthy reserve but is set against a background of increasing costs and general giving that has not kept pace in recent years. Again in 2023/24 the church is budgeting for a deficit, i.e. expenditure is more than the income. The Circuit Assessment has been returned to £127,300 and wage increases are also likely to be high. The situation will require careful

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monitoring and already there are thoughts that this may be a year to try to encourage an increase in the offering from the congregation.

2.9 Fund balances including Reserves Policy

Model Trust Legacy

The use of the Model Trust Legacy has continued to support the ministry of the church. Developments with communications within the church have continued with the replacement of the main digital projector and screen with a large monitor and the upgrading of another monitor. It has also enabled the appointment of a full time Youth and Family worker for the church over a 3 year time period. The Church Council have agreed that this legacy should form a guarantor of funds that might be needed but that the church will also aim to encourage giving to increase so that the post may become a permanent one in future.

There are clear needs for future funding to develop buildings and have another person to support the newcomers from Hong Kong so further funds are likely to be allocated in 2023-24.

Unrestricted Funds

The church has substantial property and believes (**as stated in it's Reserves Policy**), that it is prudent to maintain between 3 and 5 months of expenditure in its general unrestricted fund reserves to provide for normal, planned and reactive maintenance costs, in addition to paying the circuit assessment which according to CPD (Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church) is the first call on our reserves. On 31st August 2023 General fund reserves (without Model Trust funds) were £112,069. This represents 6.4 months of expenditure. The original budget for 2023/24 is by the 31.08.23 seen as flawed. However even if revised to be more conservative with a £15,000 deficit, it should be possible to maintain reserves within our Reserves Policy.

Model Legacy Unrestricted Fund balance as at 31.08.23 of £191,153 is classed as unrestricted funds.

Designated funds

Balance at 31.08.23 of £99,693 relates to

- Youth & Children's work £3,919
- Property reserve £37,342
- Gifts with no binding obligation £19,904
- Online streaming of services and associated expenses £9,501
- Provision for small mission/community projects £4,795
- Donations and Model Trust funds allocated to Family and Youth Worker £24,232

Details are given in [Note 14](#) of these accounts.

Restricted funds

Balance at 31.08.23 of £16,763 relate to gifts/legacies and other monies that are only used within the terms attached to them.

- £1,562 of the restricted funds is held in the Benevolent Fund which receives donations from the retiring collection after communion services and the Church is able to react immediately to local and worldwide emergency appeals after natural disasters etc.
- The Special collection set aside from the Benevolence Fund last year was sent to All We Can for Ukraine.
- The Church Council has agreed to give money to a carbon offsetting organisation to cover the energy use by the church from carbon sources. The Net Zero fund gives members an opportunity to contribute directly to these costs. It currently holds £212.
- The 2022-23 Church project that the church raised funds for is Building 4 Hope. They seek to bring hope by reaching and supporting vulnerable young adults, focusing on construction

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skills training, help in gaining employment and life skills development. A cheque for £19,668.36 has been handed over and remaining funds (£129) will be transferred soon.

- Other restricted funds amounting to £5,222 relate to monies held for various Church groups and these are released as and when requested by those organisations.
- £9,639 represents the balances held by the internal organisations linked to the church.

Details are given in [Note 14](#) of these accounts.

Endowment fund

Balance at 31.08.23 of £4,747 is restricted. The accumulated interest (£644 at 31.08.23) is restricted to fund children's and youth work. The capital has been invested in a corporate bond through TMCP. The valuation at 31.08.23 was £4,098 with a balance of £4 held by TMCP.

2.10 Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and a Health & Safety officer sits on the Church Council and regularly reviews all aspects of risk management and reports to the Trustees. This position has been filled during the year and a number of proposals for improvements have been made. Stewards continue to work with the Council to prevent/mitigate access issues that may be caused by the development of the Solihull Integrated Transport Hub.

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

A biannual financial review is undertaken to help minimise risks in the income and expenditure processes.

2.11 Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation 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.
- the selection and training of 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.
- the response, 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.
- seeking to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

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- challenging any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- offering 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

Solihull Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice within our Church premises.

Solihull Methodist Church commits itself through its safeguarding officer and team to the provision of support, advice and training for all volunteers, lay and ordained people 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.

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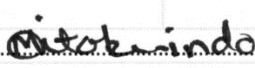
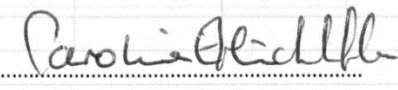
Section 3: Accounts

3.1 Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Weekly Collections & Standing orders		112,516				112,516	110,188
2 Gift aid including GASDS		27,468	2,750	1,887		32,105	29,081
3 Donations		865	1,000	1,750		3,615	6,316
4 Legacies			16,200			16,200	0
5 Interest and investment income	2,2a	12,407			114	12,521	3,094
6 Internal organisations				20,974		20,974	17,807
7 Other charitable income-collections, donations & charity fundraising activities	3,3a			28,345		28,345	20,105
8 Income from use of premises	4,4a	73,570				73,570	70,471
9 Other Income	5,5a	1,162	73			1,235	1,040
10 Total income		227,988	20,023	52,956	114	301,081	258,102
Expenditure							
11 Circuit assessment or share		125,000				125,000	127,300
12 Salaries, N.I. & Pension Costs	8	16,217	9,092			25,309	13,675
13 Donations to Methodist connexional Funds and other Charities				31,570		31,570	14,049
14 Property repairs and maintenance		36,815	7,800			44,615	38,005
15 Insurance, utilities etc		19,204				19,204	15,676
16 Depreciation		4,400				4,400	4,400
17 Office expenses including advertising, marketing & legal requirements eg copyright licence & audit	6,11	8,680	350	116	12	9,158	9,020
18 Other expenditure-including Christian teaching, worship, activities and fund raising costs		3,695	2,121	8,089		13,905	5,802
19 Internal organisations				21,433		21,433	20,811
20 Total charitable expenditure		214,011	19,363	61,208	12	294,594	248,739
21 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		-3,246			-230	-3,475	-5,369
22 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0	0
23 Net income/(expenditure)		10,731	660	-8,252	-128	3,011	3,995
24 Transfers between funds		-42,620	42,620			0	0
25 Other gains/(losses)						0	0
26 Net movement in funds		-31,889	43,280	-8,252	-128	3,011	3,995
27 Total funds brought forward		4,537,112	56,413	25,015	4,875	4,623,415	4,619,421
28 Total funds carried forward		4,505,223	99,693	16,763	4,747	4,626,426	4,623,415
For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations							
Balance brought forward from last year					2023	2022	
Offerings/Gifts etc - received for External Organisations					190	0	
Offerings/Gifts etc - passed to External Organisations					2,858	2,104	
Balance carried forward					3,048	1,914	
					0	190	

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3.2 Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Church buildings & Equipment	9	4,202,000				4,202,000	4,206,400
Investment properties						0	0
Investments	10	73,178			4,098	77,276	80,751
Total fixed assets		4,275,178	0	0	4,098	4,279,276	4,287,151
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	12	43,947		268		44,215	47,069
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes-(TMCP)-Model Trust		117,975				117,975	61,095
TMCP					4	4	4
Central Finance Board Deposits		69,682	100,168	6,658	644	177,152	112,097
Cash at Bank and in hand	12	4,368		257		4,625	110,809
- Other- Internal Organisations	12			9,639		9,639	10,098
Total current assets		235,972	100,168	16,822	648	353,610	341,172
Current liabilities							
Creditors & accruals (due in under 1 year)	13	5,927	475	59		6,461	4,908
Grants payable within 2022-23						0	0
Total current liabilities		5,927	475	59	0	6,461	4,908
Net current assets/liabilities		230,045	99,693	16,763	648	347,149	336,264
Total assets less current liabilities		4,505,222	99,693	16,763	4,747	4,626,425	4,623,415
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23						0	0
Loans to the Church						0	0
						0	0
Total Net Assets		4,505,222	99,693	16,763	4,747	4,626,425	4,623,415
Funds of the Church	14						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		4,505,222				4,505,222	4,537,112
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			99,693			99,693	56,413
Total Unrestricted Funds						4,604,916	4,593,525
Restricted Funds				16,763		16,763	25,015
Endowment Funds					4,747	4,747	4,875
Total Funds		4,505,222	99,693	16,763	4,747	4,626,425	4,623,415
The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Church Council on 04.10.24							
Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees							
							
		Chairperson			Caroline Hinchliffe - Church Treasurer		

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3.3 Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/23

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared based on 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.

Solihull Methodist Church is a Charity registered in England. The address of the registered office is given in the [charity information](#) of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in [section 1](#) of this report.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

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.

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VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are the custodian trustees for the Church land and premises which is a Model Trust property and they hold the freehold title. Solihull Methodist Trustees are the managing trustees of the buildings and as such they are in the financial statement.

The Church, Church Hall and their contents are shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values. No depreciation is provided on these assets because the trustees consider the current residual fair values to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The assets have been reviewed for impairment.

In 2018/19 a lift was installed and the total cost of this was capitalised and will be depreciated over 10 years.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £2,500. (Fixed by Ways & Means committee May 2023)

Investment Properties

Investment properties - no property is currently deemed not to be held for the long term purposes of the charity.

Debtors and Creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising of a General Funds held for any purpose of the Church and a Model Trust Legacy held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP): Designated Funds which are unrestricted funds set aside for a future purpose or reserve e.g. Property reserve which is any unspent budget transferred to the next year's property budget. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations. There is also an Endowment Fund as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in [Note 14](#). Any of the funds may be represented by more than just cash.

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2. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 Total
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	5,788				5,788
Bank Account CAF Cash A/c	107				107
Dividends/Interest - TMCP- Corporate Bond/TIF £4.01	2,254			114	2,368
TMCP - Interest on Model Trust Legacy	4,257				4,257
	12,407	0	0	114	12,521

2a. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2022 Total
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	558				558
Bank Account CAF Cash A/c	19				19
Dividends - TMCP--Corporate Bond				78	78
TMCP - Interest on Model Trust Legacy	2,439				2,439
	3,016	0	0	78	3,094

3. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Café Connect payments			5,000		5,000
Other collections, donations & charity fundraising activities	0		23,345		23,345
	0	0	28,345	0	28,345

3a. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Café Connect payments			5,000		5,000
Other collections, donations & charity fundraising activities			15,105		15,105
	0	0	20,105	0	20,105

4. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 Total
	£		£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	52,309				52,309
Car Park licence	9,626				9,626
Contributions from Church Organisations	10,831				10,831
Donations for Car Park discs from members	805				805
	73,570				73,570

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For the year ended 31st August 2023

4a. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2022 Total
	£		£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	52,292				52,292
Car Park licence	9,640				9,640
Contributions from Church Organisations	7,338				7,338
Donations for Car Park discs from members	1,201				1,201
	70,471				70,471
5. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 Total
	£		£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	150				150
Sale of	0	60			60
Miscellaneous receipts	1,012	13			1,025
Total	1,162	73			1,235
5a. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2022 Total
	£		£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	690				690
Money received from Car Parking Solutions for restricting parking					0
Miscellaneous receipts	350				350
Total	1,040	0			1,040

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

	This year 2023	Last year 2022
6. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts		
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£ 2,760	2,634
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£ -	-
7. Payment to Trustees		
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting	£ -	-
Names of trustees remunerated for other services:		
Number of trustees who were paid expenses		
There were no trustees who were paid expenses		
Total amount paid	£	
8. Paid employees		
Staff Costs paid during the year were:		
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£ 22,433	12,350
Employer's National Insurance costs	£ 1,430	486
Pension costs	£ 836	741
Pension accrual	£ 475	
Furlough paymts reimbursed	£	
Salary admin.costs- Apprentice Levy & Payroll administration costs	£ 135	98
Total staff costs	£ 25,309	13,675
Average number of staff employed during the year were:	1	1

No employee received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 (£70,000) upwards.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

9. Tangible Fixed Assets
(General Fund Unrestricted)

	Church (non investment) land and buildings	Other non investment land and buildings	Investment properties (land and buildings)	Other fixed assets including pipe organ	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996
Additions							
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	17,596						17,596
Depreciation charge for year (lift)	4,400						4,400
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	21,996						21,996

Net book value

Brought forward	3,701,400	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,206,400
Carried forward	3,697,000	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,202,000

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

10. Investments

The funds that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds 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 polity as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

The Model Trust held by TMCP holding the Unrestricted funds of the Pam Brown Legacy has an investment purchased through TMCP, a CFB Managed Fund Bond.

Within the Lambert Trust which is the only endowment fund that the Church has an investment - a Corporate Bond purchased through TMCP in the year 2014/15.

Change in investment values

	£	£	£
	Unrestricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total of Investments
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	76,423	4,328	80,751
Add: additions to investments at cost			
Less: disposals at carrying value			
Net gain/-loss on revaluation	-3,246	-230	-3,475
Carrying (market) value at end of year	73,178	4,098	77,276

11. Leasing Commitments

A 5 year lease was taken out on a Ricoh phocopier/scanner commencing 01/12/2018

Committed to be paid:

Expiring within 1 year

Between 2 and 5 years

2023 2022

117	468
	117
117	585

During the year 2022/23 £468 was expensed through the SoFA in relation to operating leases

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

12. Analysis of current assets (all funds)

	This year 2023	Last year 2022
	£	£
<u>Debtors and prepayments</u>		
Pre paid assessments	30,000	30,000
Prepayments on insurance etc	2,880	2,690
Other debtors	11,335	14,378
Total debtors and prepayments	44,215	47,068

Analysis of cash at bank

Bank Balance held in MCA		84,000
Bank balance held in HSBC	654	6,085
Bank balance held in CAF Bank	3,971	20,724
Total Cash at Bank	4,625	110,809

<u>Internal Organisations</u>	Opening balance 01/09/22	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Closing balances 31/08/23
SMASH	7065	10274	10471	-197	6,868
Pushchair Club	1343	1215	1499	-284	1,059
Soupa Talks	295	5890	5272	618	913
Badminton	59	820	816	4	63
Men's Coffee	61	1534	1554	-20	41
Contact Choir	1195	520	1020	-500	695
ENRG	80		80	-80	
Junior Mission for All (JMA)		721	721		
TOTAL	10,098	20,974	21,433	-459	9,639

13. Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors

	This year 2023	Last year 2022
	£	£
Trade Creditors	2,341	741
Accruals	4120	3977
Agency Collections		190
	6,461	4,908

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

14. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements 2022/23

Unrestricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
General	4,537,112	227,987	214,011	-42,620	-3,246	4,505,222	The main fund for the running and maintaining a place of worship and fellowship within the community. There is a Model Trust legacy (held at TMCP) with a balance at 31.08.23 of £191,153.06 which is classed as unrestricted Funds
Totals	4,537,112	227,987	214,011	-42,620	-3,246	4,505,222	

Designated

Unrestricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Youth and Family Worker		1,000	9,768	33,000		24,232	To fund new salaried worker for young people & families
Youth & Children's	2,129		411	2,201		3,919	For Youth & Children's work.
Byles Legacy	384		26	-359			Closed for fund simplification
A. Carrington Gift	2,197			-2,197			Closed for fund simplification
Blue Cross	1,041	13	1,000	-54			Completed function. £1,000 towards Spring Harvest then fund closed.
S. Bailey Gift	280			-280			Closed for fund simplification
Mullineux Legacy	2,201			-2,201			Closed for fund simplification. Transferred to Youth & Children's with the same purpose
Legacies Unrestricted		18,950	1,936	2,889		19,904	New fund combining R. Bywell, B. Ellis & M. Bryan legacies and closed unrestricted funds.
Streaming Online Services and	15,664	60	6,223			9,501	£6,223 in continuing upgrades. Mainly new screens.
Small mission projects Fund	4,795					4,795	Provision for small mission/community projects
Property Reserve Fund	27,722			9,620		37,342	Unspent property budget c/fwd to next year.
Totals	56,413	20,023	19,363	42,620		99,693	

Restricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Special Collection	1000		1000				Sent to All we Can for Ukraine
Church Internal Organisations	10,098	20,974	21,433			9,639	Social, Learning & Devotional Groups within the Church. Detailed breakdown Note 13
Easter Offering		366	366				Collection 4 Methodist church world mission fund
ENRG		393	46			348	Activities fund for Enrg
Fellowship Lunch & Catering Fund	99	2,552	977			1,674	Catering at Church events such as Church lunches etc
Green Church Fund	558	354	428			484	Promoting a greener Church & Community
Benevolence Fund	1,559	6,609	6,607			1,562	To respond to appeals/emergencies/natural disasters for help both local & international
Shall We Talk	1,991	5,999	5,504			2,486	Group supporting new migrants from HK
Net Zero	79	313	180			212	To support carbon offsetting
Sweet Project		230				230	Works with children, families and vulnerable adults to provide protection, safeguarding, empowerment, problem-solving skills and support.
Church Project Fund 2018/19	3,832		3,832			0	Final installment made to a charity which has brought a Syrian family to Birmingham
Church Project. Building 4 Hope	5,798	12,831	19,668	1,167		129	Supporting people into work.
Church Christmas Card Donations		2,335	1,167	-1,167			Donations received for entry in Church Christmas card and money raised given to the Benevolent Fund & B4Hope
Totals	25,015	52,956	61,208			16,763	

Endowment Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Lambert Youth Bequest	4,875	114	12		-230	4,747	Youth work
Totals	4,875	114	12		-230	4,747	
Total of all funds						4,626,425	

Reasons for transfer between funds

The transfers are between the different classes of funds and balance each other out in total.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

15. Related party transactions

	2022/23						
	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-2022
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Methodist Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		<u>125,000</u>		
from Easter Offering Fund	Methodist World Mission Fund	Connexional Fund	Collection made		<u>366</u>		
from Benevolence Fund	All We Can (Methodist Relief & Dev Fund)	Connexional Fund	Donations for Ukraine, Turkey/Syria earthquake appeals and an unassigned gift.		<u>2,500</u>		
from Benevolence Fund	Methodist Ministers Housing society	Connexional Fund	Donation		<u>500</u>		
	Total			0	128,366	0	0
	2021/22						
	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-2021
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		<u>127,300</u>		
from Easter Offering Fund	Methodist World Mission Fund	Connexional Fund	Collection made		<u>589</u>		
from Benevolence Fund	All We Can (Methodist Relief & Dev Fund)	Connexional Fund	Donation to Haiti Appeal		<u>500</u>		
from Benevolence Fund	Methodist World Mission Fund	Connexional Fund	Donation to work in Sri Lanka		<u>500</u>		
	Total			0	128,389	0	0

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

Appendix A

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

MINISTER(S)

Rev Molly Chitokwindo

(Also Superintendents of Circuit - Revs. A. Richards (until 1.06.23), Rev Farai Mapamula (from 1.09.22), Rev Cleopas Sibanda (from 1.09.22)

COMMUNITY WORKER

Mrs Diane Webb

CHURCH STEWARDS

Mr N. Howard Pitman Staight (until 11.06.23)

Mrs Catherine Coleman (until 11.06.23)

Mrs Karen J. Robertson, Mr Peter J. Austin,

Mrs Elizabeth J. Pickles, Mr Glen Mullineux

Mrs Alison Faulkner (from 11.06.23)

SENIOR OFFICERS

CHURCH TREASURER

Miss Caroline E. Hinchliffe

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Mrs Helen J. Banks

SECRETARY OF PASTORAL COMMITTEE

Mrs Christine L. Cooke

OFFICERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES

Ade Gbadebo (Vestry Assistant) (from 30.07.23)

Yone Shein Yan (Vestry Assistant) (from 30.07.23)

Mrs Abi R Godfree (Children, youth and family worker) (from 11.06.23)

Mrs Jennifer Kitson (Church Safeguarding Officer)

Rev. Christine Giles (Pastoral Co-ordinator)

Mrs Margery Benson (Pastoral Committee Representative)

Mr Christopher Tucker (Ways & Means Committee Officer)

Mr David A. Grey (Ways & Means Committee Representative) (from 01.06.22)

Mr Jonathan Tuckey (Property Committee Officer)

Mr Richard G. Burr (Property Committee Representative) (from 11.06.23)

Mr Lawrence J. Day (Health & Safety Officer) (from 06.02.23)

Mr Kevin D. Allen (Communications Committee Representative) (from 06.02.23)

Mrs Jane Garnett (Young Families Representative)

Mrs Pamela M. Beattie (Catering Committee representative)

Mrs Judith Farndon (Other Interests Representative)

Mrs Marjorie A. Roper (Churches together in Solihull)

Mrs Sue K. Kelley (Greener Church Representative) (from 01.06.22)

Mrs Fiona Beadle (Church Life and Mission Committee) (from 01.06.22)

REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CHURCH MEETING

Mrs Abi R Godfree (until 11.06.23)

Mrs Cathy Coleman (from 11.06.23)

Mr Alan Faulkner

Mrs Susan V. Bates

Mr Andrew D. Hunt

Mrs Deborah M Install (from 11.06.23)

Mr Tim J. Weatherup (until 11.06.23)

Mr Richard G. Burr (until 11.06.23)

Mrs Sandra Ker

Miss Jackie M. Farmer (until 11.06.23)

Mrs Ann M. Polson

Mr Roger Wellings (from 11.06.23)

Mrs C. Joy Wadsworth

Mr Derek R. Giles

Mrs Judy A. Lingard

Mr Graham S. Mackenzie

Mr Lawrence J. Day (until 06.02.23)

Mrs Sian L. Musgreave-Spiby

CIRCUIT STEWARD REPRESENTATIVE

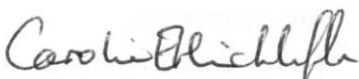
Mrs Sharon Clutterbuck (from 01/09/22)

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

DECLARATIONS

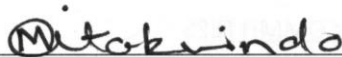
Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer		Date	04/03/24
Name and address of Treasurer	Caroline Hinchliffe		
	445 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull, B91 1QZ		

Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2023 were, presented to the Church Council at its meeting on 5th February 2024 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	
Name of the Chair of the meeting	Rev. Molly Chitokwindo
Date of meeting	4th March 2024

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Disclosure to the Independent Auditor

- a) So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information of which the independent examiner is unaware and:
- b) The trustees have taken all steps that ought to have been taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent auditor is aware of that information.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Solihull Methodist Church (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2023

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Wallace Crooke
Chartered Accountants &
Registered Auditors
20 Birmingham Road
Walsall
West Midlands
WS1 2LT

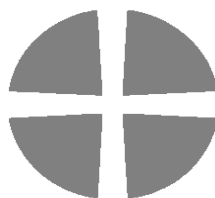
Date: 04/03/24

Wallace Crooke is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Trust by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1127682

Accounts



Church
Accruals Accounts
2021 - 2022

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)

For the year ended 31st August 2022

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Registration number 1127682

BIRMINGHAM

Circuit No

5.1

Minister

REVEREND MOLLY CHITOKWINDO

Church Stewards

Mr Alan Faulkner (to 31.05.22)

Mrs Susan Kelley (to 31.05.22)

Mr Jeremy Pearce (to 31.05.22)

Mrs Cathy Coleman

Mr Howard Staight

Mrs Karen Robertson

Mr Peter Austin

Mrs Elizabeth Pickles (from 01.06.2022)

Mr Glen Mullineux (from 01.06.2022)

Church Treasurer

Caroline Hinchliffe

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

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SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

Section 1 Overview Report

1.1 Introduction

The charitable objects of Solihull Methodist Church are those of the Methodist Church, and include commitment to Christian service through worship, prayer and community involvement, which provides significant public benefit.

1.2 Mission Statement

We believe that to make the all-embracing love of Jesus Christ known, we need to be brave in God's changing world, so that all can belong and find hope.

We express this desire in the words, "Linking our Community to Christ".

1.3 Worship, Care and Mission in 2021-2022

Reverend Molly Chitokwindo became our minister in 2021. She is also Minister of two other churches. It has been a great pleasure to get to know her and to hear her preaching.

COVID19 restrictions were gradually reduced following the relaxation of government rules in April 2022. Live-streaming of services to people able to access You Tube has continued. This has been a great asset encouraging new people to worship with us when they could not worship at their own churches. Those unable to use the internet still have CDs of the service taken to them in the following days. Live streaming is now only 2 weeks of the month because of a lack of technical volunteers.

There has been a steady return of worshippers who had felt unable to come during the pandemic. In addition to this, people who used to watch online have also come along and the church have welcomed a large number of new worshippers who have emigrated from Hong Kong. The Hong Kongers are Cantonese speakers and the Bible readings are now read in Cantonese and English. Our congregation has increased by 50% since 2021.

The children and young people have resumed their face to face attendance at Young Church but with a hybrid arrangement to include those in other countries or those unable to attend physically. They come into church to tell us about their activities at the end of each service. Babies and small children are welcomed into church with the creche mat and toys for use during the service.

On Tuesdays at 9.30am there are services of Holy Communion. It has also been possible to resume the monthly evening service of Holy Communion with prayers for healing. Prayers for the world continue on Zoom every Wednesday. All requests for prayers for specific situations and people are considered prayerfully.

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House groups of members are meeting weekly, fortnightly or monthly for fellowship and worshipful study.

The Church newsletter has continued to be provided by email and delivery for those without internet, giving interesting articles and encouragement about local, national and international matters. The Greener Church committee has continued its progress towards a gold eco-award.

The Property Committee have replaced faulty double glazing in the Community Centre and are investigating solar panels and all other means of reducing energy bills since the tariff has risen so sharply.

Wiring has been installed in the Young Church room to allow wired internet rather than wi-fi. This has made it possible for hybrid meetings to occur live through Zoom.

A replacement cross has been erected externally near the roof of the church to illuminate our premises and witness to travellers at night.

1.4 Groups run by Solihull Methodist Church

Our church and community centre are widely used by over 60 regular groups. Most groups returned in September 2021.

NEW Shall We Talk (Café Connect). At the beginning of 2022, the Church embraced the influx of people from Hong Kong, helping them to network, share their culture and to integrate into British society. It started on 7th January organised by Rev Molly with the help of Ping Ting Chen and others from the Northfield Chinese Church with 65 people. This came to the notice of FaithAction who provided training, materials and £5000 to support the work. In April, members of both churches were trained, and materials received from FaithAction for a weekly meeting for the Hong Kongers to improve their English speaking and familiarise themselves with British culture. They are signposted towards help in areas such as employment, how to purchase property in the UK, and how to register with the NHS. This has been a great success and over 70 people have attended the sessions. Northfield Church then decided that they were going to start their own program and in June 2022 the Solihull Church Council agreed to adopt the group and it becomes a Solihull Methodist Internal Organisation from the restart in September.

Pushchair Club offering play and friendship to parents, carers and grandparents of preschool children continue to have a morning session, with the help of members of the church making refreshments and chatting to parents.

The **Tuesday Men's Coffee Group** continues. These retired gentlemen enjoy coffee, cake and conversation often debating the big issues in the news.

Friday Friendship Café, encourages those who live alone to drop in for a chat.

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Badminton players gather every Thursday evening to keep themselves fit playing badminton. Some participants are church members, Hong Kongers and members of other churches.

The youth club, **ENERG**, meets weekly.

SMASH, Solihull Methodist Church's drama group which rehearses twice a week, with a large number of people from church and outside, performed 'This is the Moment - Songs from the Shows' in March 2022.

Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Brownies and Rainbows are all meeting weekly in the Community Centre.

1.5 Groups from the wider community

The Church is pleased to offer space for an increasing number of activity groups for people with health problems. These are heavily subsidised by the church as an indication of our care for the more vulnerable of our society. All of these groups returned in September 2021.

Concessionary Lettings

Alzheimer's Activity Group meets weekly in the Church building. It is an activity group run weekly by the Alzheimer's Association.

Birmingham Ileostomy Association: a coffee morning for people with Ileostomies and their carers for mutual support.

Breast Friends, a monthly support group for people with breast cancer.

Deaf Feel Good: meet every other week to communicate using British Sign Language.

Focus on Dementia: Small support group for those with dementia.

Gentle Exercise: this exercise class used to be run by the Osteoporosis Society and still has a number of people with this condition and those who cannot take part in strenuous exercises.

NEW Mental Health Matters: a drop-in session for people with mental health problems. They began to meet in April 2022 on Saturday and Sunday evenings for mutual support.

Parkinsons: a very large group of people who exercise to help their condition. This also serves as a support group during the tea break.

Singing for the Brain: people with dementia and their carers meet once a month for singing which is a recognised therapeutic aid for those whose memories are failing.

Solihull Prostate Support Group: a monthly meeting for gentlemen with Prostate Cancer. Speakers from various medical departments and a buddy system of support are both a big part of these meetings. They are Zooming their meetings to groups all over the country.

West Midland Autism: adults with autism meet once a month as a support group and for various talks on coping with their condition.

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Interest Groups

A number of Interest Groups use our premises. Many of these are linked to the University of the Third Age with sub-groups for ukelele players, gardening, craft, book group, choral singing, painting and history. Creative Textiles and other Textile Groups are regular visitors. A Speakers Club meets fortnightly.

There are also 4 choirs using our premises.

1.6 Further service to the community and beyond

The Church has continued to collect non-perishable food for **Foodbanks**. Many non-church user groups also contribute to this which enables us to donate a large amount of food.

Building 4 Hope. Solihull Methodist Church has a yearly project to raise funds for different organisations. From February 2022 it has been a local charity called Building 4 Hope which is reaching and supporting vulnerable young adults, focusing on construction-skills training, help in gaining employment and life skills development.

With a programme of concerts, quiz, beetle drive and cake sale so far about £6000 has been raised.

Pastoral visiting has continued with our large team of visitors going to see a number of people each month to look after their welfare.

1.7 Plans for 2022-2023

Shall We Talk will resume in September 2022. Church members and some Hong Kongers will be producing the materials for delivery and it is hoped that further funding will be available from FaithAction to continue this valuable work.

It is expected that more people from Hong Kong will arrive during this year and further courses will be necessary.

There are plans for a **new projection screen** for the church to enable hymns and group resources to be seen more clearly.

A newly formed Church Life and Mission Committee are developing plans which is considering producing proposals for the addition of a new Church worker funded by the Pam Brown Legacy.

Section 2: Finance and Governance

2.1 Basis of preparation and Legal Framework

Solihull Methodist Church is a church within the Methodist Connexion in Great Britain and these Financial statements including the Trustees Annual Report have been prepared in accordance with the constitution, practice and discipline of that Church. Solihull's Methodist Church's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102:

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Registration Charity Number: **1127682**

Date of registration: **January 2009**

Main communication address: **Solihull Methodist Church, Blossomfield Road,
Solihull, B91 1LG**

The members of the Solihull Methodist Church Council are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up, in accordance with Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church in Great Britain, of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the General Church Meeting.

A Full list of Church Council members (i.e. Managing Trustees) is shown in [Appendix A](#).

Treasurer: Caroline Hinchliffe

Caroline Hinchliffe acted as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the church during the year.

Auditors: Wallace Crooke, Wallace House, 20 Birmingham Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2LT

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Funds are Held at: HSBC Bank, CAF Bank, Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes & Central Finance Board of The Methodist Church

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2.2 Aims and Purposes

The charitable objectives of Solihull Methodist Church are in accordance with the Purposes of the Methodist Church of Great Britain as set out in Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976. That section states that: -

"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."

The aims and calling of Solihull Methodist Church are in line with the Methodist Church of Great Britain which are:

- 1. Worship – to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- 2. Learning and Caring – to help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- 3. Service – to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- 4. Evangelism – to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Within those aims and purposes, Solihull Methodist Church has its vision to make the all-embracing love of Jesus Christ known, being brave in God's changing world, so that all can belong and find hope.

2.3 Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in compliance with its duties under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011.

At Solihull Methodist Church, we seek to provide public benefit in the ways mentioned in section 2.2 above by building relationships with all members of our community. That includes those who worship with us regularly, those who make use of our premises, those who commute past our grounds, and those who live in the neighbourhood.

2.4 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 Model Trusts, and the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) published by order of the annual conference.

Day to day management of the church is undertaken by the Church Leadership Team, consisting of Stewards and other officers along with the Minister.

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The Trustees are appointed ex officio in accordance with Standing Order 610 of CPD, or at the annual General Church Meeting.

2.5 Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by the Methodist Church of Great Britain to support the effective running of the church and the role of Trustees is given to the Church Trustees when they are asked to complete the declaration of eligibility for newly appointed trustees and at meetings.

2.6 Related Parties

"The Church is part of the Birmingham Circuit which is part of the Birmingham District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The internal organisations linked to this church are: -

1. SMASH (Solihull Methodist Acting & Singing in Harmony), 2. Pushchair Club, 3. Soupa Talks, 4. Badminton Club, 5. ENRG (Youth Club), 6. Men's Coffee Club, 7. Contact Choir. 8. JMA (Junior Mission for All).

2.7 Income trends

The Church income is primarily drawn from the giving of the congregation in weekly offerings in the context of worship and by regular bank standing orders. The year began with some covid restrictions continuing on a voluntary basis but slowly services have returned to pre covid procedures and numbers have increased. The trend of income drawn in this way is slightly negative although there have been small signs of improvement in recent months. External lettings (the other major source of income) have returned to pre covid levels and have more than made up for any other shortfall. The car park licence income has also been healthy and internal organisations that meet in church buildings have again been making a helpful contribution to church income.

2.8 Expenditure trends

Monitoring expenditure is done using the General fund figures (excluding the depreciation of fixed assets and the interest/charges associated with the Pam Brown legacy). The major item of expenditure is in relation to the assessment paid to the Birmingham Circuit. A significant amount of the Circuit assessment is used to pay the district assessment, Ministers stipends, related costs to Ministers and Family and Community workers and also Youth Workers within the Circuit. £127,300 was paid in 2021/22 representing 66% of our general fund expenditure. The Trustees originally decided in June 2021 to decrease our assessment for 2021/22 to £120,000 due to the budgeted deficit. However, once it became clear that income was better than budget predictions, the Church Council voted to add the extra £7,300 to make it equal to last year's figure. This is particularly encouraging in the light of the increased energy costs faced during the year. The church gas supplier DYCE defaulted on its contract, and there was a very expensive period before a new contract with SSE was possible. With further large increases in energy costs the contracts, which run to 2024, should help to protect the church from the worst of the increases.

21% (£41,254) of the church's expenditure relates to property expenses i.e., heating, lighting, water, insurance, maintenance of grounds, pianos, and organ as well as other repairs and renewals to keep the buildings in good repair. Property expenditure has been more than covered by the total lettings including car park and contributions from church internal organisations enabling the premises to be kept in good order. Other Church expenditure is used firstly to provide and communicate, within the community, the Christian teaching and worship of the Church, and secondly to maintaining an office with all its associated costs.

The budget for 2022/23 starts with a healthy reserve but is set against a background of increasing costs and general giving that has not kept pace in recent years. Again in 2022/23 the church is

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budgeting for a deficit, i.e. expenditure is more than the income. The Circuit Assessment is again reduced to £120,000 to help reduce the deficit and the situation will be reassessed later in the year.

2.9 Fund balances including Reserves Policy

Model Trust Legacy

As seen in last year's report, in July 2020 the Church was fortunate to receive a Model Trust Legacy of £247,678 from one of our former members. This is classed with the General Fund as unrestricted funds. The Legacy is being held with the TMCP (Trustees of Methodist Church Purposes) but Solihull Methodist Church trustees are the managers of the money. It was decided not to use this legacy to support the general running of the Church except in exceptional circumstances. A small group, who reports to the Church Council, manages the fund and is a conduit for ideas from the church members on how to spend the legacy. £25,000 has so far been allocated to development of Online Streaming and the encouragement of small mission projects. Making plans has been difficult as meetings have often had to be cancelled and rearranged for a variety of reasons, often covid related. The new Minister is now starting to guide the vision of the community and the use of these funds.

A. Unrestricted Funds

The church has substantial property and believes that it is prudent to maintain between 3 and 5 months of expenditure in its general unrestricted fund reserves to provide for normal, planned and reactive maintenance costs, in addition to paying the circuit assessment which according to CPD (Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church) is the first call on our reserves. On 31st August 2022 General fund reserves were £109,193. This represents 6.8 months of expenditure. The reduction in Circuit Assessment for 2022/23 means that there is a budgeted deficit of £13,390 but it should be possible to maintain reserves within our Reserves Policy. Model Legacy Unrestricted Fund balance as at 31.08.22 of £221,518 is classed as unrestricted funds.

B. Designated funds

Balance at 31.08.22 of £56,413 relates to

- Youth & Children's work £2,129
- Property reserve £27,722
- Gifts with a wish for energy conservation projects but no binding obligation £384
- Gifts with a wish for young people's work but no binding obligation £2,201
- Online streaming of services and associated expenses £15,664
- Provision for small mission/community projects £4,795
- Gifts with no binding obligations £2,477
- Gifts to replace the Blue Cross £1,041

Details are given in [Note 14](#) of these accounts.

C. Restricted funds

Balance at 31.08.22 of £25,015 relate to gifts/legacies and other monies that are only used within the terms attached to them.

- £3,832 of the restricted funds are held in the 2018/19 Church Project Fund which raised money to help a Syrian family start a new life in the UK. An initial payment of £2,000 has been made in 2020/21 to a charity bringing Syrian families to the UK. The next two instalments have been paid in 2021/22 and the balance will be due before the end of 2022.

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- £1,559 of the restricted funds is held in the Benevolent Fund which receives donations from the retiring collection after communion services and the Church is able to react immediately to local and worldwide emergency appeals after natural disasters etc. After Zoom meetings with leaders from the Methodist Church in Ukraine £1,000 was promised, £4,400 already having been sent to other Charities working in Ukraine. This money then proved very difficult to send. It was placed in the Special collection fund until a way could be found. All We Can will send the money once they have received a report on earlier funds sent. This is expected to be by October 2022.
- The Church Council has agreed to give money to a carbon offsetting organisation to cover the energy use by the church from carbon sources for the next 3 years. The Net Zero fund gives members an opportunity to contribute directly to these costs. It currently holds £79.
- The new project that the church is raising funds for is Building 4 Hope. They seek to bring hope by reaching and supporting vulnerable young adults, focusing on construction skills training, help in gaining employment and life skills development. So far it has raised £5,798.
- Other restricted funds amounting to £2,648 relate to monies held for various Church groups and these are released as and when requested by those organisations.
- £10,098 represents the balances held by the internal organisations linked to the church.

Details are given in [Note 14](#) of these accounts.

D. Endowment fund

Balance at 31.08.22 of £4,875 is restricted. The accumulated interest (£542 at 31.08.22) is restricted to fund children's and youth work. The capital has been invested in a corporate bond through TMCP. The valuation at 31.08.22 was £4,328 with a balance of £4 held by TMCP.

2.10 Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and a Health & Safety officer sits on the Church Council and regularly reviews all aspects of risk management and reports to the Trustees. This position has become vacant in the year 2021/22 and a replacement is being sought. Currently Stewards are working with the Council to prevent/mitigate access issues that may be caused by the development of the Solihull Integrated Transport Hub.

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

A biannual financial review is undertaken to help minimise risks in the income and expenditure processes.

2.11 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.

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- 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.
- the selection and training of 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.
- the response, 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.
- seeking to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- challenging any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- offering 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

Solihull Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice within our Church premises.

Solihull Methodist Church commits itself through its safeguarding officer and team to the provision of support, advice and training for all volunteers, lay and ordained people 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.

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Section 3: Accounts

3.1 Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Weekly Collections & Standing orders		110,188				110,188	112,503
2 Gift aid including GASDS		26,212	944	1,925		29,081	35,618
3 Donations		1,534	4,782			6,316	4,589
4 Legacies						0	1
5 Interest and investment income	2,2a	3,016			78	3,094	1,014
6 Internal organisations				17,807		17,807	2,109
7 Other charitable income-collections, donations & charity fundraising activities	3,3a			20,105		20,105	40,424
8 Income from use of premises	4,4a	70,471				70,471	22,513
9 Other Income	5,5a	1,040				1,040	584
10 Total income		212,461	5,726	39,837	78	258,102	219,355
Expenditure							
11 Circuit assessment or share		127,300				127,300	127,300
12 Salaries, N.I. & Pension Costs	8	13,675				13,675	10,510
13 Donations to Methodist connexional Funds and other Charities				14,049		14,049	13,489
14 Property repairs and maintenance		28,066	9,939			38,005	33,970
15 Insurance, utilities etc		15,676				15,676	9,738
16 Depreciation		4,400				4,400	4,400
17 Office expenses including advertising, marketing & legal requirements eg copyright licence & audit	6,11	8,647		358	15	9,020	7,534
18 Other expenditure-including Christian teaching, worship, activities and fund raising costs		1,460	300	3,442	600	5,802	843
19 Internal organisations				20,811		20,811	6,216
20 Total charitable expenditure		199,224	10,239	38,660	615	248,739	214,000
21 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		-4,488			-880	-5,369	848
22 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0	0
23 Net income/(expenditure)		8,749	-4,513	1,176	-1,417	3,995	6,203
24 Transfers between funds		-20,012	20,012			0	0
25 Other gains/(losses)						0	0
26 Net movement in funds		-11,263	15,499	1,176	-1,417	3,995	6,203
27 Total funds brought forward		4,548,375	40,914	23,839	6,292	4,619,421	4,613,217
28 Total funds carried forward		4,537,112	56,414	25,015	4,875	4,623,415	4,619,420
For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations							
						2022	2021
Balance brought forward from last year						0	0
Offerings/Gifts etc - received for External Organisations						2,104	1,503
Offerings/Gifts etc - passed to External Organisations						1,914	1,503
Balance carried forward						190	0

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3.2 Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2022	Totals 2021
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Church buildings & Equipment	9	4,206,400				4,206,400	4,210,800
Investment properties						0	0
Investments	10	76,423			4,328	80,751	46,115
Total fixed assets		4,282,823	0	0	4,328	4,287,151	4,256,915
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	12	46,563	500	5		47,068	38,818
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes-(TMCP)-Model Trust		61,095				61,095	193,328
TMCP					4	4	4
Central Finance Board Deposits	12	40,514	55,913	15,127	543	112,097	109,151
Cash at Bank and in hand	12	110,809				110,809	13,073
- Other- Internal Organisations	12			10,098		10,098	13,102
Total current assets		258,982	56,413	25,230	547	341,172	367,476
Current liabilities							
Creditors & accruals (due in under 1 year)	13	4,693		215		4,908	4,971
Grants payable within 2022-23						0	0
Total current liabilities		4,693	0	215	0	4,908	4,971
Net current assets/liabilities		254,289	56,413	25,015	547	336,264	362,505
Total assets less current liabilities		4,537,112	56,413	25,015	4,875	4,623,415	4,619,420
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23						0	0
Loans to the Church						0	0
						0	0
Total Net Assets		4,537,112	56,413	25,015	4,875	4,623,415	4,619,420
Funds of the Church	14						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		4,537,112				4,537,112	4,548,375
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			56,413			56,413	40,914
Total Unrestricted Funds						4,593,525	4,589,289
Restricted Funds				25,015		25,015	23,839
Endowment Funds					4,875	4,875	6,292
Total Funds		4,537,112	56,413	25,015	4,875	4,623,415	4,619,420

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Church Council on 06/02/2023
Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees

Michelle Widdows
Chairperson

Caroline Hinchliffe
Caroline Hinchliffe - Church Treasurer

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3.3 Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/22

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared based on 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.

Solihull Methodist Church is a Charity registered in England. The address of the registered office is given in the [charity information](#) of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in [section 1](#) of this report.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

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

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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

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are the custodian trustees for the Church land and premises which is a Model Trust property and they hold the freehold title. Solihull Methodist Trustees are the managing trustees of the buildings and as such they are in the financial statement.

The Church, Church Hall and their contents are shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values. No depreciation is provided on these assets because the trustees consider the current residual fair values to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The assets have been reviewed for impairment.

In 2018/19 a lift was installed and the total cost of this was capitalised and will be depreciated over 10 years.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

Investment Properties

Investment properties - no property is currently deemed not to be held for the long term purposes of the charity.

Debtors and Creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising of a General Funds held for any purpose of the Church and a Model Trust Legacy held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP): Designated Funds which are unrestricted funds set aside for a future purpose or reserve e.g. Property reserve which is any unspent budget transferred to the next year's property budget. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations. There is also an Endowment Fund as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in [Note 14](#). Any of the funds may be represented by more than just cash.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

2. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Central Finance Board	558				558
Bank Accounts CAF A/c	19				19
Dividends -TMCP-Corporate Bond				78	78
TMCP – Interest/Dividends on PB Model Trust Legacy	2439				2,439
	3016	0	0	78	3,094
2a. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Central Finance Board	122				122
Bank Account CAF Cash A/c	1				1
Dividends -TMCP--Corporate Bond				64	64
TMCP - Interest on Model Trust Legacy	827				827
	950	0	0	64	1,014
3. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Café Connect payments			5,000		5,000
Other collections , donations & charity fundraising activities			15,105		15,105
Total	0	0	20,105	0	20,105
3a. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
One off Covid Special Appeal	32,270				32,270
Other collections , donations & charity fundraising activities	0		8,154		8,154
Total	32,270	0	8,154	0	40,424
4. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	52,292				52,292
Car Park licence	9,640				9,640
Contributions from Church Organisations	7,338				7,338
Donations for Car Park discs from members	1,201				1,201
	70,471				70,471

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

4a. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	13,242				13,242
Car Park licence	6,957				6,957
Contributions from Church Organisations	2,314				2,314
Donations for Car Park discs from members	0				0
	22,513				22,513
5. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	690				690
Miscellaneous receipts	350				350
Total	1,040				1,040
5a. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	260				260
Sale of oven & hob	0	323			323
Miscellaneous receipts	1				1
Total	261	323			584

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

			This year 2022	Last year 2021	
6. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts					
	Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£	2,634	2,460	
	Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£	0	0	
7. Payment to Trustees					
	Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting	£	–	–	
	Names of trustees remunerated for other services:				
	Number of trustees who were paid expenses				
	There were no trustees who were paid expenses				
	Total amount paid	£			
8. Paid employees					
	Staff Costs paid during the year were:				
	Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	12,350	12,202	
	Employer's National Insurance costs	£	486	468	
	Pension costs	£	741	732	
	Furlough paymts reimbursed	£	0	-2,987	
	Salary admin.costs- Apprentice Levy & Payroll administration costs		98	95	
	Total staff costs	£	13675	10,510	
	Average number of staff employed during the year were:		1	1	
	No employee received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 (£70,000) upwards.				

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

9. Tangible Fixed Assets
(General Fund Unrestricted)

	Church (non investment) land and buildings	Other non investment land and buildings	Investment properties (land and buildings)	Other fixed assets including pipe organ	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996
Additions							
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	13,196						13,196
Depreciation charge for year	4,400						4,400
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	17,596						17,596

Net book value

Brought forward	3,705,800	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,210,800
Carried forward	3,701,400	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,206,400

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

10. Investments

The funds that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds 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 polity as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

The Model Trust held by TMCP holding the Unrestricted funds of the Pam Brown Legacy has an investment purchased through TMCP, a CFB Managed Fund Bond.

Within the Lambert Trust which is the only endowment fund that the Church has an investment - a Corporate Bond purchased through TMCP in the year 2014/15.

Change in investment values

	£	£	£
	Unrestricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total of Investments
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	40,907	5,208	46,115
Add: additions to investments at cost	40,004		40,004
Less: disposals at carrying value			
Net gain/-loss on revaluation	-4,488	-880	-5,368
Carrying (market) value at end of year	76,423	4,328	80,751

11. Leasing Commitments

A 5 year lease was taken out on a Ricoh photocopier/scanner commencing 01/12/2018

Committed to be paid:	2022	2021
	£	£
Expiring within 1 year	468	468
Between 2 and 5 years	117	585
	585	1053

During the year 2021/22 £468 was expensed through the SoFA in relation to operating leases

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

12. Analysis of current assets

	This year 2022	Last year 2021
<u>Debtors and prepayments</u>	£	£
Pre paid assessments	30,000	30,000
Prepayments on insurance etc	2,690	2,926
Other debtors	14,378	5,892
Total debtors and prepayments	47,068	38,818
 <u>Analysis of cash at bank</u>		
Bank balance held in MCA	84,000	
Bank balance held in HSBC	6,085	8,278
Bank balance held in CAF Bank	20,724	4,795
Total Cash at Bank	110,809	13,073

<u>Internal Organisations</u>	Opening balance 01/09/21	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Closing balances 31/08/22
	£	£	£	£	£
SMASH	9,565	8,465	10,965	-2,500	7,065
Pushchair Club	2,260	778	1695	-917	1,343
Soupa Talks	352	5704	5761	-57	295
Badminton	59	588	588		59
ENRG (Youth Club)	102	152	174	-22	80
Men's Coffee	54	1366	1359	7	61
Contact Choir	705	700	210	490	1,195
Junior Mission for All (JMA)	5	54	59	-5	0
TOTAL	13,102	17,807	20,811	-3,004	10,098

13. Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors

	This year 2022	Last year 2021
	£	£
Trade Creditors	741	1088
Accruals	3,977	3883
Agency Collections	190	0
	4,908	4,971

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

14. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements 2021/22

Unrestricted Funds							
Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
General	4,548,375	212,461	199,224	-20,012	-4,488	4,537,112	The main fund for the running and maintaining a place of worship and fellowship within the community. There is a Model Trust legacy (held at TMCP) with a balance at 31.08.22 of £221,518 which is classed as unrestricted Funds
Totals	4,548,375	212,461	199,224	-20,012	-4,488	4,537,112	
Designated Unrestricted Funds							
Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Youth & Children's	2,272	157	300			2,129	For Youth & Children's work.
Byles Legacy	469		85			384	No binding obligation on legacy but a wish that it be used for energy conservation.
A. Carrington Gift	1,917	280				2,197	£280 returned from new gift to Oven & Hob fund. £540 originally came from this fund to cover overspend.
Blue Cross		5,289	4,248			1,041	A new Blue Cross was purchased to replace old one.
S. Bailey Gift	590		310			280	No binding obligation on the gift.
Mullineux Legacy	6,139		3,938			2,201	No binding obligation on legacy but a wish that it be used for Children and youth. In 21/22 money was used to update technology in Room 5.
Streaming Online Services and	7,022		1,358	10,000		15,664	£10,000 was designated from the Pam Brown Legacy for this fund
Small mission projects Fund	4,795					4,795	£5,000 was designated from the Pam Brown Legacy for this fund.
Property Reserve Fund	17,710			10,012		27,722	Unspent property budget c/fwd to next year.
Totals	40,915	5,726	10,240	20,012		56,413	
Restricted Funds							
Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Special Collection				1,000		1,000	Given for Ukraine Methodist church. Set aside until it can be sent.
Church Internal Organisations	13,102	17,807	20,811			10,098	Social, Learning & Devotional Groups within the Church. Detailed breakdown Note 13
Easter Offering		589	589				Collection 4 Methodist church world mission fund
Fellowship Lunch & Catering Fund	91	367	354	-5		99	Sunday Lunches for elderly & Lonely & Catering at Church events such as Church lunches etc
Green Church Fund	476	684	603			558	Promoting a greener Church & Community
Benevolence Fund	1,337	6,849	7,799	1,172		1,559	To respond to appeals/emergencies/natural disasters for help both local & international
Shall We Talk		5,000	3,009			1,991	Group 2 support new migrants from Hong Kong
Net Zero		188	108			79	To support carbon offsetting
Church Project Fund 2018/19	8,832		5,000			3,832	In 2021/22 2nd and 3rd installments made to a charity which has brought a Syrian family to Birmingham
Church Project. Building 4 Hope		6,024	231	5		5,798	Supporting people into work.
Church Christmas Card Donations		2,329	157	-2,172			Donations received for entry in Church Christmas card and money raised given to the Benevolent Fund
Totals	23,839	39,837	38,660			25,015	
Endowment Funds							
Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Lambert Youth Bequest	6,292	78	615		-880	4,875	Youth work
Totals	6,292	78	615		-880	4,875	
Total of all funds						4,623,415	
Reasons for transfer between funds							
The transfers are between the different classes of funds and balance each other out in total.							

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

15. Related party transactions

	2021/22						
	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-2022
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Methodist Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		127,300		
from Easter Offering Fund	Methodist World Mission Fund	Connexional Fund	Collection made		589		
from Benevolence Fund	All We Can (Methodist Relief & Dev Fund)	Connexional Fund	Donation to Haiti Appeal		500		
from Benevolence Fund	Methodist World Mission Fund	Connexional Fund	Donation to work in Sri Lanka		500		
fr. Restricted fund	JMA (Methodist Junior Mission for All)	Part of Methodist Connexion	Gift aid collected on donations.		0		
	Total			0	128,889	0	0
	2020/21						
	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-2021
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		127,300		
fr. Restricted fund	JMA (Junior Mission for All)	Part of Methodist Connexion	Gift aid collected on donations.		47		
	Total			0	127,347	0	0

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

Appendix A

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

MINISTER(S)

Rev Molly Chitokwindo

(Also Superintendents of Circuit - Revs. A. Richards, N. W. Johnson (to 31.08.22), N.Jones (to 31.08.22)

COMMUNITY WORKER

Mrs Diane Webb

CHURCH STEWARDS

Mr Alan Faulkner (to 31.05.22)

Ms Susan K. Kelley (to 31.05.22)

Mr Jeremy Pearce (to 31.05.22)

Mrs Catherine Coleman

Mr N. Howard Pittman Staight

Mrs Karen J. Robertson

Mr Peter J. Austin

Mrs Elizabeth J. Pickles (from 01.06.2022)

Mr Glen Mullineux (from 01.06.22)

SENIOR OFFICERS

CHURCH TREASURER

Miss Caroline E. Hinchliffe

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Mrs Helen J. Banks

SECRETARY OF PASTORAL COMMITTEE

Mrs Christine L. Cooke

OFFICERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES

Mrs Jennifer Kitson (Church Safeguarding Officer)

Rev. Christine Giles (Pastoral Co-ordinator)

Mrs Margery Benson (Pastoral Committee Representative)

Mr Christopher Tucker (Ways & Means Committee Officer)

Mr David A. Grey (from 01.06.22)

Mr Jonathan Tuckey (Property Committee Officer)

Mrs Alison Faulkner (Property Committee Representative)(until 31.05.22)

Mrs Jane Garnett (Young Families Representative)

Mrs Judy A. Lingard (Communications Committee representative)(until 31.05.22)

Mrs Pamela M. Beattie (Catering Committee representative)

Mrs Judith Farndon (Other Interests Representative)

Mrs Marjorie A. Roper (Churches together in Solihull)

Mrs Sue K. Kelley (Greener Church Representative) (from 01.06.22)

Mrs Fiona Beadle (Church Life and Mission Committee) (from 01.06.22)

REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CHURCH MEETING

Mrs Fiona M. Beadle (until 31.05.22)

Mrs Abi Godfree

Mr Alan Faulkner (from 1.06.22)

Mrs Susan V. Bates

Mr David A. Grey (until 31.05.22)

Mr Andrew D. Hunt

Mr Tim J. Weatherup

Mr Richard G. Burr (from 01.06.22)

Mrs Sandra Ker

Miss Jackie M. Farmer

Mrs Ann M. Polson

Mrs Karen Handford (until 31.05.22)

Mrs C. Joy Wadsworth

Mr Derek R. Giles

Mrs Judy A. Lingard (from 01.06.22)

Mr Graham S. Mackenzie (from 07.05.22)

Mr Lawrence J. Day (from 01.06.22)

Mrs Sian L. Musgreave-Spiby (from 08.05.22)

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

	Date	06/02/2023
Name and address of Treasurer		
Caroline Hinchliffe		
445 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull, B91 1QZ		

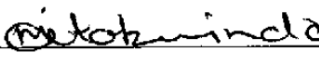
Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2022 were, presented to the Church Council at its meeting on _____ and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Date of meeting


Rev'd Molly Chitokwindo
6 th February 2023

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Disclosure to the Independent Auditor

- a) So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information of which the independent examiner is unaware and:
- b) The trustees have taken all steps that ought to have been taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent auditor is aware of that information.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Solihull Methodist Church (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

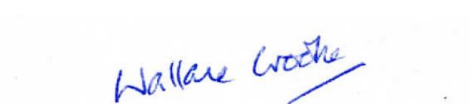
SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
For the year ended 31st August 2022

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Wallace Crooke
Chartered Accountants &
Registered Auditors
20 Birmingham Road
Walsall
West Midlands
WS1 2LT

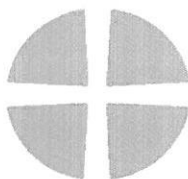
Date: 16/02/2023

Wallace Crooke is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Trust by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1127682

Accounts



**Church
Accruals Accounts
2020-2021**

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2021

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Registration number

1127682

BIRMINGHAM	Circuit No	5.1
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Minister

REVEREND ANDREW ORTON

Church Stewards

Mrs Sandra Ker (to 31.05.21)

Mr Alan Faulkner

Ms Susan Kelley

Mr Jeremy Pearce

Mrs Cathy Coleman

Mr Howard Staight

Mrs Karen Robertson (from 01.06.2021)

Mr Peter Austin (from 01.06.2021)

Church Treasurer

**Christine Burr (till 30.06.21) &
Caroline Hinchliffe (from 01.07.21)**

**SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
SECTION 1 OVERVIEW REPORT**

1.1 Introduction

The charitable objects of Solihull Methodist Church are those of the Methodist Church, and include commitment to Christian service through worship, prayer and community involvement, which provides significant public benefit.

1.2 The Mission of Solihull Methodist Church

We understand our purpose as being to make relationships between ourselves and God in a way that has both integrity of mind and reality of experience.

We express this desire in the words, "Linking our Community to Christ".

We believe that Jesus came to set before us a model for living well here on earth and to this end we seek to become followers of him. We aim to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with God.

The Bible is our chief source of guidance and inspiration. We seek to understand its original context and to make applications that have credibility with modern day life and experience.

We are called:

- to open Solihull Methodist Church and Community Centre as a resource for all;
- to encounter and engage with people beyond our fellowship's margins; and so to make new relationships with individuals, groups and organisations.
- we aim to create a safe space of warmth and openness in which we can offer hospitality to those coming into Solihull;
- sensitively offer friendship, a sense of belonging and pastoral care;
- offer opportunities for worship, prayer and reflection;
- promote action for social justice and transformation;
- provide opportunities for personal, social and spiritual development.
- form pathways to engagement in Christian community and to faith commitment.

1.3 Worship Care and Mission in 2020/2021

Reverend Andrew Orton who came to be our minister in 2018, has become seriously ill during 2020 and has now retired on ill-health grounds. We are very grateful to our Supernumerary Ministers for standing in his place and taking services, especially at such a difficult time.

In September 2020 it was with great joy that we were able to reopen our church for COVID secure services. Our community gathers as a family for teaching and worship on Sunday mornings at 10:30, for a service lasting approximately 45 minutes in line with Methodist Church safety procedures. Here we combine contemporary worship with the best of our traditional heritage. Sunday morning worship has continued throughout this year despite COVID19.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
SECTION 1 OVERVIEW REPORT CONTD.

Because of the large number of people still being cautious about returning to worship, September also saw the start of live-streaming of services to people able to access You Tube. This has continued since then and has been a great asset encouraging new people to worship with us because they could not worship at their own churches. Those unable to use the internet have CDs of the service taken to them in the following days.

The children and young people have been worshipping and learning using Zoom and their reports on the activities are shown during morning worship to the congregation, so they have not been completely absent. Babies are welcomed into church with some baptisms and the creche mat and toys are now back in use for small children in church.

On Tuesdays at 9.30 there are services of Holy Communion. This is usually a short, simple service without any hymns or music, which allows those who attend the opportunity to worship God in a more intimate environment.

Prayers for the world continue on Zoom every Wednesday. All requests for prayers for specific situations and people are considered prayerfully

House groups of members of the church have continued online throughout the isolation period, meeting weekly, monthly or fortnightly for fellowship and worshipful study. Some have met in gardens during periods of warmer weather. Many are on Zoom. These have been especially beneficial to the large number of people living alone.

The Church newsletter has continued to be provided by email and delivery for those without internet, giving interesting articles and encouragement about the safety of the world.

A refurbishment of the gentleman's toilets /cloakroom in the community centre took place in September 2020.

Acoustic panels were fitted to the walls of the church to significantly reduce feedback and the echo especially on online and recorded services.

Cabling has been installed in the church to allow hard wired internet access rather than only wifi. This has made it possible for hybrid meetings to occur live and through Zoom.

The Reverend Molly Chitokwindo arrived during August 2021, and she has taken up the reins to preach, care pastorally and enable the stewards to look after the church and community .

Our church and community centre are widely used by over 60 regular groups.

All lettings ceased in March 2020 and the building was locked up until pandemic restrictions were relaxed. However, much work was done by a team set up by the church council to enable reopening as soon as the government allowed

In September 2020 a Tuition Centre and 2 other children's organisations exempt from Covid restriction started. This was the only lettings income until summer 2021.

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SECTION 1 OVERVIEW REPORT CONTD.**

1.4 Groups run by Solihull Methodist Church

Pushchair Club offering play and friendship to a large number of parents, carers and grandparents of preschool children was unable to restart as a new leader has had to be employed and it is hoped that this will all be sorted by the end of October 2021.

A morning and afternoon session on a Monday will be run with the help of members of the church making refreshments and chatting to parents.

Tuesday Men's Coffee Group resumed weekly meetings in July 2021. These retired gentlemen enjoy coffee, cake and conversation often debating the big issues in the news.

Drop in Coffee has been replaced by **Friday Friendship Café**, to encourage those who live alone to drop in for a chat and a cup of tea.

Badminton players have gathered when possible to keep themselves fit playing badminton. Some are church members, but others come in from elsewhere.

The youth club, **ENERG**, has met online or in gardens during the year due to the restrictions..

Soupa Talks has been unable to meet during 2020/21 due to the pandemic but has now restarted in September 2021. This valuable group offers a good contact place for people living alone and introduces people from the wider community a chance to see what is happening on the premises. An excellent soup based lunch is provided followed by a talk from a large variety of speakers.

The Rambling Club restarted in July to meet once a month to go walking on organised rambles finishing with a picnic lunch during the summer..

It is hoped that **Messy Church** will restart to offer children a chance to have a play environment based loosely on a Bible Story followed by a very short act of worship pitched at a level that they can enjoy. Their families can enjoy meeting with other parents, and everyone is offered a cooked meal in the community centre hall at the conclusion.

SMASH, Solihull Methodist Church's drama group which rehearsed twice a week with a large number of people from church and outside has had to cancel Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat due to the pandemic, but plans are now in place for the forthcoming year.

Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Brownies and Rainbows have met in the gardens of our church, in the park and online on Zoom. During the summer, they returned to the Community Centre.

1.5 Groups from the wider community

From September 2020, the Church was pleased to offer space for an increasing number of activity groups for people with health problems. These are heavily subsidised by the church as an indication of our care for the more vulnerable of our society. All of these groups have expressed the desire to return in September 2021.

In 2019 SMC recognised the need to build up a **welcome team** of volunteers to greet people as they come to the Community Centre, particularly on days when the less able groups were meeting. The list below is an indication of the church's care for the whole community.

1.6 Concessionary groups

Alzheimer's Activity Group: resumed in our Church in August. It is a full-day activity group run weekly by the Alzheimer's Association.

Birmingham Ileostomy Association: a coffee morning for people with Ileostomies and their carers for mutual support.

Breast Fiends, a support group for people with breast cancer.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
SECTION 1 OVERVIEW REPORT CONTD.

1.6 Concessionary groups contd.

Deaf Feel Good: this group has grown a great deal and had to be given a larger room. They meet every other week to communicate using British Sign Language.

Focus on Dementia: Small support group for those with dementia.

Gentle Exercise: this exercise class used to be run by the Osteoporosis Society and still has a number of people with this condition and those who cannot take part in strenuous exercises.

Parkinsons: a very large group of people who exercise to help their condition. This also serves as a support group during the tea break.

Singing for the Brain: people with dementia and their carers meet once a month for singing which is a recognised therapeutic aid for those whose memories are failing.

Solihull Prostate Support Group: a monthly meeting for gentlemen with Prostate Cancer. Speakers from various medical departments and a buddy system of support are both a big part of these meetings. They are Zooming their meetings to groups all over the country.

West Midland Autism: adults with autism meet once a month as a support group and for various talks on coping with their condition.

1.7 Interest Groups

Before the pandemic, it was clear that there were a growing number of Interest Groups using our premises. Many of these are linked to the University of the Third Age with sub-groups for recorder players, gardening, craft, book group, memory-training, music appreciation, choral singing, painting, history.

The Embroiderers' Guild and other Textile Groups are frequent visitors.

A Speakers Club and a Writers' Workshop meet fortnightly and there are also 5 choirs using our premises.

1.8 Further service to the community and beyond

The Church has continued to collect non-perishable food for **Foodbanks**. Many non-church user groups also contribute to this which enables us to donate a large amount of food.

Camp Joy. Solihull Methodist Church has a yearly project to raise funds for different organisations. During the pandemic the Church continued to support the 2019/20 project which was for Camp Joy in South Africa. One of our previous ministers helps with Camp Joy, and we helped by fundraising to provide decent facilities for former gang members and drug-abusers to start a new life. In 2021 two mindfulness courses were run over Zoom from South Africa by our previous minister which enabled us to increase our funds for the project.

Pastoral visiting has continued with our large team of visitors going to see a number of people each month to look after their welfare. This was heightened as COVID19 isolated people and they have worked overtime to make sure that no-one was feeling totally alone. They have also assisted with helping their friends to judge the safety of their return to society and church.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
SECTION 1 OVERVIEW REPORT CONTD.

1.9 Plans for 2021/22

It is very hard to make plans at this time. The pandemic has made reaching out to people a more difficult business, but Solihull Methodist Church has learnt from the experience.

Ways are being sought to use the internet to further bringing people closer to God. The technological equipment in the church and community centre are all being improved to embrace the needs of the modern world.

Facebook, Instagram and our own website are all being used regularly to inform people everywhere.

It is recognised that many people cannot get to church on a Sunday, so online contact may be a way forward. A prayer for the day, a piece of music, a verse from the Bible. These are all being explored.

A generous bequest from a deceased member of our congregation will enable the Church to seek further ways to extend its mission to the world and the community around it.

Above all, Solihull Methodist Church will be seeking ways to help people return to normal life. Members will also try to help those whose lives have been badly affected through the lockdown, including those who have been made redundant, or have struggled with bereavement and poor health.

Now that our new minister is in place, we look forward to planning with her for the furtherance of God's Kingdom.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
SECTION 2: FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

2.1 Basis of preparation and legal framework

Solihull Methodist Church is a church within the Methodist Connexion in Great Britain and these Financial statements including the Trustees Annual Report have been prepared in accordance with the constitution, practice and discipline of that Church. Solihull's Methodist Church's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102:

Registration Charity Number : **1127682**

Date of registration : **January 2009**

Main communication address : **Solihull Methodist Church, Blossomfield Road,
Solihull, B91 1LG**

The members of the Solihull Methodist Church Council are the Charity Trustees , membership being made up, in accordance with Standing Order 610 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church in Great Britain, of church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the General Church Meeting.

A Full list of Church Council members (i.e. Managing Trustees) is shown in Appendix A

Treasurer: Mrs Christine Burr & Caroline Hinchliffe

Christine Burr acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the church during the year ending and has completed the financial statements for the year to 31.08.21 . Caroline Hinchliffe took over day to day financial management from July 1st 2021 when she became treasurer

Auditors: Wallace Crooke, Wallace House, 20 Birmingham Road, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2LT

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

Funds are Held at :- HSBC Bank, CAF Bank, Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes & Central Finance Board of The Methodist Church

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
SECTION 2: FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE Contd.

2.2 Aims and Purposes

The charitable objectives of Solihull Methodist Church are in accordance with the Purposes of the Methodist Church of Great Britain as set out in Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976. That section states that:-

"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"

The aims and calling of Solihull Methodist Church are in line with the Methodist Church of Great Britain which are:

1. Worship – to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
2. Learning and Caring – to help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care;
3. Service – to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice; and
4. Evangelism – to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Within those aims and purposes, Solihull Methodist Church sees its overall objective as being "Linking our Community to Christ" and making all those who use its premises "Feel at Home".

2.3 Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in compliance with its duties under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011.

At Solihull Methodist Church, we seek to provide public benefit in the ways mentioned in section 2.2 above by building relationships with all members of our community. That includes those who worship with us regularly; those who make use of our premises; those who commute past our grounds; and those who live in the neighbourhood.

2.4 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 Model Trusts; and the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) published by order of the annual conference.

Day to day management of the church is undertaken by the Church Leadership Team, consisting of Stewards and other officers along with the Minister.

The Trustees are appointed ex officio in accordance with Standing Order 610 of CPD, or at the annual General Church Meeting.

2.5 Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by the Methodist Church of Great Britain to support the effective running of the church and the role of Trustees is given to the Church Trustees when they are asked to complete the declaration of eligibility for newly appointed trustees and at meetings.

2.6 Related Parties

The Church is part of the Birmingham Circuit which is part of the Birmingham District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The internal organisations linked to this church are :-

1. SMASH(Solihull Methodist Acting & Singing in Harmony)
2. Pushchair Club,
3. Soupa Talks,
4. Badminton Club,
5. ENRG (Youth Club),
6. Mens Coffee Club,
7. Contact Choir.
8. JMA (Junior Mission for All)

**SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

SECTION 2: FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE Contd.

2.7 Income trends

The Church income is primarily drawn from the giving of the congregation in weekly offerings in the context of worship and by regular bank standing orders. Services compliant with the relevant Covid regulations have run throughout the year but numbers able to attend have been much smaller than in precovid times. Standing orders are the major route for giving but there are still cash offerings and those who give via the envelope scheme. It became clear that the lower income through the pandemic would not allow us to meet our commitments. As a result a one off appeal was launched which was wonderfully supported and has allowed us to complete the year with a healthy reserve in hand. Our external lettings (the other major source of income) have improved this year and should return to precovid levels next year, assuming no further restrictions. The car park licence income returned to its full amount in August 2021. (i.e. 15 spaces let on a licence Monday to Friday)

2.8 Expenditure trends

The major item of expenditure is in relation to the assessment paid to the Birmingham Circuit. £127,300 was paid in 2020/21 and represents 74% of our total expenditure. Pre covid this was 55% and it is anticipated that it will return to this level in 2021/22. The Trustees decided in June 2021 to decrease our assessment for 2021/22 to £120,000 in light of our budgeted deficit.

A significant amount of the Circuit assessment is used to pay the District assessment, ministers stipends, related costs to Ministers and family and community workers and also youth workers within the Circuit.

12% (£19,671) of the church's expenditure relates to property expenses i.e. Heating, lighting, water, insurance, maintenance of grounds, pianos and organ as well as other repairs and renewals to keep the buildings in good repair. Again pre covid this percentage was 26% and it is again anticipated that it will return to this level in 2021/22. Property expenditure in previous year's has been more than covered by the total lettings including car park and contributions from church internal organisations enabling the premises to be kept in good order. The continuing Covid crisis has made these sources of income much smaller but the difference has been made up by our one off appeal in April 2021. Lettings are improving again and may make a more significant contribution to property expenses again next year.

Other Church expenditure is used firstly to provide and communicate, within the community, the Christian teaching and worship of the Church, and secondly to maintaining of an office with all the related costs. The budget for 2021/22 starts with a far more healthy reserve but is set against a background of increasing costs and general giving that has not kept pace in recent years. Illustrated by the fact that the 2021/22 the church is budgeting for a deficit i.e. expenditure is more than the income.

2.9 Fund balances including Reserves Policy

Model Trust Legacy

In July 2020 the Church was fortunate to receive a Model Trust Legacy of £247,678 from one of our former members. This is classed with the General Fund as unrestricted funds. The Legacy is being held with the TMCP (Trustees of Methodist Church Purposes) but Solihull Methodist Church trustees are the managers of the money. It is the wish of the trustees not to use this legacy to support the general running of the Church except in exceptional circumstances. A small group, who will report to the Church Council, has been set up to manage the fund and be a conduit for ideas from the church members on how to spend the legacy. Plans are being formulated for use of the money and £5,000 has been put aside for Small mission projects and £10,000 towards online streaming. Other decisions have been delayed with Covid making meetings more difficult and the new Minister needing time to become familiar with the church and its mission.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
SECTION 2: FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE Contd.

2.9 Fund balances including Reserves Policy contd.

A.Unrestricted Funds

The church has substantial property and believes that it is prudent to maintain between 3 and 5 months of expenditure in its General unrestricted fund reserves to provide both normal, planned and reactive maintenance costs. Also in addition to paying the circuit assessment which according to CPD (Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church) is the first call on our reserves. As at 31 August 2020

General fund reserves were £103,340. This has not been translated into months expenditure as due to the pandemic expenditure is not as it would have been in a 'normal year'. The wonderful response to the Church's Covid one off appeal has boosted our reserves. However, in recent years, expenditure has been being greater than income, and the 2021/22 budget showing another potentially large deficit, the Trustees have decided to reduce by £7,000 the circuit assessment for 2021/22. This still leaves a budgeted deficit of £12,600 but means we should be able to maintain reserves within our Reserves Policy.

Model Legacy Unrestricted Fund balance as at 31.08.21 £234,235 is classed as unrestricted funds and more details can be seen on the previous page.

B. Designated funds Balance at 31.08.21 of £40,914 relates to

1. Youth & Children's work £2,272
2. Property reserve £17,710
3. Gifts with a wish for energy conservation projects but no binding obligation £469
4. Gifts with a wish for young people's work but no binding obligation £6,139
5. Online streaming of services and associated expenses £7,022
6. Provision for small mission/community projects £4,795
7. Gifts with no binding obligations £2,507

Details are given in Note 14 of these accounts.

C. Restricted funds Balance at 31.08.21 of £23,839 relate to gifts/legacies and other monies that are only used within the terms attached to them.

£8,832 of the restricted funds are held in the 2018/19 Church Project Fund which raised money to help a Syrian family start a new life in the UK. An initial payment of £2,000 has been made in 2020/21 to a charity bringing Syrian families to the UK and it is hoped to send the balance over the next 12 months.

£1,338 of the restricted funds is held in the Benevolent Fund which receives donations from the retiring collection after communion services and the Church is able to react immediately to local and worldwide emergency appeals after natural disasters etc.

Other restricted funds (amounting to £567) relate to monies held for various Church groups and these are released as and when requested by those organisations

£13,102 represents the balances held by the Internal organisations linked to the Church.

D.Endowment fund

Balance at 31.08.21 of £6,292 is restricted. The accumulated interest (£1,080 at 31.08.21) is restricted to fund children's and youth work. The capital has been invested in a Corporate bond through TMCP. The valuation at 31.08.21 was £5,208 with a balance of £4 held by TMCP.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
SECTION 2: FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE Contd.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and the trustees have appointed a Health & Safety officer who sits on the Church Council and regularly reviews all aspects of risk management and reports to the Trustees. Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget twice a year to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. A biannual financial review is undertaken to help minimise risks in the income and expenditure processes.

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.
- the selection and training of 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.
- the response, 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.
- seeking to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- challenging any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- offering 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

Solihull Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice within our Church premises.

Solihull Methodist Church commits itself through its safeguarding officer and team to the provision of support, advice and training for all volunteers, lay and ordained people 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.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020-21 £	Total 2019-20 £
Income							
1 Weekly Collections & Standing orders		112,503				112,503	112,842
2 Gift aid including GASDS		33,908	262	1,448		35,618	29,247
3 Donations		2,889	1,700			4,589	2,060
4 Legacies		1				1	263,412
5 Interest and investment income	2,2a	950			64	1,014	1,084
6 Internal organisations				2,109		2,109	28,558
7 Other charitable income-collections, donations & charity fundraising activities	3,3a	32,270		8,154		40,424	18,969
8 Income from use of premises	4,4a	22,513				22,513	39,882
9 Other Income	5,5a	261	323			584	735
10 Total income		205,295	2,285	11,711	64	219,355	496,789
Expenditure							
11 Circuit assessment or share		127,300				127,300	127,300
12 Salaries, N.I. & Pension Costs	9	10,510				10,510	14,780
13 Donations to Methodist connexional Funds and other Charities			205	13,284		13,489	14,470
14 Property repairs and maintenance		9,933	24,037			33,970	48,178
15 Insurance, utilities etc		9,738				9,738	11,192
16 Depreciation		4,400				4,400	4,400
17 Office expenses including advertising, marketing & legal requirements eg copyright licence & audit	7,12	7,524			10	7,534	8,959
18 Other expenditure-including Christian teaching, worship, activities and fund raising costs		805		38		843	5,801
19 Internal organisations				6,216		6,216	19,250
20 Total charitable expenditure		170,210	24,242	19,538	10	214,000	254,330
21 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		905		-	57	848	63
22 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0	0
23 Net income/(expenditure)		35,990	-21,957	-7,827	-3	6,203	242,522
24 Transfers between funds		-26,933	26,933			0	0
25 Other gains/(losses)						0	0
26 Net movement in funds		9,057	4,976	-7,827	-3	6,203	242,522
27 Total funds brought forward		4,539,318	35,938	31,666	6,295	4,613,217	4,370,695
28 Total funds carried forward		4,548,375	40,914	23,839	6,292	4,619,420	4,613,217

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	

2021	2020
0	100
1,503	1,095
1,503	1,195
0	0

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

Notes to
the
accounts

General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2021	Totals 2020
£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Church buildings & Equipment	10	4,210,800			4,210,800	4,215,200
Investment properties					0	0
Investments	11	40,907		5,208	46,115	5,265
Total fixed assets		4,251,707	0	0	4,256,915	4,220,465

Current Assets

Debtors and prepayments	13	38,798		20	38,818	38,814
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes-(TMCP)-Model Trust		193,328			193,328	247,998
TMCP				4	4	4
Central Finance Board Deposits	13	56,440	40,914	10,717	109,151	82,460
Cash at Bank and in hand	13	13,073			13,073	10,222
- Other- Internal Organisations	13			13,102	13,102	17,209
Total current assets		301,639	40,914	23,839	367,476	396,707

Current liabilities

Creditors & accruals (due in under 1 year)	14	4,971			4,971	3,955
Grants payable within 2017-18					0	0
Total current liabilities		4,971	0	0	4,971	3,955
Net current assets/liabilities		296,668	40,914	23,839	362,505	392,752

Total assets less current liabilities		4,548,375	40,914	23,839	6,292	4,619,420	4,613,217
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2017-18					0	0	0
Loans to the Church					0	0	0
					0	0	0
Total Net Assets		4,548,375	40,914	23,839	6,292	4,619,420	4,613,217

Funds of the Church

General Fund (Unrestricted)	14	4,548,375			4,548,375	4,539,318
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			40,914		40,914	35,938
Total Unrestricted Funds					4,589,289	4,575,256
Restricted Funds				23,839	23,839	31,666
Endowment Funds				6,292	6,292	6,295
Total Funds		4,548,375	40,914	23,839	4,619,420	4,613,217

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Church Council on 07/03/2022

Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees



Chairman



Caroline Hinchliffe - Church Treasurer

REV. MOLLY CHITORWINDO

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/21

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

Solihull Methodist Church is a Charity registered in England. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 7 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed on Page 2 of this report

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

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

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are the custodian trustees for the Church land and premises which is a Model Trust property and they hold the freehold title. Solihull Methodist Trustees are the managing trustees of the buildings and as such they are in the financial statements.

The Church, Church Hall and their contents are shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values. No depreciation is provided on these assets because the trustees consider the current residual fair values to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The assets have been reviewed for impairment.

In 2018/19 a lift was installed and the total cost of this was capitalised and will be depreciated over 10 years.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

Investment Properties

Investment properties - no property is currently deemed not to be held for the long term purposes of the charity.

Debtors and Creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising of a General Funds held for any purpose of the Church and a Model Trust Legacy held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP); Designated Funds which are unrestricted funds set aside for a future purpose or reserve e.g. Property reserve which is any unspent budget transferred to the next year's property budget. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose including those for internal organisations. There is also an Endowment Fund as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in note 18. Any of the funds may be represented by more than just cash.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/21

2. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2021 Total
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	122				122
Bank Account CAF Cash A/c	1				1
Dividends -TMCP-Corporate Bond					0
TMCP - Interest on Model Trust Legacy	827			64	891
	950	0	0	64	1,014
2a. Interest & Investment Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2020 Total
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	698				698
Bank Account CAF Cash A/c	7				7
Dividends -TMCP--Corporate Bond				59	59
TMCP - Interest on Model Trust Legacy	320				320
	1,025	0	0	59	1,084
3. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
One off Covid Special Appeal	32,270				32,270
Other collections , donations & charity fundraising activities	0		8,154		8,154
Total	32,270	0	8,154	0	40,424
3a. Other Charitable Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Other collections , donations & charity fundraising activities	1,816	429	16,724		18,969
Total	1,816	429	16,724	0	18,969
4. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2021 Total
	£		£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	13,242				13,242
Car Park licence	6,957				6,957
Contributions from Church Organisations	2,314				2,314
Donations for Car Park discs from members	0				0
	22,513				22,513
4a. Income from use of Premises	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2020 Total
	£		£	£	£
External lettings of Church & Church Hall	25,407				25,407
Car Park licence	6,722				6,722
Contributions from Church Organisations	6,525				6,525
Donations for Car Park discs from members	1,228				1,228
	39,882				39,882
5. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2021 Total
	£		£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	260				260
Sale of oven & hob	0	323			323
Miscellaneous receipts	1				1
Total	261	323			584
5a. Other Income	General Fund Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2020 Total
	£		£	£	£
Sponsorship of Church magazine	560				560
Money received from Car Parking Solutions for restricting parking	175				175
Miscellaneous receipts	0				0
Total	735	0			735

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/21

	This year 2021	Last year 2020
7 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts		
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	£ 2,460	2,340
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	£ 0	0

8. Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church by agreement with the Church Council Meeting
Names of trustees remunerated for other services:

£	-	-
---	---	---

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

0	
---	--

There were no trustees who were paid expenses

Total amount paid

£		
---	--	--

9. Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind

£	12,202	13,523
---	--------	--------

Employer's National Insurance costs

£	468	442
---	-----	-----

Pension costs

£	732	713
---	-----	-----

Furlough paymts reimbursed

£	-2,987	
---	--------	--

Salary admin.costs- Apprentice Levy & Payroll
administration costs

£	95	102
---	----	-----

Total staff costs

£	10,510	14,780
---	--------	--------

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

1	1
---	---

No employee received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 (€70,000) upwards.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/21

10. Tangible Fixed Assets
(General Fund Unrestricted)

	Church (non investment) land and buildings	Other non investment land and buildings	Investment properties (land and buildings)	Other fixed assets including pipe organ	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total £
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996
Additions							
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	3,718,996			415,000	90,000		4,223,996

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	8,796						8,796
Depreciation charge for year	4,400						4,400
Revaluations (+/-)							
Disposals (-)							
Transfers (+/-)							
Balance carried forward	13,196						13,196

Net book value

Brought forward	3,710,200	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,215,200
Carried forward	3,705,800	-	-	415,000	90,000	-	4,210,800

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/21

11. Investments

The funds that support the various funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds 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 polity as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

The Model Trust held by TMCP holding the Unrestricted funds of the Pam Brown Legacy has an investment purchased through TMCP- a CFB Managed Fund Bond

Within the Lambert Trust which is the only endowment fund that the Church has an investment - a Corporate Bond purchased through TMCP in the year 2014/15 .

Change in investment values

	£	£	£
	Unrestricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total of Investments
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year		5,265	5,265
Add: additions to investments at cost	40,002		40,002
Less: disposals at carrying value			
Net gain/-loss on revaluation	905	-57	848
Carrying (market) value at end of year	40,907	5,208	46,115

12. Leasing Commitments

A 5 year lease was taken out on a Ricoh photocopier/scanner commencing 01/12/2018

Committed to be paid:

Expiring within 1 year
Between 2 and 5 years

	2021	2020
	468	468
	585	1053
	1053	1521

During the year 2020/21 £468 was expensed through the SoFA in relation to operating leases

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/21

13. Analysis of current assets

	This year 2021	Last year 2020
	£	£
<u>Debtors and prepayments</u>		
Pre paid assessments	30,000	31,825
Prepayments on insurance etc	2,926	2,704
Other debtors	5,892	4,285
Total debtors and prepayments	38,818	38,814
<u>Analysis of cash at bank</u>		
Bank balance held in HSBC	8,278	644
Bank balance held in CAF Bank	4,795	9,578
Total Cash and Bank	13,073	10,222

<u>Internal Organisations</u>	Opening balance 01/09/20	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Closing balances 31/08/21
SMASH	12,149	816	3,400	-2,584	9,565
Pushchair Club	2,594	425	759	-334	2,260
Soupa Talks	1,538	14	1,200	-1,186	352
Badminton	67	206	214	-8	59
ENRG (Youth Club)	102				102
Men's Coffee	32	252	230	22	54
Contact Choir	722		17	-17	705
Junior Mission for All (JMA)	5	396	396		5
TOTAL	17,209	2,109	6,216	-4,107	13,102
		Total Receipts	Total Payments		

14. Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors

	This year 2021	Last year 2020
	£	£
Trade Creditors	1088	807
Accruals	3883	3148
	4,971	3,955

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/21

15. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements 2020/21

Unrestricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
General	4,539,318	205,295	170,210	-26,933	905	4,548,375	The main fund for the running and maintaining a place of worship and fellowship within the community. There is a Model Trust legacy (held at TMCP) with a balance at 31.08.21 of £234,235 which is classed as unrestricted
Totals	4,539,318	205,295	170,210	-26,933	905	4,548,375	

Designated Unrestricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Youth & Children's	2,272					2,272	For Youth & Children's work.
Byles Legacy	5,534		5,065			469	No binding obligation on legacy but a wish that it be used for energy conservation. In 2019/20 various energy conservation work has been carried out
A. Carrington Gift	5,000		2,534	-549		1,917	In 2020.21 £2,534 was put towards refurbishment of Community Hall's cloakrooms Also £549 was put towards a new oven.
F. Edwards Gift	4,733		4,733			-	In 2020.21 this gift was put towards refurbishment of Community Hall's cloakrooms
S. Bailey Gift	5,750		5,160			590	In 2020.21 £5,160 was spent installing acoustic panels in the Church .
Mullineux Legacy	6,706			-567		6,139	No binding obligation on legacy but a wish that it be used for Children and youth. In 2020.21 £567 was used to help Junior Church continue during the Pandemic
Streaming Online Services and associated			2,978	10,000		7,022	£10,000 was designated from the Pam Brown Legacy for this fund
Small mission projects Fund			205	5,000		4,795	£5,000 was designated from the Pam Brown Legacy for this fund. In 2020.21 £205 was given to charities to support them meeting in the Community Hall.
Oven /Hob Fund	733	2,285	3,567	549			In 2020.21 the oven and hob in the Community Hall Kitchen was replaced
Property Reserve Fund	5,210			12,500		17,710	Unspent property budget c/fwd to next year.
Totals	35,938	2,285	24,242	26,933		40,914	

Restricted Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Church Internal Organisations	17,209	2,109	6,216			13,102	Social, Learning & Devotional Groups within the Church. Detailed breakdown Note 13
Fellowship Lunch & Catering Fund	89	14	12			91	Sunday Lunches for elderly & Lonely & Catering at Church events such as Church lunches etc
Green Church Fund	436	41				477	Promoting a greener Church & Community
Junior Mission for All		48	48				Overseas mission support
Benevolence Fund	2,068	3,412	4,143			1,337	To respond to appeals/emergencies/natural disasters for help both local & international
Drop-in Coffee Fund	290	64	354				Weekly drop-in Coffee bar which unfortunately has not restarted after lockdown
Church Project Fund 2018/19	10,832		2,000			8,832	In 2020/21 the first instalment of £2,000 was given to a charity which is bringing a Syrian family to Birmingham
Church Project Fund 2019/20	742	3,482	4,224				Fundraising for Camp Joy -gangster and drug abuser rehabilitation centre in Cape Town, South Africa. All monies raised has been
Church Christmas Card Donations		2,541	2,541				Donations received for entry in Church Christmas card and money raised given to the Church Project
Totals	31,666	11,711	19,538			23,839	

Endowment Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Closing Balance	Fund Purpose
Lambert Youth Bequest	6,295	64	10		-57	6,292	Youth work
Totals	6,295	64	10		-57	6,292	

Reasons for transfer between funds

The transfers are between the different classes of funds and balance each other out in total.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31/08/21

16. Related party transactions

2020/21

	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-2021
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Methodist Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		<u>127,300</u>		
fr. Restricted fund	JMA (Junior Mission for All)	Part of Methodist Connexion	Gift aid collected on donations.		<u>47</u>		
	Total			0	127,347	0	0

2019/20

	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-2021
				£	£	£	£
from General fund	Birmingham Circuit	One of the churches within the Birmingham Circuit	Annual Donation/ Assessment		<u>127,300</u>		
fr. Restricted fund	JMA (Junior Mission for All)	Part of Methodist Connexion	Gift aid collected on donations.		<u>86</u>		
	Total			0	127,386	0	0

**SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

Appendix A

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

MINISTER(S) Rev Andrew Orton (Also Superintendents of Circuit - Revs. A. Richards, N Johnson, N.Jones)
Rev Molly Chitokwindo (from 01.09.2021)

COMMUNITY WORKER Mrs Diane Webb

CHURCH STEWARDS Mrs Sandra Ker (till 31.05.21)
Mr Alan Faulkner
Ms Susan Kelley
Mr Jeremy Pearce
Mrs Catherine Coleman
Mr N. Howard Staight
Mrs Karen Robertson (from 08.06.21)
Mr Peter Austin (from 08.06.21)

SENIOR OFFICERS

CHURCH TREASURER Mrs Christine Burr (till 07.06.2021) Caroline Hinchliffe (from 08.06.2021)

COUNCIL SECRETARY Mrs Helen Banks

SECRETARY OF PASTORAL COMMITTEE Mrs Christine Cooke

OFFICERS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMITTEES

Mrs Jennifer Kitson (Church Safeguarding Officer)
Rev. Christine Giles (Pastoral Co-ordinator)
Mrs Margery Benson (Pastoral Committee Representative)
Mr Stuart Aldridge (Ways & Means Committee representative)
Mr Christopher Tucker (Ways & Means Committee Officer)
Mr Jonathan Tuckey (Property Committee Officer)
Mrs Alison Faulkner (Property Committee Representative)
Mrs Jane Garnett (Young Families Representative)
Mrs Judy Lingard (Communications Committee representative)
Mrs Pamela Beattie (Catering Committee representative)
Mrs Judith Farndon (Other Interests Representative)
Mrs Marjorie Roper (Churches together in Solihull)

REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED BY THE GENERAL CHURCH MEETING

Mrs Fiona Beadle	Mrs Abi Godfree
Mr David Grey	Mrs Susan Bates
Mr Andrew Hunt	Mr Tim Weatherup
Mr Richard Burr	Mrs Sandra Ker (from 01.06.21)
Miss Jackie Farmer	Mrs Ann Polson
Mrs Karen Handford	Mrs Joy Wadsworth
	Mr Derek Giles

CIRCUIT STEWARD REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs Sharon Clutterbuck

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

	Date	07/03/2022
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Name of Treasurer

Caroline Hinchliffe

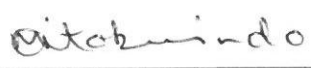
Address

445 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull, B91 1QZ (CH)

Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 Aug 2021 were, presented to the Church Council at its meeting on _____ and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

REV. MOLLY CHITORWINDO

Date of meeting

07/03/2022

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Disclosure to the Independent Auditor

- a) So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information of which the independent examiner is unaware and:
- b) The trustees have taken all steps that ought to have been taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent auditor is aware of that information .

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Solihull Methodist Church (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st August 2021 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31st August 2021, and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

[continued ...]

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient and proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees responsibilities statement set out on page 23, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made of having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

[continued ...]

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH (continued)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charity's (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in a Report of the Auditor's and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Wallace Crooke

21/03/2022

Wallace Crooke
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
Wallace House
20 Birmingham Road
Walsall
West Midlands
WS1 2LT

Wallace Crooke is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the companies Act 2006.