

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

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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	
Money/Gifts etc - received for External Organisations					1,074	0	
Money/Gifts etc - passed to External Organisations					4,116	5,279	
Balance carried forward					5,053	4,205	
					137	1,074	

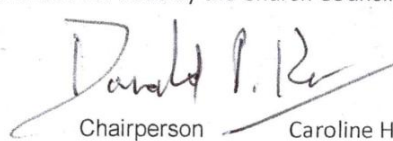
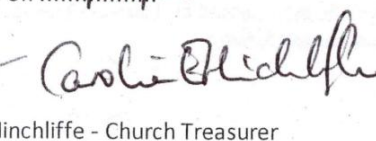
SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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For the year ended 31st August 2025

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

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

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.

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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For the year ended 31st August 2025

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.

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

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 Fxd IntFund/TIF £3.89				140	140
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

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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For the year ended 31st August 2025

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

			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.				

SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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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

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

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.

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

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

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

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).

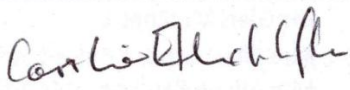
SOLIHULL METHODIST CHURCH
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For the year ended 31st August 2025

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
Caroline Hinchliffe	16/02/26
445 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull, B91 1QZ	

Name and address of Treasurer

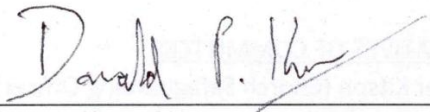
Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

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.

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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.

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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

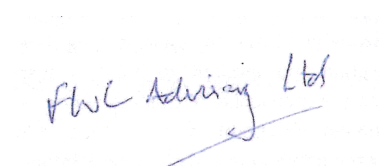
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rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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
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Walsall
West Midlands
WS1 2LT

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