

Marlborough Road Methodist Church

Registered Charity No 1128694

Trustees Annual Report for year ending August 2020

The Methodist Church
Marlborough Road
St Albans
AL1 3XG

Reference Information and Administration

The managing trustees

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Rosemary Fletcher	Chair	
2	Revd Andrew Prout	Presbyter (Hatfield Road Methodist Church)	
3	Janis Gilbert	Church Steward	
4	Mercadell Lewis	Church Steward	
5	Theresa Tetteh	Church Steward	
6	Ann Scorer	Church Steward	
7	Ena Fowkes	Church Steward	
8	Carl Meredith	Treasurer	
9	Celia Hudson	Pastoral Co-ordinator	
10	Rona Wightman	Secretary to Church Council	
11	Frances Bates	Representative from General Church Meeting	
12	Di Churcher	Representative from General Church Meeting	
13	Andrew Johnstone	Representative from General Church Meeting	
14	Patti McConnell	Representative from General Church Meeting	
15	Erma Profit	Representative from General Church Meeting	
16	Mike Scorer	Representative from General Church Meeting	
17	Marjorie Wilson	Representative from General Church Meeting	
18	Jean Blight	Representative from General Church Meeting	
19	Judith Head	Safeguarding Officer	
20	Ian Gilbert	Senior Property Steward	
21	James Rowley	Secretary to Finance and Property committee	

Trustees for the charity

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) are custodian trustees.

Appointed advisers

We appoint an Auditor each year to check our accounts.

Structure, governance and management

The charity's trusts

Our governing document is the Methodist Church Act 1976

The charity is constituted as a trust.

Trustees are selected in accordance with the Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Church. Representatives are elected by the Annual General Church Meeting. Other trustees are appointed by Church Council by virtue of their role. There is also provision in the CPD for trustees to be co-opted by Church Council.

Governance

As a Methodist Church, we are a Church within a Circuit, in our case the St Albans and Welwyn Circuit. The Circuits fall within Districts, our Circuit is in the Bedfordshire, Essex and Herts District. The Methodist Church is a Connexional Church, that is, we see ourselves as part of an interconnected 'body' that offers mutual encouragement and support.

Connexional systems, requirements and guidance help us minimise risks; our Circuit Meetings and Church Council and committees consider any specific issues for us to deal with.

Our safeguarding policy is reviewed annually.

Trustees are required to familiarise themselves with CC3 *The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do*. Our Circuit arranges annual Trustee training sessions.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The purposes of the Methodist Church are the advancement of:

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

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Our main activity is the holding of regular public acts of worship, open to members of the church and non-members alike.

Pastoral work includes visiting the sick and bereaved.

We run a weekly drop-in toddler group for pre-school children and their carers and a weekly drop-in coffee morning that is mainly attended by older people.

Our premises are used by a number of community groups for cultural, educational and physical activity.

We participate in Heritage Open Days.

We support other charities in the UK financially and with prayer.

We have been working jointly with Hatfield Road Methodist Church (Charity No 1173147) to employ two Lay Workers: a three year post for a Children and Families Worker and a five year post for an Anna Chaplain. The Children and Families Worker was appointed in June 2020. The Employer is Hatfield Road Methodist Church.

Our trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Local churches, circuits and districts are not defined as external grant-making bodies.

Nearly all of our activity is carried out by volunteers, lay and ordained, with support of stipendiary presbyters and administrative staff provided by the circuit.

Achievements and Performance 2019-20

Marlborough Road Methodist Church is an open and diverse congregation of Christians set near the centre of St. Albans. Our Calling is to:

Worship

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

Learning and Caring

The Church exists to help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care

Service

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

Evangelism

The Church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ

Most of our activities fall under more than one heading!

This year began as a continuation from our existing patterns of worship and activity, which are outlined in the first part of this section. From March 2020 to August 2020 we adapted to lockdown, as reported in the second part of this section.

September 2019 – February 2020

We continued our general pattern of regular and seasonal activities.

Our regular **worship** is on Sunday mornings at 10.30am. The format is 'traditional', with hymns, prayers and a sermon. However, the congregation is not bound to this format and we have been refreshed by Creative Worship and special services throughout the year. Holy Communion is celebrated monthly. We are grateful to the Stewards who organise our services.

Our **Junior Church** spends some of the worship time with the rest of the congregation and some in their own sessions. We are grateful to the Junior Church staff who help our primary age young people to grow and learn in faith. Several of our young people are **Junior Mission for All** (JMA) collectors, we celebrate our collectors, their subscribers and the JMA secretary in the autumn on World Church Sunday.

The secondary age young people enjoy the monthly **youth group**, which is run jointly with Hatfield Road Methodist Church.

Our Tuesday morning **toddler group** continues to be highly regarded by local pre-schoolers and their carers.

Chatterbox is an informal coffee morning held in the vestibule on Thursdays. We are seeing a gradual increase in numbers 'dropping in' for chat and company.

We have several **fellowship groups**. Bible Study groups meet on Thursday mornings at the church and alternate Tuesday evenings in a members' home; the Prayer and Praise group meets monthly at church. Our fellowship groups - the Tuesday Fellowship, St Stephen's Fellowship, the International Bible Reading Association Fellowship, the Marlborough Men and the Flexible Friends – continued to meet in members' homes. The Marlborough Theatre Club organised trips to performances and the Marlborough Readers met monthly to discuss selected works.

In September we observe Creationtide, leading up to **Harvest Festival**. We are conscious of our own environment and also the effects of climate change on the whole planet. Our Harvest Festival service again featured the **Brownies** and the work of the Methodist Charity, **All We Can**.

September also includes **Heritage Open Days**. We were open on Saturday 14 September, with special displays, home baking and live organ music. We choose that date so that we also welcome participants in the annual Historic Churches Trust Bike 'n' Hike, including our minister and her husband who again cycled around a number of Hertfordshire churches. The Churches Together in St Albans Prayer Walk takes place on the Sunday afternoon following, starting at SS Alban & Stephen and wending its way through town, calling in at churches – including ours, for a short pause and prayer – on the way to the Abbey

October is Black History Month and includes One World Week and United Nations Day; as a church we celebrate World Church and our Junior Mission for All.

We are an **All We Can Partner Church**, and also part of an All We Can Partner Circuit. To mark this one of our members 'Cycled the Circuit' one day in October 2019, stopping off at all the circuit churches.

The featured country this year is Ethiopia and projects supported by All We Can that are helping farmers deal with problems arising from climate change.

Pictured: Rona the cyclist, Matthew from All We Can and Rosemary the Circuit Superintendent.



November is a time of remembrance. This year we had a very special All Saints & All Souls afternoon recital given by Crispian Steele-Perkins (trumpet) and Hilary Davan Wetton (organ).

Pictured: Crispian, Rosemary, Hilary

In December the contemplative, thoughtful Advent devotions are at odds with the commercial excitement leading up to the celebration of Christ's birth. We take part in the Amnesty International 'Write for Rights' campaign, writing greetings cards to prisoners and campaigners. This year we also joined in an initiative to send greetings cards to inmates at HMP The Mount, a nearby prison.

January is a month of renewal and rededication, when Methodists hold their Covenant services. We are delighted that the congregation and choir of St Peter's (Church of England) join us for our Covenant Service.

We signed up to the **Hertfordshire Year of Culture 2020**, and we enjoyed a visit from the mascot, YOCI, to Chatterbox coffee morning at the end of January 2020. HYOC had monthly themes and ideas for creativity, and this continued to inspire Chatterbox people during lockdown. Our involvement in HYOC also led to interest in the Methodist Modern Art collection, which we now feature regularly in our monthly '*Marlborough Round*' newsletter.



The usual accompaniment to our singing and reflection has been organ music, but this year we have been mostly without a regular organist. We enjoyed the playing of Tanya Brittain during December to February, and we were delighted that Hilary Davan Wetton played the organ for our carol service. We have appreciated visiting organists and members of the congregation playing the piano and other instruments during worship. Our property team have been making good use of the CD player.

This has been the third year of **Thinking Lunches**. These are held on the first Thursday of each month from September to June. The audience bring their own sandwiches, drinks are provided. The speaker talks for about thirty minutes and discussion follows. The speakers have been excellent. The lunches have covered a range of topics, some directly relating to faith and others concerning peace, justice and environmental issues.

September 2019	The Revd Ruth Eldridge <i>The Church and the whaikaha (the Maori word for disabled)</i>
October 2019	Bevan Powell, MBE, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Advisor to the Methodist Church <i>Why Black History?</i>
November 2019	Stephen Poxon <i>Is God a football fan?</i>
December 2019	Steve Lindsay, MBE ACIB, Prince's Trust <i>Did you realise that the Prince's Trust is active in Herts & Beds?</i>
January 2020	- no meeting
February 2020	Holly Pitt, Missing People <i>For "such as these": how can we best support Hertfordshire's Missing and Exploited Children?</i>
March 2020	The Revd Antony MacRow-Wood <i>Can credit unions play a significant part in promoting financial inclusion?</i>

The **Winter Beds Project** was initiated by the ecumenical City Centre Churches Group in which we play an active part. Three of our members volunteered for the rota to help look after overnight guests this winter.

The project continues our long tradition of working with those who are homeless. Several of our members continue to volunteer with Centre 33 to provide meals and support to homeless and socially or materially disadvantaged people at this city-centre drop-in facility.

We regularly support the **Fund for Human Need**. We hold quarterly collections for our church benevolence fund, with the understanding that when our benevolence fund has an adequate reserve the extra over collected will be donated to the Fund for Human Need. This is generously understood by our members!

We also support the **FEED foodbank** operated by the Vineyard Church in St Albans. We collect foodstuffs and household essentials on the first Sunday of each month and at Harvest.

We care for the environment, and have continued **working towards Eco-Church** accreditation. We continued collecting items for specialist recycling, which we pass to local Terracycle collectors, thereby benefitting the environment and local organisations. We collect writing implements, toothbrushes and toothpaste tubes, crisp packets and biscuit wrappers. The items are taken from church to the collectors by bicycle. Our recycling collections proved popular with premises users and visitors as well as church members, and this became an opportunity for outreach, as we began to produce a simple quarterly 'eco-newsletter' leaflet. Our recycling guru liaised with her opposite numbers in circuit and local churches, both giving and receiving useful information and ideas.



March 2020 – August 2020

Throughout March numbers attending Sunday morning worship fell as church members became increasingly concerned about the spread of Covid-19 and started to voluntarily 'social distance'. By mid-March it was decided to cease Chatterbox coffee mornings.. On Mothering Sunday, 22 March 2020, the usual service was not held but the church was open for prayer. "It felt so poignant to lock the church up on that day" said the stewards. On 26 March **lockdown** measures came into force. All services and events were suspended.

There was a lot of telephoning as we organised support networks, especially for our older members and for the families, and got email addresses for as many of our members as had them. Being part of a circuit stood us in good stead. The circuit staff took it in turns to prepare a home worship service which was emailed out, along with the church's weekly notice sheet. Paper copies were posted to those without email.

We were also grateful for support from St Peter's Church, who shared their emailable children's activity sheets with us.

Our pastoral network made sure that people although isolated physically were not out of touch. Our safeguarding officer co-ordinated volunteers and those in need of help in collecting shopping or prescriptions. Our property steward checked the empty building periodically. Fellowship group members rang each other regularly.

As an organisation we are not very digitally proficient or well-equipped, so we did not attempt to put our services online. Our members joined live streamed services from local churches eg St Peter's and from the wider Methodist connexion eg Wesley's Chapel or connected with pre-recorded services for home worship prepared by two churches in the circuit.. We began to learn about Zoom, and after Easter we began 'after church coffee Zoom', a chance to meet up online at the time we would normally have been chatting in the church hall after the service.

As restrictions started to ease we began to meet outdoors in small groups. Our Covid-19 Management group was formed and reviewed government and Methodist guidance and carried out risk assessments of our building and worship practice to prepare for resumption of worship in the church building.



Following the death of George Floyd as a result of police violence, a **Black Lives Matter** rally was held in St Albans on 12 June 2020 and a number of church members attended or were involved in managing the rally. It was held in Verulamium Park, with over 2000 people present, and was a peaceful, Covid-safe and very determined protest to call out racism in the UK.

The **Lay Workers Project**, a joint initiative with Hatfield Road Methodist Church, continued to progress in spite of the pandemic. The Children & Families post was advertised in April 2020, interviews were held remotely and an appointment was made. Emma Haggis began work in August 2020, initially meeting church and local contacts either outside or online.

Financial review

The Church's policy on Reserves is to maintain a reserve in the general fund to cover a month's running costs and to hold a sensible reserve in the repair, organ and cottage funds to cover emergency repair works.

No funds are materially in deficit.

Our principal sources of funds are voluntary donations, lettings and fund-raising.

Our expenditure goes entirely in support of our key objectives and activities.

Our investment policy has been maintained through the moral and ethical policies of the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Please refer to our Accounts for more details.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the foregoing report.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rona Mary Wightman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rona Mary Wightman
Church Council Secretary

Date: 30 March 2022

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Marlborough Road Methodist Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 Aug 2020

St Albans & Welwyn Circuit	Circuit No. 34/13
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number	1128694
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If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number	
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(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:

Reverend Rosemary Fletcher

Treasurer:

Carl Meredith

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2019-20 £
Income						
1 Offerings		73,249				73,249
2 Donations		18,279		5,365		23,644
3 Gift aid		22,587		665		23,252
4 Interest and investment income		194	13			207
5 Income from investment properties		23,059				23,059
6 Internal organisations			5,217			5,217
7 Other charitable income				80		80
8 Total income		137,368	5,230	6,110	-	148,708
Expenditure						
9 Circuit assessment or share		84,000				84,000
10 Grants and donations		3,500		525		4,025
11 Property maintenance		10,911				10,911
12 Insurance, utilities etc		9,749				9,749
13 Depreciation						0
14 Office expenses		1,806		2,034		3,840
15 Other expenditure		3,262				3,262
16 Internal organisations			4,420			4,420
17 Total charitable expenditure		113,228	4,420	2,559	0	120,207
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0
20 Net income/(expenditure)		24,140	810	3,551	0	28,501
21 Transfers between funds	-	20,000		20,000		0
22 Other gains/(losses)						0
23 Net movement in funds		4,140	810	23,551	0	28,501
24 Total funds brought forward		65,803	6,245	500	-	72,548
25 Total funds carried forward		69,943	7,055	24,051	-	101,049

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2019

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2018-19 £
Income						
1 Offerings		76,048		852		76,900
2 Donations		12,573				12,573
3 Gift aid		13,858				13,858
4 Interest and investment income		176	13			189
5 Income from investment properties		33,280				33,280
6 Internal organisations			10,736			10,736
7 Other charitable income						0
8 Total income		135,935	10,749	852	-	147,536
Expenditure						
9 Circuit assessment or share		84,000				84,000
10 Grants and donations		3,450		852		4,302
11 Property maintenance		11,124		1,991		13,115
12 Insurance, utilities etc		11,127				11,127
13 Depreciation						0
14 Office expenses		2,465				2,465
15 Other expenditure		2,977				2,977
16 Internal organisations			10,750			10,750
17 Total charitable expenditure		115,143	10,750	2,843	0	128,736
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0
20 Net income/(expenditure)		20,792	-1	-1,991	0	18,800
21 Transfers between funds		366	-	366		0
22 Other gains/(losses)						0
23 Net movement in funds		21,158	-1	-2,357	0	18,800
24 Total funds brought forward		44,645	6,246	2,857	-	53,748
25 Total funds carried forward		65,803	6,245	500	-	72,548

Name of Church

Marlborough Road Methodist Church

Circuit No 34/13

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2020	Totals 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Church building and other property	5,000,000				5,000,000	5,000,000
Investment properties	425,000				425,000	425,000
Investments					0	
Total fixed assets	5,425,000	0	0	0	5,425,000	5,425,000

Current Assets

Debtors and prepayments	44,242				44,242	37,136
Loans by the Churches					0	0
Investments with TMCP					0	0
Central Finance Board Deposits	25,015	4,385	443		29,843	29,637
Cash at Bank and in hand	6,308	25,572			31,880	14,452
Total current assets	75,565	29,957	443	0	105,965	81,225

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	4,916				4,916	8,675
Grants payable within 2018-19					0	0
Total current liabilities	4,916	0	0	0	4,916	8,675
Net current assets/liabilities	70,649	29,957	443	0	101,049	72,550

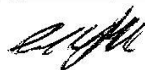
Total assets less current liabilities	5,495,649	29,957	443	0	5,526,049	5,497,550
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)						
Grants payable after 2018-19					0	0
Loans to the Church					0	0
					0	0
Net assets	5,495,649	29,957	443	0	5,526,049	5,497,550

Funds of the Church

General Fund (Unrestricted)	5,495,649				5,495,649	5,490,804
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		29,957			29,957	6,246
Total Unrestricted Funds					5,525,606	5,497,050
Restricted Funds			443		443	500
Endowment Funds				0	0	
Total Funds	5,495,649	29,957	443	0	5,526,049	5,497,550

Signed



CARL MEREDITH

Church Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletin 1 issued in 2016.

2 Funds

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

3 Accounting policies

Basis

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

Incoming Resources

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.

Resources Expended

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.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £10,000.

Property assets are stated at current fair value. The current fair value of the main church premises is evaluated by the trustees at 2020 deemed values, with reference to insurance assessments. The current fair value of the residential investment property is evaluated by the trustees with reference to comparable property sale transactions in the locality and to advice received from the letting agent engaged to manage the property on behalf of the trustees. Both properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors primarily constitute amounts owing by HMRC in respect of gift aid claims.

Creditors

Creditors include both trade creditors and donations to be paid to charities from the church General Reserve as determined by Church Council following confirmation of the full year income and expenditure.

4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church, in either the current or prior year.

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

There were no fees paid or payable to the independent examiner for reporting on the accounts or for other services, in either the current or prior year.

6 Paid employees

The church did not employ any staff during the current or prior year.

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31 st August 2020 there are no capital commitments.

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2020.

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

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Balance brought forward from last year	1,585	2,476
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations		6,293
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	1,585	7,184
Balance carried forward		1,585

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or valuation

	Main church premises	Residential investment property	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	5,000,000	425,000	-	5,425,000
Additions	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers * (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	5,000,000	425,000	-	5,425,000

Accumulated depreciation

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

Net book value

Brought forward	5,000,000	425,000	-	5,425,000
Carried forward	5,000,000	425,000	-	5,425,000

10 Loans

The Church currently has no loans and has not held any loans during the current or prior year.

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance
Restricted Funds					
Benevolent Fund	500	467	525		442
Lay Worker Fund	-	5,644	2,034	20,000	23,610
Total Restricted	500	6,111	2,559	20,000	24,052
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	18,326	127,764	110,049	- 5,807	30,234
Major Repair Fund	18,440	29			18,469
Organ Repair Fund	6,584	73	420		6,237
Investment Property Maintenance Fund	22,453	9,500	2,760	- 14,193	15,000
Internal Organisations	6,247	5,230	4,420		7,057
Total Unrestricted	72,050	142,596	117,649	- 20,000	76,997
Total Funds	72,550	148,707	120,208	-	101,049

****Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2018-19

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance
Restricted Funds					
Benevolent Fund	500	852	852	-	500
Refurbishment Fund	2,357	-	1,991	- 366	-
Total Restricted	2,857	852	2,843	- 366	500
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	3,311	126,932	112,284	366	18,325
Major Repair Fund	18,412	28	-		18,440
Organ Repair Fund	7,084	109	609		6,584
Investment Property Maintenance Fund	15,838	8,866	2,250		22,454
Internal Organisations	6,246	10,749	10,750		6,245
Total Unrestricted	50,891	146,684	125,893	366	72,048
Total Funds	53,748	147,536	128,736	-	72,548

Name of Church MARLBOROUGH ROAD METHODIST CHURCH No.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

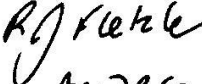
I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date..... 9 APRIL 2021

Name and address of treasurer CARL MEREDITH, 31 CANNON ST,
..... ST ALBANS Post Code..... AL3 5JR

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 8 FEBRUARY 2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting  P.P.
ANDREW PROUT

Name of the Chair of the meeting The Rev'd Andrew Prout Date 9 APRIL 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

MARBOROUGH ROAD METHODIST Church

Charity Number 1128694

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the MARLBOROUGH ROAD METHODIST Church for the year ended 31 August 2020 set out on pages 1. 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 MARLBOROUGH ROAD METHODIST CHURCH No

Independent Examiner's Statement

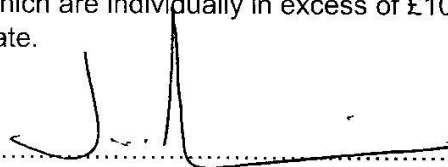
~~[The Church's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of (Insert name of applicable listed body)]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

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; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts

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 J. ROBINSON

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner M.A. A.C.A.

Address 5 HAMMER DELL, WELWYN HERTS

Post Code AL6 0BE

Date 24/4/21

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Marlborough Road Methodist Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 Aug 2020

St Albans & Welwyn Circuit	Circuit No. 34/13
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number	1128694
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If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number	
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(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:

Reverend Rosemary Fletcher

Treasurer:

Carl Meredith

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2019-20 £
Income						
1 Offerings		73,249				73,249
2 Donations		18,279		5,365		23,644
3 Gift aid		22,587		665		23,252
4 Interest and investment income		194	13			207
5 Income from investment properties		23,059				23,059
6 Internal organisations			5,217			5,217
7 Other charitable income				80		80
8 Total income		137,368	5,230	6,110	-	148,708
Expenditure						
9 Circuit assessment or share		84,000				84,000
10 Grants and donations		3,500		525		4,025
11 Property maintenance		10,911				10,911
12 Insurance,utilities etc		9,749				9,749
13 Depreciation						0
14 Office expenses		1,806		2,034		3,840
15 Other expenditure		3,262				3,262
16 Internal organisations			4,420			4,420
17 Total charitable expenditure		113,228	4,420	2,559	0	120,207
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0
20 Net income/(expenditure)		24,140	810	3,551	0	28,501
21 Transfers between funds	-	20,000		20,000		0
22 Other gains/(losses)						0
23 Net movement in funds		4,140	810	23,551	0	28,501
24 Total funds brought forward		65,803	6,245	500	-	72,548
25 Total funds carried forward		69,943	7,055	24,051	-	101,049

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2019

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2018-19 £
Income						
1 Offerings		76,048		852		76,900
2 Donations		12,573				12,573
3 Gift aid		13,858				13,858
4 Interest and investment income		176	13			189
5 Income from investment properties		33,280				33,280
6 Internal organisations			10,736			10,736
7 Other charitable income						0
8 Total income		135,935	10,749	852	-	147,536
Expenditure						
9 Circuit assessment or share		84,000				84,000
10 Grants and donations		3,450		852		4,302
11 Property maintenance		11,124		1,991		13,115
12 Insurance,utilities etc		11,127				11,127
13 Depreciation						0
14 Office expenses		2,465				2,465
15 Other expenditure		2,977				2,977
16 Internal organisations			10,750			10,750
17 Total charitable expenditure		115,143	10,750	2,843	0	128,736
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0
20 Net income/(expenditure)		20,792	-1	-1,991	0	18,800
21 Transfers between funds		366	-	366		0
22 Other gains/(losses)						0
23 Net movement in funds		21,158	-1	-2,357	0	18,800
24 Total funds brought forward		44,645	6,246	2,857	-	53,748
25 Total funds carried forward		65,803	6,245	500	-	72,548

Name of Church

Marlborough Road Methodist Church

Circuit No 34/13

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2020	Totals 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Church building and other property	5,000,000				5,000,000	5,000,000
Investment properties	425,000				425,000	425,000
Investments					0	
Total fixed assets	5,425,000	0	0	0	5,425,000	5,425,000

Current Assets

Debtors and prepayments	44,242				44,242	37,136
Loans by the Churches					0	0
Investments with TMCP					0	0
Central Finance Board Deposits	25,015	4,385	443		29,843	29,637
Cash at Bank and in hand	6,308	25,572			31,880	14,452
Total current assets	75,565	29,957	443	0	105,965	81,225

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	4,916				4,916	8,675
Grants payable within 2018-19					0	0
Total current liabilities	4,916	0	0	0	4,916	8,675
Net current assets/liabilities	70,649	29,957	443	0	101,049	72,550

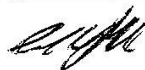
Total assets less current liabilities	5,495,649	29,957	443	0	5,526,049	5,497,550
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)						
Grants payable after 2018-19					0	0
Loans to the Church					0	0
					0	0
Net assets	5,495,649	29,957	443	0	5,526,049	5,497,550

Funds of the Church

General Fund (Unrestricted)	5,495,649				5,495,649	5,490,804
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		29,957			29,957	6,246
Total Unrestricted Funds					5,525,606	5,497,050
Restricted Funds			443		443	500
Endowment Funds				0	0	
Total Funds	5,495,649	29,957	443	0	5,526,049	5,497,550

Signed



CARL MEREDITH

Church Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletin 1 issued in 2016.

2 Funds

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

3 Accounting policies

Basis

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

Incoming Resources

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.

Resources Expended

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.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £10,000.

Property assets are stated at current fair value. The current fair value of the main church premises is evaluated by the trustees at 2020 deemed values, with reference to insurance assessments. The current fair value of the residential investment property is evaluated by the trustees with reference to comparable property sale transactions in the locality and to advice received from the letting agent engaged to manage the property on behalf of the trustees. Both properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors primarily constitute amounts owing by HMRC in respect of gift aid claims.

Creditors

Creditors include both trade creditors and donations to be paid to charities from the church General Reserve as determined by Church Council following confirmation of the full year income and expenditure.

4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church, in either the current or prior year.

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

There were no fees paid or payable to the independent examiner for reporting on the accounts or for other services, in either the current or prior year.

6 Paid employees

The church did not employ any staff during the current or prior year.

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31 st August 2020 there are no capital commitments.

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2020.

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

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Balance brought forward from last year	1,585	2,476
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations		6,293
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	1,585	7,184
Balance carried forward		1,585

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or valuation

	Main church premises	Residential investment property	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	5,000,000	425,000	-	5,425,000
Additions	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers * (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	5,000,000	425,000	-	5,425,000

Accumulated depreciation

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

Net book value

Brought forward	5,000,000	425,000	-	5,425,000
Carried forward	5,000,000	425,000	-	5,425,000

10 Loans

The Church currently has no loans and has not held any loans during the current or prior year.

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance
Restricted Funds					
Benevolent Fund	500	467	525		442
Lay Worker Fund	-	5,644	2,034	20,000	23,610
Total Restricted	500	6,111	2,559	20,000	24,052
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	18,326	127,764	110,049	- 5,807	30,234
Major Repair Fund	18,440	29			18,469
Organ Repair Fund	6,584	73	420		6,237
Investment Property Maintenance Fund	22,453	9,500	2,760	- 14,193	15,000
Internal Organisations	6,247	5,230	4,420		7,057
Total Unrestricted	72,050	142,596	117,649	- 20,000	76,997
Total Funds	72,550	148,707	120,208	-	101,049

****Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2018-19

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance
Restricted Funds					
Benevolent Fund	500	852	852	-	500
Refurbishment Fund	2,357	-	1,991	- 366	-
Total Restricted	2,857	852	2,843	- 366	500
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	3,311	126,932	112,284	366	18,325
Major Repair Fund	18,412	28	-		18,440
Organ Repair Fund	7,084	109	609		6,584
Investment Property Maintenance Fund	15,838	8,866	2,250		22,454
Internal Organisations	6,246	10,749	10,750		6,245
Total Unrestricted	50,891	146,684	125,893	366	72,048
Total Funds	53,748	147,536	128,736	-	72,548

Name of Church MARLBOROUGH ROAD METHODIST CHURCH No.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

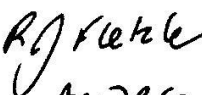
I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date..... 9 APRIL 2021

Name and address of treasurer CARL MEREDITH, 31 CANNON ST,
..... ST ALBANS Post Code..... AL3 5JR

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 8 FEBRUARY 2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting  P.P.
ANDREW PROUT

Name of the Chair of the meeting The Rev'd Andrew Prout Date 9 APRIL 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

MARBOROUGH ROAD METHODIST Church

Charity Number 1128694

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the MARLBOROUGH ROAD METHODIST Church for the year ended 31 August 2020 set out on pages 1. 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 MARLBOROUGH ROAD METHODIST CHURCH No

Independent Examiner's Statement

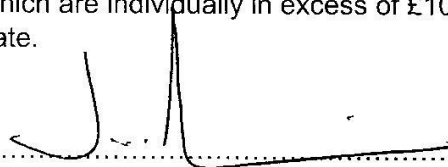
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I have/~~have not~~* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in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

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner J. ROBINSON

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner M.A. A.C.A.

Address 5 HAMMER DELL, WELWYN HERTS

Post Code AL6 0BE

Date 24/4/21