

QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024
Registered Charity No 1128423

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Introduction

Administrative information

Quinton Methodist Church ("QMC") forms a part of the Birmingham (West) & Oldbury Circuit (5/6) of the Methodist Church, which in turn is part of the Birmingham District. It is located at the conjunction of three local authorities (Dudley Metropolitan Borough, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough and the City of Birmingham) in Ridgway Avenue, Halesowen, West Midlands, B62 9AU (Tel: 0121 422 1177).

Previously an Excepted Charity under Statutory Instrument 2655 of 2007, Quinton Methodist Church was registered with the Charity Commission for England & Wales on 5 March 2009, as Registered Charity No: 1128423.

Governing document

The church is governed by the Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act of 1976.

Structure, governance and management

We are governed according to the "Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church". Our governing body is the Church Council, which meets twice yearly usually in February and October. Trustees are generally appointed ex officio from leadership of various Church organisations, with provision for others. There are committees to oversee Finance and Property and Outreach and Pastoral matters.

Charitable objects

The purpose of the Methodist Church is 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.

Public benefit

The Church Council is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and has regard to it in the activities of the church. The Church Council believes that the Church provides a benefit to the public by:

- a) Providing resources for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers;

Public Benefit - Continued

- b) Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the Church to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Trustees

Members of the Church Council represent the trustees of the Church. The Council Members and office holders throughout the year and up to the signing of these statements were as follows:

Ministers:

Revd. Mucha Chisvo
Revd. Dr. Nutan Suray
Rev d. Ildio de Cristiano Oliveira
Revd. Brian Taylor – Supernumerary (safeguarding)

Lay Minister:

John Cowan

Leadership Team:

Tony Burridge
Chris Haynes
Laurence Parkes
Sue Harrold
Carolyn Gaunt
Nancy Tan
Pastoral
Property
Treasurer

Secretary:

Vacant

Representing the wider interests of the Church:

Pamela Burridge	Pastoral	Olivia Crook	Girls' Brigade
Anne Chaplin	Booking Secretary	Andres Senior	Boys' Brigade
Mark Smith	Gardening	Allan Lane	Magazine Editor
Helena Taylor	Safeguarding	Dr Michael Hall	Local Preacher

Trustees – continued

By election:

Elected to serve until 31 August 2025

Jenny Tolley	John Overton
Roy Pagett	David Housley

Elected to serve until 31 August 2026

Martin Hayden	Helena Taylor
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Elected to serve until 31 August 2027

Ross Spencer	Tim Ding
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Five trustees are elected each year at the Annual General Meeting to serve for three years. No elected member can serve for more than six consecutive years.

Any individual member will be eligible for re-election after a gap of one year unless insufficient members are nominated to fill the five vacancies at the Annual General Meeting such members will be eligible for nomination and re-election.

Membership of the Church Council is from 1 September in any year to 31 August in the following year.

In addition to the elected members there are those who serve by dint of office e.g. the Minister and others to represent the wider interests of the church. Members of the Leadership Team normally serve for a maximum of four years.

The Church Council meets every six months and receives reports from internal committees.

Trustee Training

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

Risk Management

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

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

Activities and achievements

Our Mission

We will respond to the calling of the Methodist Church through: *Worship; Learning and Caring; Service; Evangelism.*

We have a Mission and Growth Plan and implement this through our Mission Action Plan which embraces our intentions to be a Church Without Walls.

Our Church

We are an Eco Church with silver status with an action plan to achieve gold status.

We aim to be a Dementia Friendly Church and a Fairtrade Church.

We draw our congregation from 3 districts: Dudley, Sandwell and Birmingham as we are situated close to the boundaries of all three local authorities.

The Peace Garden, has commemorative plants, and is used for informal meetings and Worship.

Worship

Weekly: Sundays 11am to 12 noon.

Pre Church 10.30 am to 10.45 am: held on special occasions
Evening Service: monthly

Family Creative Service with The Boys' and Girls' Brigades: 11am held on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Holy Communion: once a month usually during the morning service at 11am.

Breakfast Church: held on the 5th Sunday of the month when sufficient volunteers.

Family Creative Service with Brigades: this is an expansion of our traditional Family Parade Service that we have held for many years and we have now started to include into this Service. This idea came from the creation of a Messy Church that was attracting further young people to attend a separate afternoon event, and the idea is to expand our Family Service with a linked craft activity rather than have separate arrangements.

There is a number of other special services, such as annual Covenant Service, Mission Service, Praise and Thanksgiving Service, Eco Church etc.

Our Worship Area space is flexible, and the layout can be changed to suit the Worship.

The Children's Area is at the front near the focus of Worship.

Light refreshments are provided after most Morning Worship Services and depending on the time of year and numbers expected these are held either in the Church Hall or the Parlour.

Church Life

While our congregation numbers have settled at around 50 (more at Festival and special occasions), we welcome into the building during the week some 250 or more people of all ages. These attend our many regular Church based activities and groups hiring space from us; numbers increase when Blood Donor Sessions and Antique Auctions take place. While some people clearly attend more than one group or activity, and some of these are regular worshippers as well, the numbers sharing fellowship, finding support through activities, and enhancing their lifestyles with us in a Christian welcoming environment, are very positive indications of our reaching out into the community. Our Community Camaraderie (Eco Fayre) and Craft Fayre with Art Sale, provide and highlight further opportunities for wider community engagement.

Our Brigades make an important contribution to Worship and Church Life with their teaching and learning, maintain and develop our Peace Garden, and maintain links with a local care home including an annual visit. In addition to the healthy numbers at their regular weekly meetings, the numbers of young people, parents, carers and friends at their Awards Evenings (held in the Worship Area), and their Birthday/Anniversary Celebrations, highlighting achievements and commitment, demonstrates how important their activity is for the Church now and in the future. They do however have limitations in what they would like to do in the wider Church because of largely no longer having teens and older age groups (outside of their leadership) in their membership.

The Church in the Community

Our Outreach work has more emphasis on seeking opportunities to support groups helping those in the community with greater needs, and also identify needs that we might be able to respond to directly. Our work locally with Safe Families for Children, the Food Bank, and support for Caminal Felix supporting families in Romania, are ways that we are doing this. There remains potential for greater sharing of knowledge and skills across the Circuit, and developing initiatives jointly with other Churches in the Circuit, and with other denominations locally. Sharing Eco Church information and actions is one example; we have recently had exchanges of information with neighbouring Baptist and C of E churches, as well as other Methodist churches, and are keen to provide mutual help and support to other Churches. We continue to develop and expand our community networks as one of the ways of reaching out further, identifying and responding to needs, widening opportunities for our members and adherents, identifying sources of funding and other support, and being able to highlight sources of help and support for those who might benefit from this. Where appropriate, we have introduced other Churches to these networks.

Our Social Media, website inputs, and emailing arrangements are kept under review and seek to encourage further awareness, interest and response for the Church. We are pleased that members of the Church community have taken the initiative, to provide music and fellowship on a regular basis at local care homes.

Financial review

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 6.

During the year extensive repairs were carried out to the roof over the classrooms. This included the provision of solar power with which we expect to benefit from reduced power costs in future years. This was financed by drawing on our Reserves held at the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes and also grants from the Benetact Trust (£20,800) and the Birmingham (West) & Oldbury Circuit (£20,000).

General funds

General Funds are held to meet the ordinary running expenses of the Church. At £52,893 (2023 - £49,445), this balance is deemed to be sufficient cover for six months (2023 – five months) of projected annual outgoings, including the assessment payable to the circuit.

Restricted funds

An analysis of Restricted Funds is given on page 10. Funds held by Internal Organisations not at the disposal of the Church Council amounted to £14,179 (2023 - £16,566).

Related Parties

The Church is part of the Birmingham (West) & Oldbury Circuit which is part of the Birmingham District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The internal organisations linked to this church are:

Outreach Committee (Church Project)	Boys' Brigade
Girls' Brigade	Badminton Club
Luncheon Club	Quinton Ladies
Youth Club, including Stay & Play	Stitch Group

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. Amongst other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

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

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Charities Act 2011 requires the Trustees of the Charity to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Charity for that period.

In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- follow applicable accounting standards, disclosing and explaining any material departures in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which are such as to disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the Charity at any time, and to enable them as Trustees to ensure that the financial statements comply with charity law. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the Charity's assets, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

*Approved by the Church Council on
and signed on its behalf by*

A BURRIDGE
.....

Acting Church Secretary

5 March 2025

TO THE TRUSTEES OF QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH

I report on the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on pages 10 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

I have no concerns, and I 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 financial statements to be reached.



MALCOLM H J WILLCOX FCCA

Malcolm Willcox & Co

Chartered Certified Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Birmingham

11 March 2025

QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		2024		2023	
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME FROM					
	Notes	3	55,485	55,485	65,706
		3	23,226	-	22,810
		3	8,363	54,610	21,944
		3	999	2,720	3,719
		3	88,073	57,330	145,403
EXPENDITURE ON					
		4	28,575	84,695	113,270
		4	55,660	-	55,660
		10	390	-	390
			84,625	84,695	169,320
			3,448	(27,365)	(23,917)
NET INCOME (DEFICIT)					
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
5		49,445	91,307	140,752	127,882
5		52,893	63,942	116,835	140,752
Total funds carried forward					

The notes form part of these financial statements

QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET

31 AUGUST 2024

	2024	2023
Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	1,493	-
Investments	-	36,024
Cash at bank and in hand	51,783	27,918
	53,276	63,942
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	(383)	-
	(383)	(383)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	52,893	63,942
FUNDS		
Repairs and maintenance	49,363	49,363
Benevolent fund	400	400
Internal Organisations	14,179	14,179
Total Restricted funds	63,942	63,942
Unrestricted funds	52,893	52,893
TOTAL FUNDS	52,893	63,942
	140,752	140,752

Approved by the Church Council and signed on their behalf by

A BURIDGE
Acting Church Secretary
Date 5 March 2025

L E PARKES
Treasurer
Date 5 March 2025

QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

2 LAND AND BUILDINGS

In 1976, the land and buildings were transferred, without consideration, and legal ownership was vested, in the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. Under the terms of the transfer, QMC is responsible for the management, upkeep and insurance of the property.

3 INCOME

	2024	2023
Donations and legacies:		
Offerings and tax recoverable	55,485	54,430
Bequests	-	11,276
Charitable activities:		
Church lettings	23,226	22,810
Investment income:		
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	2,720	1,980
Central Finance Board	-	304
Restricted funds	2,720	2,284
Barclays Bank	48	212
Central Finance Board	951	-
Other income:		
Circuit grant	-	4,300
Sundry income	5,263	2,442
Internal organisations	3,100	2,900
Unrestricted	8,363	9,642
Restricted:		
Internal Organisations	13,810	12,302
Grants Received	40,800	-
	<u>62,973</u>	<u>21,944</u>

4 EXPENDITURE

Charitable activities:		
Circuit assessment	55,660	56,800
Repairs and maintenance	6,468	15,303
Utilities	15,481	11,488
Other church expenses	6,626	6,519
Grants- Stewardship	390	421
Unrestricted	<u>84,625</u>	<u>90,531</u>
Restricted		
Internal Organisations - Restricted	16,197	9,379
Church roof renovation	68,217	-
Other church expenses	181	176
Benevolent Fund	100	-
	<u>169,320</u>	<u>100,086</u>

No expenses were paid to trustees.

QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

RESERVES 5

Church funds					Internal organisations					Church funds					Internal organisations					Church funds					Internal organisations																																		
<i>Unrestricted:</i>					<i>Restricted:</i>					<i>Unrestricted:</i>					<i>Restricted:</i>					<i>Unrestricted:</i>					<i>Restricted:</i>																																		
General fund					Repairs fund					Benevolence fund					General fund					Repairs fund					Benevolence fund																																		
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2,975					3,003					5,377					2,975					3,003					2,176					3,754					2,111					(2,121)					(443)					(3,200)					4,763				
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QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

5 RESERVES - continued

General fund

General fund is held to meet the ordinary running expenses of the church.

The balance of £52,893 (2023: £49,445) is at a level that would fund projected annual outgoings for approximately 7 months (2023 7 months).

Restricted funds

A repairs fund was established to cover anticipated replacement and maintenance costs of a specialised nature relating to the building. During the year extensive renovations took place and part of the fund was expended.

Restricted funds also include the accumulated funds of £ 14,179 (2023: £16,566) held by internal organisations not at the disposal of the Church Council.

6	DEBTORS	2024	2023
	Prepayments	1,200	1,230
	Lettings and donations	293	2,220
7	INVESTMENTS	<u>1,493</u>	<u>3,450</u>

	The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
	At 1 September 2023	63,485	61,681
	Interest received	2,720	1,980
	Fund charges	(181)	(176)
	Withdrawn	(30,000)	-
	At 31 August 2024	<u>36,024</u>	<u>63,485</u>
	The above represents various bequests held in a Model Trust Fund.		
8	CREDITORS - amounts falling due within one year		
	Trade creditors	383	1,094
	Receipts in advance	-	40
		<u>383</u>	<u>1,134</u>

QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

9 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities (2023: £Nil).

10 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Donations made to other Methodist Church organisations:

	2024	2023
£		
Fund for Support of Presbyters & Deacons	300	300
Action for Children	90	121
Included in Stewardship payments	<u>390</u>	<u>421</u>

No amounts were due to or from either of the above at either balance sheet date.