

Our commitment across Tynedale is to see vibrant Christian communities which introduce people to life in the Kingdom of God and help people to live as followers of Jesus Christ.

The last year has been massively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and it is no secret that this has been a hard time for everyone. Some of our folk have died and many have been bereaved. As a Christian community we have found it grievous not to be able to meet freely and to have most of our fellowship remotely over electronic devices. On the positive side, there has been opportunity to re-assess our lives, personally and corporately: our priorities, our lifestyles, our hopes and dreams. Many of us are now much more technologically capable than we were a year ago, but this is a small benefit compared to what has been lost.

All of our buildings closed in March 2020. Many have remained so and some will not re-open as churches. Most formal activity stopped and we have had to work hard to continue those that have been possible, and to learn new ways of fulfilling our purposes within the restrictions that have been applied.

Pastoral care has continued, largely through the use of phone and video calling. Worship, fellowship and study have continued using online resources, together with materials on paper and DVD etc circulated by post. Intermittently it has been possible for worship to be offered in some of our buildings, with Covid-security in place in keeping with Government and denominational requirements.

People have been asking 'first order' questions about the meaning of life, the existence of God, etc, and our churches have seen 'new' people accessing online resources and, when possible, services in our buildings. For instance, Messy Church in Bellingham and Haltwhistle have been reaching very many more people than can be accommodated in their buildings, using online meeting and take-home craft materials. The Hexham Holiday Club did likewise.

The financial giving of our members has largely been maintained throughout the pandemic and we are very grateful for that. Nevertheless our financial position has been impacted, mainly through lack of revenue from lettings, and we are using our Circuit's reserves. This, together with the general trend we had previously, has prompted us to review our mission and ministry, including the number of ordained ministers we have in the Circuit. The Circuit will soon have to make a decision in the light of its finances and may have to reduce the number of ordained ministers. This will inevitably have an impact on what the Circuit does, and churches will have to be less dependent on ordained ministers and Sunday services.

As we look to the future we have been considering what it means to serve God in this area and how we can do it most effectively and efficiently. We anticipate great community needs arising from the pandemic, including:

- Additional mental health issues, arising from loneliness, exhaustion, stress and bereavement
- Economic challenges from unemployment and debt
- Poorer public health, partly through people not accessing routine health care during the pandemic
- Spiritual searching in wider society is expected to continue and increase.

We want to be well-placed to respond to all these needs. To free ordained ministers from some of the burden of administration and management, and following the resignation of the Circuit Administrator, the Circuit Administrator's post has been made redundant and the role of Enabling

Services Manager has been created. We want to keep the benefits of a greater online presence and so are currently looking to appoint a Communications Co-ordinator. These posts will equip and enable us to work differently and more effectively.

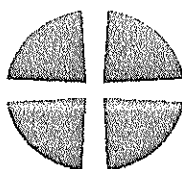
In all this, our priorities within our churches remain:

- Enhancing the quality of our worship services
- Developing small groups for learning together, pastoral support and prayer
- Building confidence in sharing our faith with others.

Taken together, these will 'equip God's people for works of ministry' (Ephesians 4:12), multiplying the impact we can make. The ordained ministerial team contains a wealth of experience and complementary talents and works well together. The same applies to our lay people. We are heavily dependent on the work of lay people at every level and it's safe to say that everything in the Circuit is a collaborative venture involving lay and ordained. As Superintendent I wish to thank all for faithfully playing their parts and giving of their prayers, time, money and enthusiasm, without which this wonderful work would not be possible.

Revd Paul Dunstan

March 2021



THE METHODIST CHURCH
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (FRSSE)

for the year ended 31 August 2020

Tynedale

Circuit

Registered Charity - Registration number

1129509

NEWCASTLE upon TYNE

District No / Circuit No

20/08

Ministers

Rev Paul Dunstan
Rev Alex Dunstan
Rev David Goodall
Rev Jennifer Porterpryde
Deacon Anne Taylor
Rev Marie Beard (part time)
Rev Robert Hawkins (part time)

Circuit Stewards

Alan Wright
Chris Horton
Millie Robinson
Carolyn Vasey

Circuit Treasurer

David Kilner

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

		Unrestricted Funds				
	Notes to the accounts	General Fund	Model Trust Fund	Manse Fund (Designated)	Total 2019-20	Total 2018-19
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:						
1 Capital receipts			252,550		252,550	163,327
2 Charitable activities					-	-
2a Contributions	5	275,280			275,280	276,800
4 Investments		499	4,267		4,766	4,196
Lettings		15,606			15,606	15,133
Grant		40,000			40,000	40,000
5 Donation and Legacy		274			274	-
6 Total		331,659	256,817	-	588,476	499,456
Expenditure on:						
7 Stipends, salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	196,789			196,789	192,151
8 District Assessment		61,930			61,930	58,030
10 Telephone & travel		12,181			12,181	17,075
11 Insurance, utilities, etc	7	14,578			14,578	14,482
12 Maintenance on manses	7	7,462			7,462	15,456
13 Expenditure on other Circuit property	8	6,917			6,917	13,927
14 Depreciation					-	-
15 Provisions					-	-
16 Other Expenditure	9	11,684			11,684	13,072
17 Grants and Donations	10	274	66,861		67,135	44,839
18 Contributions to District Advance Fund			16,494		16,494	5,812
19 Total		311,815	83,355	-	395,170	374,844
20 Net income/(expenditure)		19,844	173,462	-	193,306	124,612
21 Transfers between funds		(16,000)		16,000	-	-
		3,844	173,462	16,000	193,306	124,612
Other recognised gains / (losses):						
22 Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets			-		-	-
23 Gains/(Losses) on investment assets			(854)		(854)	885
25 Net movement in funds		3,844	172,608	16,000	192,452	125,497
Reconciliation of funds:						
26 Total funds brought forward		2,380,241	290,914	34,890	2,706,045	2,580,548
27 Total funds carried forward		2,384,085	463,522	50,890	2,898,497	2,706,045

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted Funds				
		General Fund	Model Trust Fund	Manse Fund (Designated)	Total 2019-20	Total 2018-19
		£	£	£	£	£

Tangible Fixed Assets*

Notes

Land & Buildings	11	2,174,874			2,174,874	2,174,874
Equipment	11	53,854			53,854	53,854
Investment properties	11	118,800			118,800	118,800
Investments	12		54,877		54,877	55,732
Total fixed assets		2,347,528	54,877		2,402,405	2,403,260

Current Assets

Debtors and Prepayments	13	15,785	9,000		24,785	58,005
Cash at Bank and in hand						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits			401,570		401,570	272,111
Central Finance Board Deposits		125,709			125,709	51,077
Barclays Bank		(14,390)		50,890	36,500	16,682
Total current assets		127,104	410,570	50,890	588,564	397,875

Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)	16	90,547	1,925		92,472	83,858
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Net current assets (liabilities)		36,557	408,645	50,890	496,092	314,017
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Total assets less current liabilities		2,384,085	463,522	50,890	2,898,497	2,717,277
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Loans and creditors due after 1 year	16					11,232
Provisions for liabilities and charges						

Net assets		2,384,085	463,522	50,890	2,898,497	2,706,045
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Funds of the Circuit

Unrestricted funds		2,384,085			2,384,085	2,380,241
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			463,522		463,522	290,914
Manse Funds Designated				50,890	50,890	34,890
Total Funds	17	2,384,085	463,522	50,890	2,898,497	2,706,045

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

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 District's financial position and activities. 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 the Financial Reporting Standard for smaller entities applicable in the UK (effective from 1 January 2015) – the Charities SORP (FRSSE) – in replacement for the SORP's 2005 version specified in its related 2008 Regulations and in accordance with the "true and fair override" provision contained therein.

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted; The Manse Fund is designated by Trustees as part of the General Fund; The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. The Circuit holds no Restricted or 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 Public benefit entity

The Trustees of Tynedale Circuit confirm that they have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

4 Accounting policies

Income Recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit 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. Individual amounts categorised as Other income in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

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 Circuit to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values including land. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

Investment Properties

Investment properties are properties (usually closed chapels) deemed to not be held for the long-term purposes of the charity. This has been agreed on a case by case basis with the District Policy Committee and the value is shown net of all related selling fees and commissions including the Connexional levy calculated on a sliding scale based on the gross sale price.

Investments

The Circuit's investments are held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes as Custodian Trustee. Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors relate to the payment of the September stipend in August (£15,785), and a prepayment of Grant from the model trust fund (£9,000).

Creditors

Creditors include sundry expenses, grants payable in the coming year and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

Impact of Accounting changes

There has not been any restatement required to previous reported information because of the new SORP.

Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2020, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

Consolidation

The Circuit oversees the work of ministers and Churches within the Circuit but does not have control over those Churches, ministers, or lay workers except in extreme circumstances, none of which were applicable. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

Notes to the Accounts

5 Assessments on Churches

The Circuit is made up of the following Churches from whom contributions were received during the year.

Acomb	6,904	Hexham Trinity	72,368
Allendale	5,200	Hexham West End	30,224
Barrasford	3,020	Keenley	1,084
Bellingham	8,641	Prudhoe	35,580
Catton	4,304	Riding Mill	4,856
Corbridge	15,468	Sparty Lea	3,824
Falstone/Kielder	-	Stocksfield	19,704
Fourstones with Warden	3,892	Wark	2,527
Haltwhistle	18,684	Wylam	26,304
Haydon Bridge	12,696	Total	275,280

6 Cost of superintendent, ministers, and trustees

The superintendent of the Circuit, the other ministers and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team are considered to be key management personnel. The superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC, and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the ministers of the Circuit are paid by the Circuit.

	2019-20	2018-19
Stipends of ministers	146,962	142,305
No. of full time ministers	5	5
of part time ministers	2	2
Employers National Insurance contributions	11,911	11,574
Employers pension contributions to a defined benefit pension scheme	33,426	32,506
Apprenticeship Levy	675	884
Administrator	3,815	4,882
cost	196,789	192,151

Payments to Trustees

It is generally not Circuit policy to reimburse non-ministerial members of the CLT, Circuit Meeting and others involved in the administration of Circuit affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. Apart from the 7 ministers, and Circuit Administrator no member of the Circuit Meeting or CLT was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Circuit, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed in relation to specific projects. The Circuit Administrator is a trustee and received payments totalling £3,815 in respect of work undertaken.

7 Manse and other property costs

The Circuit is required to provide and maintain accommodation for each Minister and her/his family. This is a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are generally expected to occupy their Manses. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges.

The trustees have established a designated fund to meet the expenses of maintaining the Circuit's six Manses. (2019: 6)

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly Manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of two years, the property is classified as investment property (whether let out or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives. At 31 August 2020, the Circuit held two residential investment properties (Haltwhistle & Wylam).

Further the Circuit may from time to time hold further investment properties being churches where worship no longer takes place. With the consent of the trustees and the District, the Circuit is responsible for preparing the property for sale most often as a commercial transaction. The trustees will receive the proceeds of the sale once concluded and after the application of the Connexional Property Levy. At 31 August 2020, the Circuit held two investment properties in West Wylam and Mickley (2019: 6).

	2019-20		2018-19	
	£	£	£	£
Manse running costs				
Utility costs	10,306		10,339	
Insurances	4,272		4,143	
		14,578		14,482
Repairs and Maintenance		7,462		6,603

Notes to the Accounts

	2019-20	2018-19
	£	£
Manse Improvements & Major Repairs		
Elvaston	-	-
Wylam	-	-
Bellingham	-	-
Prudhoe	-	-
Westfield	-	8,853
Paid out of Manse Fund	-	8,853

8 Expenditure on other Circuit Property

	2019-20		2018-19	
	£	£	£	£
Investment properties				
Cost of disposal				
Maintenance	2,669		2,954	
Insurances	6,822		6,329	
Legal	(2,574)		4,644	
		6,917		13,927

9 Other Outgoings

	2019-20	2018-19
	£	£
Conference minutes & prayer manuals	682	649
Bank and accountancy charges	1,137	1,218
Local and visiting preachers	2,938	5,346
Circuit events and meetings	541	47
Quinquennials	4,320	3,480
Living waters	489	547
Insurance	222	221
Photocopying & Printing	479	590
Website	527	527
Other	349	104
Total	11,684	12,729

10 Grants and Donations

A grant from the Model Trust Fund of £40,000 to the General Fund towards the Circuit's expenditure for the year to 31 August 2020 was agreed at the Circuit meeting on 28 March 2019 and other grants were made to churches at Haltwhistle (£17,311), Prudhoe (£9,000) and Hexham Trinity (£550). A donation of £274 was made to the Necessitous Local Preachers fund from the proceeds of a Circuit Service collection.

11 Manse and other property

The freehold residential property (manses) is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing each property's gross carrying value as at 1 September 2015, being that property's insurance reinstatement value resulting from a professional valuation undertaken in 2011-12 and subsequently adjusted up to and including 31 August 2014. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the current residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its historical cost and, in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision for the property would be immaterial.

From time to time the Circuit is required to assume responsibility for Church premises following closure and cessation of worship. This results in the Circuit becoming Managing Trustees for the property. At that time the property is recognised as an asset at its anticipated net sale price as determined by a professional valuation and after taking into consideration the levy to be charged by the Connexion. Any expenditure on such assets is capitalised.

Trustees have not made any separate valuation of the land associated with its property.

The Circuit has made use of the deemed cost option on transitioning to FRS 102 SORP 2015 as outlined above.

	Manses	Investment Properties	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost or valuation				
Balance brought forward at 1 September 2019	2,174,874	118,800	53,854	2,347,528
Additions in the year				
Revaluations in the year				
Less: Disposals in the year				
Transfers between categories				
Balance carried forward at 31 August 2020	2,174,874	118,800	53,854	2,347,528

Notes to the Accounts

12 Investments

	£
Opening Balance as at 31 August 2019	55732
Decrease in Value 2019/20	855
Balance as at 31 August 2020	54877

13 Debtors and prepayments

Debtors were made up as follows:		
	2019-20	2018-19
	£	£
Debtors		
Stipends paid in advance	15,785	16,019
Outstanding Debt arising from Model Trust Fund grant awards	-	41,986
Prepayment Model Trust Fund (Prudhoe)	9,000	-
Total (net)	24,785	58,005

14 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments, and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

15 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Cash at Bank

The Circuit has a current account at Barclays plc, an authorised institution. The sums held on this account are immediately available. In addition, the Circuit has a deposit accounts at CFB, a common deposit fund. Interest is earned on the CFB account and credited monthly; the sums deposited can be withdrawn without notice and without loss of interest. These sums are viewed as being liquid.

16 Creditors and accrued expenses

Creditors were made up as follows:

	2019-20	2018-19
	£	£
General Fund		
Creditors:		
Circuit assessments paid in advance	68,950	30,640
Prudhoe/Stocksfield Youth Worker	9,000	-
Haltwhistle Lay Worker	12,597	11,232
Total creditors	90,547	41,872
Model Trust Fund		
Grants 2018/19 (paid Sept 2019)		41,986
Connexional Funds	1,925	
	1,925	41,986

Creditors due for payment after 1 year were made up as follows:

	2019-20	2018-19
	£	£
Haltwhistle Lay Worker	-	11,232
Total	-	11,232

Notes to the Accounts**17 Unrestricted Funds****15.1 General Fund – balance £2,384,085 at 31 August 2020 (2019: £2,380,241)**

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes. The fund is almost entirely held as freehold property, the 6 Circuit manse and three closed churches.

15.2 Circuit Model Trust Fund – balance £463,522 at 31 August 2020 (2019: £290,914)

The Circuit Model Trust Fund is an unrestricted fund of the Circuit. It is administered by Trustees for Methodist Church Purpose who levy a small annual administration charge. The trustees are obliged to apply the funds exclusively in pursuit of their charitable purposes.

15.3 Manse Fund – balance £50,890 at 31 August 2020 (2019: £34,890)

This fund serves specific purposes but is not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. The Manse Fund is available to meet trustees' obligation to secure and maintain the accommodation in the Circuit's 6 manses. These funds are held as cash.

18 Volunteer contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. Principally this contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with mission manses, finance, policy, grants, training, development. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment.

19 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at the year end (2018-19: nil)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer
I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit

Signature of Treasurer David L. Kilner Date 17/6/21

Name David L. Kilner

Address Beaulerc Penelope, Riding Mill, NE44 6HY

Presentation to the *Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on

17/6/21

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting [Signature]

Name of the Chair of the meeting PAUL BONGRA

Date 17/6/21

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Circuit TYNE DALE

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2020

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and 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 Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the 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 the 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 (other than that disclosed below*):

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate

(3) I have/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.

* Please circle as appropriate

Name	S NIXON
Signature	S. Nixon
Relevant Professional qualification or body	ACCA
Address	5 CATTLE MARKET HEXHAM NE46 1NS
Date	17/6/21