

Stewards Report - AGM June 2025

Good morning, Brothers and Sisters

We are here again to reflect on our Ministry here at St Mark's and to re-focus on our mission of worship, discipleship and evangelism.

It also provides us with a window of opportunity to recognise and celebrate the selfless dedication of some members and ministries in our church family.

God has been working in His usual amazing way to look over us, and it remains my greatest joy to be part of it all, serving alongside such a dedicated leadership team.

I am humbled to continue to serve as your senior steward.

We welcomed Rev Christopher Haines and his wife Linda to St Mark's in September 2024.

As is usually the case, the appointment of a new minister is both exciting and challenging.

Exciting because it's a new beginning for both the congregation and the minister, but challenging, because we both have to learn new ways of working together.

We continue to pray for Rev Chris and Linda for God to grant that the leadership he provides here at St Mark's is Spirit led, and Mission focused.

We give God thanks for His goodness.

Our Congregation numbers are down compared to the previous years. However, there are encouraging signs

of growth with several new members submitting completed forms for transfer to join St Mark's.

Rev. Chris will soon commence membership classes with them, and we look forward to celebrating their membership in a short while.

Every Monday evening, Brother Eric invites us all to prayer meetings to pray together to intercede for all the church family and friends and above all to experience the power of collective prayer.

Thank you, Brother Eric, for your commitment and Love for spiritual needs of the congregation.

We are grateful to our Sunday morning hosts who welcome us into the church every Sunday. We thank you as a group for your commitment, dedication and welcoming smile. God richly bless you.

To our financial stewards who work quietly behind the scenes every Sunday after service, counting and recording all the offerings and making sure the figures balance. We say thank you.

To the congregation we say thank you for giving so generously from your hearts for the work of the Lord.

We recognise the commitment of our communion stewards. They work tirelessly behind the scenes preparing for our sacrament on the first Sunday of every month. May God richly Bless you.

To our Sunday School and RISE leaders and teachers, we appreciate your dedication and pray that God will continue to bless and empower you with your work with the children. The church is in a better place because of you.

Our fledging Boys Brigade Company for Boys and Girls from ages

5-11 is up and running. They meet on Tuesday evenings at 6pm.

This is an opportunity for the children to learn, grow and discover in a safe, fun and caring environment which is rooted in Christian faith.

Currently the numbers are low but growing. We therefore plead for more volunteers to come forward to assist in the running of the sessions.

To Felicity and her team, we say thank you.

We are blessed to have Emmanuel, Gerome and the rest of the team in the media room every Sunday. They make sure the hymns, messages, and videos are seamlessly projected on the screen for our use during the service. From the church family we say thank you and may the Lord continue to bless you.

We thank God for the Gifts and talents of David's Harp. You uniquely minister to us every Sunday. You bring so much energy and emotions to the congregation every Sunday. You make our Sunday services complete. First, you prepare us to receive the word and then you send us home with joy in our hearts. I hope you enjoy it as much as we do. God richly bless you.

I have to mention the **rise and rise of the Youth Band**. We are very proud of you, and I can safely say the Church is in a very good place because of you. Thank you to Richard and Mildred for your dedication and commitment in nurturing this talent which our young people possess.

We are grateful to members of our Church Choir who fill our worship and our hearts with music every Sunday. You set the scene for us at the start of the service, lead us with hymns during the service and send us home having been filled with the joy of God's presence. Thank you for sharing your gifts with us.

As a church family we say thank you to Brother Joe for offering to play for us on selected Sundays because of his pre-engagement elsewhere.

We continue to pray that one day we can have you all to ourselves.

On our outreach front, our provision of Soup Kitchen during the winter months has been a great success. This year, the service was extended to April.

Thank you to Alfred, Francesca, Grace, Emelia, Marsha, Denys and the rest of the team for your commitment, God richly Bless you.

Refreshments continue to be provided by Pastoral Link Groups on Communion Sundays. This has been a huge success and a good opportunity for members to come together over teas and coffee after service. If your Pastoral Link Group is not on the Rota and you would like to help, please see me or any of the stewards after service.

As a church, we are indeed blessed to have **Mr Wendel Forde** amongst us.

This man is always here to open the church doors, to receive deliveries, attend to builders working on the church premises and of late identifying illegal parking in the car park.

We say Thank you Mr Forde and God richly bless you.

We give God thanks for all volunteers whose commitments enables the church to fulfil its role in providing active Christian witness in the community.

We have all got gifts and talents which can be used for the glory of God. Please ask yourself in your own quiet time:

‘What can I do to help my church’

Thank you

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

St Mark's Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

New River	Circuit	Circuit no.	35/22
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1128035

If not a registered charity His Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Chris Haines

Church Stewards:

Charles Agyemang-Duah	Alex Pusuo
Jacob Berko	Leona Bonsu
Barbara Fenning	Jacqueline Vanhorne
Rossetta Lee	Atou-Lu Brou

Treasurer:

Daniel Dongsieri FCCA

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	127,469	988	128,457	87,874
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	11,099		11,099	4,412
a4	Lettings	43,911		43,911	42,452
a5	Other receipts	11,348	130,156	141,504	28,994
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	193,827	131,144	324,971 (a7)	163,732

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	73,942		73,942	75,942
b3	Donations		1,426	1,426	1,450
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	21,361	46,070	67,431	99,038
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	14,655		14,655	16,393
b6					
b7	Other payments	38,569		38,569	21,017
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	148,527	47,496	196,023 (b9)	213,840

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	45,300	83,648	128,948
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		90,909	8,882	99,791 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	136,209	92,530	228,739
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	136,209	92,530	228,739 (c8)

SECTION D					
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		£		£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		550		699
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		312		699
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)	238		

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS		Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances	
e1	Ghanaian Fellowship	16,126	15,309	817		24,407		25,224
e2	Women's Fellowship					2,585		2,585
e3	Men's Fellowship					1,770		1,770
e4	Sierra Leonean's Fellowship					978		978
e5								
e6								
e7								
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	16,126	15,309	817		29,740	(e11)	30,557 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	324,971 (a7)	196,023 (b9)	128,948	(c7)	99,791 (c6)		228,739 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	341,097	211,332	129,765		129,531 (x)		259,296 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS					

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	34,303	8,910
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	65,488	219,829
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	99,791 (c6)	228,739 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	29,740 (e11)	30,557 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	129,531 (x)	259,296 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,500,000	2,500,000
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

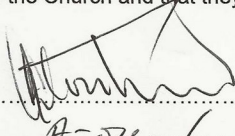
f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church St Mark's Methodist No... 1128035.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

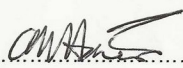
I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date 18/5/25

Name and address of treasurer A. J. O. - Lu B. O. R. E.
28 HOLLY COURT, ANCHOR DRIVE Post Code N15 5DB
TOTTENHAM

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 18/5/25

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting REV CHRIS HAINES Date 18/5/25

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

St Mark's Methodist

.....Church

1128035

Charity Number

Responsibilities and basis of report

St Mark's

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the St Mark's Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages ...2 to ...3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church No

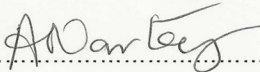
Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner Tina Nartey

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCCA

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 17 Ulleswater Road

N14 7BL

..... Post Code

Date 1st May 2025

* delete or circle as appropriate