

BISHOP STREET METHODIST CHURCH, LEICESTER

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**



**Bishop Street Methodist Church
10a Bishop Street
Leicester
LE1 6AF**

Charity Number 1129068

INTRODUCTION

The work described in the Annual Report of Bishop Street Methodist Church, 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023 falls within the objectives of the Methodist Church in Great Britain which are directly linked to its aims.

The aims of the Methodist Church 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

The Trustees' report that follows shows clearly that Bishop Street Methodist Church meets the public benefit requirement of the Charity Commissioners. Essential support groups and two of the leaseholders of church property, the Zinithya Trust and Community Cycles, were able to continue providing much needed services to the community.

CONTEXT

Bishop Street Methodist Church provides regular acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. It teaches Christianity through worship, sermons, small groups and Bible studies and undertakes pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved. It opens its buildings to a wide range of groups and activities. However, it does this in the context of its situation, its membership and the needs of people at any given time.

As a church in the city centre, many people in vulnerable circumstances pass through its doors. Its premises are widely used by a very diverse cross-section of the city centre community – which includes people living in the locality and large numbers who travel into the centre from across the city and county. Christians from the Leicester area, and community organisations with no Christian background, all contribute to activities on the premises which enhance community life and support people who are marginalised.

The church community consists of people from a variety of social contexts and cultural backgrounds. Many work unsocial hours and find church attendance difficult; some are seeking work or have low incomes; some are unable to work; some are students; a few are asylum seekers; some are families with small children; some are retired. Bishop Street welcomes such a diverse community and tries to be sensitive to differing needs and responsive to new initiatives, changes and ideas.

Our Minister Revd Liam Dacre-Davis has continued to establish himself in the life and work of the Church. He was eligible to take a Sabbatical during the year and chose the months of June, July and August so that he could re-connect with his family especially during the school summer holiday. He used the time to create prayer resources reflecting the theme of doubt. Sincere Makunde, who had been worshipping with us while she was training at Queen's Foundation in Birmingham, completed her studies in June and moved to her first appointment in Knutsford.

Bishop Street's Annual report is presented under the following six sections

1. Worship – to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;

Sunday worship

Appeals

Weekday worship and one-off worship

Bible Study

Worship consultation

2. Learning and caring – to help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care;

Membership

Pastoral Care

Training for Stewards and Local Preachers

Social Media

Cell group

Environment

People in vulnerable circumstances

Students

Sunday School

3. Service – to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice;

Chapel Café

Community Groups

Interfaith

Property

Educational visit

4. Evangelism – to make more followers of Jesus Christ

Art at the Chapel

Art Exhibitions

Concerts

Talks in the Chapel

Heritage

Liaison with Church self-help groups

5. Governance, Admin and Management

6. Finance

1. Worship – to increase awareness of God’s presence and to celebrate God’s love

Sunday Worship

The Church is generally open 7 days a week and many people use it for private prayer as well as for public worship. Throughout the year, Sunday Morning worship services have been held in the Church and have continued to flourish. Services sometimes follow a theme, such as during Advent and Lent. Most of the services are recorded and posted on YouTube later in the day, for use by people who are housebound, unable to attend through work or other commitments and those living at a greater distance.

Local preachers’ and ministers’ worship material was uploaded here:
<https://bishopstreetmethodistchurchsundaystuff.wordpress.com/>

The Church offers facilities for baptisms, weddings and funerals, with accompanying pastoral care.

The Chapel Anniversary Service held on 23rd October 2022 was led by the local arrangement worship team and was based on the life and ministry of John Wesley.

In December we celebrated Advent with a Gift Service, Sunday School Nativity Play, Carol Service, and Sunday worship on Christmas Day.

During Advent the hymn ‘Born in the night’ was used as an Advent Liturgy and in the run-up to Christmas an evening service entitled ‘Blue Christmas’ was led by Revd Liam Dacre-Davis. The ‘Sing Christmas’ event in Town Hall Square was an opportunity to share the Radio Leicester Carol Service with people in Town Hall Square. The annual Covenant Service was held on 8th January 2023.

The first Sunday in Lent, 26th February 2023, was the first of the Sunday Lent Preaching series for 2023 based on the theme of “What it is to Love God, Love your Neighbour and Love Ourselves”. A 5 week online evening Lent course prepared by The Queen’s Foundation training college in Birmingham and entitled “Living Lent Hopefully” was followed by Rev Liam Dacre-Davis and a number of members.

As part of the Sunday Service on Passion Sunday, 26th March, there was a Collaborative Art Activity where we collectively produced a large oil-pastel version of the painting “Christ on the Mount of Olives”, by Paul Gauguin, which went on to feature in the Good Friday reflective service led by the Bishop Street Worship team and Minister held at 11.00am. The service was attended by over 40 people from various churches around Leicester.

In a second event on Good Friday at 1.00pm, we were pleased to welcome the University of Leicester String Quartet whose performance of Haydn’s “Seven Last Words” was most moving.

Preachers in June 2023 were invited to join the “Bible Month” initiative which focused on the book of Revelation on Sunday mornings.

During a Local arrangement service on 16th July, ways of being more responsible in reducing our personal carbon foot print and in being less wasteful of resources were discussed and a survey completed by those attending the service. This was to encourage the congregation to become aware of these issues as registering to become recognised as an Eco Church with A ROCHA UK was under investigation.

The next Local Arrangement service on 20th August entitled “Creation through the Bible” reflected on God’s creative power as recorded in different books in the Bible.

Appeals

A collection on 21st May Christian Aid Sunday raised £120.00 for Christian Aid.. A Local Arrangement service led by Alison Skinner and Richard Gill featured the work of Christian Aid in helping farmers in Africa grow food crops more sustainably.

The Harvest Gifts for 2022 were passed on to the Zinthiya Trust “Community Shop” for distribution to people struggling to get enough food.

The Christmas Post Box for the exchange of Christmas cards amongst Church members was as popular as ever and raised £80 in donations. Part of this was sent to the Methodist charity All We Can to buy a bicycle for a school student in Africa and the remainder bought 2 sets of bicycle lights for local asylum seekers who are being supported by After 18, a charity based in the building

The Christmas Gifts donated at the Christmas Gift Service were passed on to Leicester Women’s Aid, After18 refugee support group and the homelessness charities One Roof/Community of Grace.

Following the completion of the Easter Offering, the sum of £70.00 was forwarded to the Methodist Church World Mission Fund.

A Gift Day was held on 14th May 2023 when an appeal was made for an ‘extra’ gift of money for the general church funds.

Weekday worship and one-off worship

Each Wednesday a short service is held at 1pm, with a Communion Service on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Although attendance is generally low, the service is of considerable value to those who do attend and forms an important Act of Witness.

Bible Study

The Bible study group continued to meet regularly and completed the reading of St Matthew’s gospel before moving on to read the gospel of St Mark. A dedicated group of 4 - 8 people attend each Thursday from 12.00 -1.00pm.

Worship consultation

Worship consultations, also incorporating Forward Planning, were held during the year to plan services and special events over the forthcoming months. All members of the congregation were invited to attend the meetings which were held on Zoom.

2. Learning and caring – to help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.

Membership

The Membership list was updated to remove the names of persons who no longer had a connection with the Church. This resulted in the Church having 43 members at the end of the Methodist year 31st August 2023. Pastoral group leaders and the Minister were involved in regular phone calls or emails to members of their groups during periods of difficulty or ill-health.

Pastoral care

Pastoral visitors have kept in regular contact with their groups. In addition to personal contact at Church or in homes, informal contact by email, phone, text and letter has been maintained between members of the congregation, cell group members and Bible Study group members. The care of the Pastoral Visitors has highlighted individual cases in which the church’s Benevolence Fund has then been used to support people in times of hardship.

The Connexional Prayer Handbooks were distributed in the summer of 2023, thereby encouraging prayer and study through more resources.

Training for Stewards and Local Preachers.

Mandatory Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training, 'God for All', was now required for all stewards and local preachers. All of our stewards and one local preacher had completed this by the end of August 2023. Further in person sessions were planned and the course was available on line.

The Safeguarding Training Advanced module was completed by those who required to update their earlier Foundation Training module.

Social media

In order to strengthen and widen the Church's online presence, work has continued on improving the website through the WordPress site <https://bishopstreetmethodistchurchsundaystuff.wordpress.com>. There is also a flourishing Facebook group: Bishop Street Community which is used for regular postings and a WhatsApp group also helps to maintain contact with the more tech-minded members of the congregation.

Cell Group

The Cell Group continued to meet regularly on the third Wednesday of the month from 2pm – 3pm and completed the study of a book by the American theologian Michael Gorman, entitled "Reading Paul". This had been studied by the District theology book group and was deemed suitable for non-theologians! It has proved to be a good choice, very informative and provoking interesting discussions which have greatly increased the group's understanding and appreciation of Paul's writings.

Environment

The Church's array of solar panels had its wiring issues resolved in July 2022, which meant that by September they were back to full strength, and recorded a total of 18.3MWh over the year (compared to 10.5MWh the previous year). It is also pleasing to report that our electricity supplier has acknowledged the shift in energy prices by paying 12p/KWh exported, up from 3p previously.

On Monday 28th November 2022, as part of Christian Aid's "Talking Climate Justice Tour", Martin Gage presented the Christian Aid film on Climate Justice, and led a discussion on how Christians can respond with hopeful action. It was also a chance to reflect on the COP27 summit.

On Sunday 16th July 2023 our local arrangement service focused on caring for the environment. A survey of Church members looked at 1) What changes you have already made? 2) What further changes CAN you make? 3) How can the church be active in conserving resources and promoting the ways in which this is being done? At a follow-up service on 20th August 2023 Tanvi Pate shared the results which will also be used in our Eco Church registration process.

The Church continues to encourage low-carbon travel, and a number of Church members are able to come to church on foot, or by bus, as do a significant number of mid-week users of the building. A summer 2023 day-trip to the seaside by several Church members was able to make use of a members' electric car to keep the carbon impact low.

The small rear courtyard contains a flower-bed and various planters which are maintained by volunteers from some of the AA groups that meet at the church during the week.

People in Vulnerable circumstances

The church continued to support asylum seekers within the congregation both pastorally and through Benevolent Fund collections taken at Communion Services.

Open Church on Mondays suffered a significant decline in numbers and eventually closed with the few remaining users encouraged to meet informally in the Café. Rental groups include a number of support and self-help groups which have continued and expanded.

Students

From time to time, the church welcomes a small number of students from both De Montfort University and the University of Leicester and seeks to encourage their participation. Rev Liam Dacre-Davis has maintained his involvement in the Chaplaincy of the University of Leicester, attending the university on a weekly basis (Tuesday) and also helping to support various events throughout the academic

year. Liam is also the Chaplaincy's Safeguarding lead.

Sunday School

Sunday School continues to be provided on such Sundays as the various young people are able to attend. This numbered 7 individuals during the year, although rarely more than 2 at a time.

The Nativity Play was a strong focus of the winter activities. A home-written play involved five young people plus teachers and the minister.

Our teenage member of the Church regularly takes charge of videoing the services, which are then uploaded to YouTube so that those unable to attend can watch from home. She also made a short film on "preparing for worship" which contributed to a project run by Leicester Council of Faiths.

3. Service – to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.

Chapel Café

The Chapel Café continues to be run by the Zinthiya Trust and has normally been open 6 days a week. It is a Social Enterprise venture where people are supported into employment through work placements and apprenticeship. They are offered training and qualifications in Customer Service and Food Safety. It supports the church in being a welcoming and accepting place to anyone in the community and encourages groups to use the café for a variety of events.

Trained and supervised listeners offer a Listening Service every Tuesday in the Café from 11 – 12.30 for anyone who feels in need of someone to talk to. Telephone listening relationships could be established where beneficial.

Community Groups

The building continues to be heavily used throughout the week, with a mix of self-help groups, community organisations, charities and Christian groups. Regular user groups include:

7 Alcoholics Anonymous groups

5 Narcotics Anonymous groups

1 Cocaine Anonymous group

'In Stiches' Morning Knitting group

Other organisations that make use of us monthly or from time to time include Civil Service Pensioners meetings, Leicestershire Great Railway AGM, PCO surgeries in the café, Opteleex awareness and Macular Society support meetings, Victorian Society winter and spring programme, Headway art and awareness, Choir rehearsals and concerts.

Inter Faith

An opportunity arose for members to join a visit to our near neighbours on Bishop Street ISKCON, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness, on Thursday 16th February 2023. Some online talks were also arranged by Christians Aware and both events were much appreciated by all who took part.

Property

Throughout the year, routine maintenance has continued as necessary including electrical inspection and testing and solar panel optimisation.

Educational visit

We had a visit from U3A Hinkley College in June which included a visit to the heritage room.

4. Evangelism – to make more followers of Jesus Christ

Art at the Chapel

Leicester Lo-Fi Photography has maintained its presence in the basement of the church and has extended its activities to an Open Club meeting on a Wednesday afternoon.

“Personal Totems” by Artist in residence, photographer and writer Jacqui Booth, invited people to share an object that holds meaning for them, and be photographed with their chosen object. This took place on Tues 6th Dec and Thurs 9th Dec 2022 and was supported by Art in the Chapel and public funding by Arts Council England.

During April 2023 Mellow Baku, another of our artists in residence, put on a developing exhibition entitled “The Art of (self) Support”, which was made possible by an Arts Council grant.

A weekly community poetry group Wordplay has been established and is open to all.

Art Exhibitions

“The Spirit of Carnival”, on display throughout November 2022, featured carnival costumes, artworks and photographic displays of carnival scenes from the Leicester Carnival, presented by “Sensational Vibes” and Sim Seema Mistry.

In early May 2023 we hosted an exhibition of Artwork by Students from Leicester College.

“Patterns Engraved Into The Earth” was an exhibition of paintings by Alan Caine (1936 – 2022), a good friend to Bishop Street over many years, which ran from Thursday 25th May to Saturday 24th June 2023 and focused on his landscape themes.

In late June 2023 Brookvale Groby Learning Campus held their end of year Art, Design, & Technology exhibition in the Church.

Concerts

A Choral Concert entitled “Music for a Spring Evening” was given by Viva La Musica Chamber Choir on Saturday 18th March 2023 when they performed a programme of madrigals and part-songs celebrating spring and nature.

On Good Friday 7th April 2023 at 1.00pm, we appreciated the performance of ‘Seven Last Words’ a meditation on Good Friday in Bible readings, poems by Sylvia Sands and the Music of Joseph Haydn.

On Friday 28th April 2023 a Choral Concert was presented under the title “There are more things in heaven and on earth” by Coro Nostro Chamber Choir with their musical director Lydia Hind

Talks in the Chapel

The popular Talks in the Chapel recommenced this year with two events:

“Celebrating Vaughan Williams”, Thursday 26th January 2023. Neil Crutchley, performer and music critic, gave a talk, illustrated with recorded music, on the life and music of Ralph Vaughan Williams.

“Images of Revelation”, Thursday May 25th. An illustrated talk by Miriam Stevenson on the way artists have shown some of the vivid images of the book of Revelation. It provided a prelude to the Bible Month services, which this June looked at the Book of Revelation. The talk was also uploaded to YouTube with some publicity in Methodist circles.

Heritage

The church was open for Heritage Open Day and Bike and Stride visitors (raising money for the Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust) on Saturday 10th September 2022.

The 'What makes a Methodist' display was laid out in the Heritage room. A number of people visited the room, several used the handheld boards to guide them round the church and there were enquiries about the War Memorial information.

The Remembrance Sunday Service was held on 11th November 2022 when Alison Skinner gave a talk which featured the life of George Henry Mantle, a survivor of the Boer War and the Great War and member at Bishop Street.

Liaison with Church self-help groups

The Church Administrator continued to build bridges between the congregation and premises user groups by getting to know leaders and members of support groups and other user groups, such as the In Stitches Craft group and the One Roof Leicester Winter Night Shelter volunteer team. Engagement with the groups had progressed well and many of the independent self-help groups felt positive about links with the Church.

5. Governance, Structure and Management

GOVERNANCE

The appointment of Trustees and other officers follows the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD). The primary governing body of Bishop Street Methodist Church is the Church Council (the trustees), which is responsible for the general oversight of the church. The four trustees marked – additionally perform roles for the Leicester Trinity Methodist Circuit, a charity related to Bishop Street Methodist Church, for which they receive stipends, expenses or other remuneration from that charity in line with Methodist charity governance and procedures.

Annual General Meeting

All Church members can attend this meeting and are invited to raise any issue. Church Stewards and Church Representatives are elected at this meeting. The meeting was held during the Morning Service on 30th April 2023.

Church Council

The Church Council comprising Office holders, elected Church Stewards, elected Church Representatives, Circuit ministerial staff and a Circuit Steward meets three times a year. The Council is chaired by the Minister. All decisions taken at Church Council are minuted, and a summary is circulated via the church notices. The Church has had vision planning meetings at least three times during the year, including through video conferencing. The Church Council has oversight of the Finance and Property Committee, Forward Planning Group and the Safeguarding Group.

THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees who served the charity were:

Officer holders

– Rev Liam Dacre-Davis (Minister & Chair)
Alison Skinner (Secretary)
Martin Briers (Treasurer)
Mary Gill (Assistant Treasurer)
Sybil Briers (Baptism Secretary)
Miriam Stevenson (Pastoral Secretary)
Pelan Ziba (Health & Safety)

Stewards

Margaret Byron, Peter Chitsenga
Mary Gill (Senior steward)
Tony Moore, Tanvi Pate
Robin Stevenson

Church representatives

Deirdre Brunning
Margaret Mackley
Gillian Butcher (to 30th April 2023)
Gladys Kusiwaa (from 30th April 2023)

Circuit representatives

- Pedzi Katsande
– Rev Paula Hunt
- Rev Derek McLean

STRUCTURE

Bishop Street Methodist Church is part of the Leicester Trinity Methodist Circuit, and the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

a) Finance and Property Committee

The major risks are identified and recorded by the Finance and Property Committee. The committee prepares accounts and budget and oversees day-to-day finance and property matters. Income and Expenditure is monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a monthly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. A regular annual review process is undertaken and recorded. The Trustees have agreed financial management arrangements requiring dual signatures on all cheques, and prior approval for all, except minor items, of expenditure. The group has continued to meet via video conferencing.

b) Forward Planning Group

This group, open to all members of the congregation, meets to plan future activities. This group was involved in the vision planning process and continues to meet via video conferencing.

c) Safeguarding Group

This group oversees all issues related to Safeguarding. Bishop Street Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of connexional safeguarding policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches. New volunteers and post-holders within the church undertook the 'Creating Safer Space Foundation Module' safeguarding training organised by the Methodist Church. Volunteers are recruited, selected and supervised according to the Safer Recruitment Policy. DBS checks and renewals are carried as necessary. A lone-working policy is in operation.

MANAGEMENT

Paid staff and volunteers

Day to day management of the premises is delegated to the Centre Administrator. All employees undergo an annual appraisal and take part in regular supervisions and reference group meetings.

6. FINANCE

i Financial Review.

Total collections (cash, envelopes and standing orders) showed a slight reduction on 2021-2022.

Lettings and Rental Income showed a slight increase of 3.2% on the previous year.

Total income would have been approximately 2% up on 2021-22 if the one-off grant of £6,212 received from the Leicester Trinity Methodist Circuit was removed from the 2021-22 figures.

Our Circuit Assessment contribution, calculated on a formula basis involving membership, attendance, income and reserves, increased by a further 2% following the 2% increase in 2020-21.

The church was protected by the general increase in energy costs as the electricity contract expires on 30th November 2023 and the gas contract on 31st January 2024.

Following expiry of the Long Term Agreement on the Church Insurance Policy, Edwards Insurance Brokers of Meriden were asked to prepare a report as a result of which a quotation from Congregational Insurance was accepted, providing a saving of £1,160 over the renewal terms from Methodist Insurance

The net result for the year was a Deficit of £5,001 on unrestricted funds. The outstanding loan from the Leicester Trinity Circuit remains at £13,000.

The accounts include a small restricted fund held, and administered, on behalf of Churches Together in Leicester City Centre which at 31st August 2023 amounted to £417.

ii Reserves

General (Unrestricted) and (Designated) Funds. This includes our Bank (Co-operative Community Directplus) and Central Finance Board ("CFB") accounts plus cash in hand. At the end of the financial year (31.8.23) this totalled £16,937 but included the outstanding interest free loan from the Leicester Trinity Methodist Circuit mentioned earlier.

We aim ideally to hold in reserves sufficient money in our General Fund to cover six months budgeted expenditure.

Designated Funds

There are currently no Designated Funds.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The charity's 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 and 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;
- 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 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The trustees 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Trevor Mildred has been re-appointed as independent examiner for the ensuing year.

Signed on behalf of the trustees
Rev Liam Dacre-Davis
Chair

12 October 2023

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BISHOP STREET METHODIST CHURCH LEICESTER**

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 13-14.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. 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 accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by a charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirements:

- to keep accountings records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(3) I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Trevor Mildred
Independent Examiner
48 Granville Road
Wigston
Leicester
LE18 1JP

Date 25th January 2024

Bishop Street Methodist Church
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Offerings and Tax recoverable	13,020	59	13,078	14,923
Bank and CFB interest and Investment Income	569	3	573	94
Lettings	53,506	-	53,506	51,840
Other receipts	4,809	1,782	6,591	12,449
TOTAL RECEIPTS	71,904	1,844	73,748	79,306
PAYMENTS				
Circuit Assessment or Share	29,367	-	29,367	28,778
Donations	1,025	494	1,519	1,759
Repairs and Maintenance	11,099	214	11,312	10,577
Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	11,491	-	11,491	17,868
Other payments	23,924	180	24,104	29,825
TOTAL PAYMENTS	76,905	888	77,793	88,807
NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(5,001)	956	(4,045)	(9,501)
Total funds brought forward from last year	8,938	9,128	18,066	27,567
Sub-total	3,937	10,085	14,022	18,066
Transfers and adjustments	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	3,937	10,085	14,022	18,066

BANK BALANCES AND FUND BALANCES

BANK BALANCES	OPENING BALANCES 1 September 2022	CLOSING BALANCES 31 August 2023
	£	£
Cash in hand	163	129
Co-operative Bank Current Account	8,937	13,742
Central Finance Board Bank (CFB)	21,966	13,151
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)	-	-
Other funds	(13,000)	(13,000)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	18,066	14,022

OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	1 September 2022	31 August 2023
	£	£
Investments (including Endowments)	-	-
Land & Buildings	1,337,270	1,404,134
Other Assets	-	-
Loan(s)	-	-
Other Liabilities	-	-

FUND BALANCES	1 September 2022	31 August 2023
	£	£
Unrestricted		
General Fund	8,938	3,937
Leicester Trinity Circuit Loan	(13,000)	(13,000)
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	(4,062)	(9,063)
Restricted		
Art at the Chapel	2,693	2,693
Benevolent Fund	1,117	2,313
CTLCC – Christians Together in Leicester City Centre	417	417
Development Fund	2,774	2,864
Flower Fund	152	146
Heritage Fund	1,876	1,549
Organ Fund	99	102
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	9,128	10,085
TOTAL CHURCH FUND BALANCES	18,066	14,022