Charnwood and Mowbray Methodist Circuit

England & Wales · Charity number 1129524

Details

Other names	LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-05-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Trinity Methodist Church Centre Royland Road Loughborough Leicestershire LE11 2EH
Phone	07513988341
Email	circuitoffice@charnwoodmowbraymethodist.org.uk
Website	https://charnwoodmowbraymethodist.org.uk/church/trinity-methodist-church/

Activities

Objects: The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of -(a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the dicipline 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 subsiduary 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.

Activities: The provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. The provision of sacred space for prayer and contemplation. Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Leicestershire
- Nottinghamshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£225,486	£300,415	-	-
2024-08-31	£250,306	£314,862	-	-
2023-08-31	£222,001	£259,683	-	-
2022-08-31	£191,340	£361,392	-	-
2021-08-31	£187,296	£346,182	-	-

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Karen Anne Beecham	Chair	2023-09-01
ANGELA JUDITH WARWICK LATHAM LLB HONS		
Andrew Barry Thompson		2023-09-01
Andrew Julian Thorpe		2020-09-01
Barbara Cresswell		2025-09-01
Brett Simon Jackson		2025-09-01
Bryan Kenneth Harrison		
CHRISTINE ANN WATKINS		2013-04-19
Calvin Chun Kwong Cheung		2019-09-01
Carol Ann Scarborough		2025-09-01
Carolyn Julia Mann		2025-09-01
Catherine Elizabeth Billsdon		2025-09-01
Chun Man Poon		2025-09-01
DAVID JAMES BRISTOW		2011-11-24
DAWN FRANCES SCOTT		
DIANE ELIZABETH BIRD		2011-10-25
DOROTHY MEE		
David Michael Billsdon		2025-09-01
Dennis William Hurst		2025-09-01
Dr Karen Mary Ette		2020-09-01
Eleri Ann Bristow		2022-11-01
GILL THOMPSON		2014-09-01
Geoffrey Wainwright		
HARRY GEORGE TYLER		2011-12-07
Heather Mary Doda		2025-09-01
IAN ALEXANDER SCOTT		

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Name	Role	Appointed
Janet Norburn		2025-09-01
Jaqueline Speck		2025-09-01
Jeannette Mary Hurst		2025-09-01
Jennefer Elizabeth Petchey		2025-09-01
Jennifer Elizabeth Ann Oliver		2025-09-01
Jenny Wai Hung Yeung		2019-09-01
Joan Tassell		2025-09-01
John Alfred Hanson		2025-09-01
Katherine Louise Collins Brookes-Duncan		2023-09-01
Kathleen Rosemary Grimley		2022-09-01
Keith Croysdale		2023-09-01
LES LONGMIRE		2015-09-01
Lorraine Patience Cutts		2019-09-01
MARGARET FOLWELL		
MICHAEL GEOFFREY BIRD		
Man Ting Martin Nam		2025-09-01
Mark Blatherwick		2017-09-01
Michael Albert Thompson		2025-09-01
NIGEL ANTHONY COX		
Natalie Ruth Thompson		2023-09-01
Nigel Anthony La Frenais		2025-09-01
Nina June Austin		2025-09-01
PAULINE ANNE HARGRAVES		2016-09-01
PETER JOHN YATES BSC		
Pauline Ann Holbrook		2025-09-01
Peter Samuel Thorpe		2025-03-20
ROGER ALAN LATHAM		
Rachel Susan Thorpe		

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Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Martin Robert Swan		2019-09-01
Richard Charles Oliver		2025-09-01
Robert Arthur Newton		2021-10-11
SIAN ELIZABETH MOLLART		
SUE FOSSEY		
Samuel Robert Peach		
Simon Richard Scoggins		2022-09-01
Su Palmer		2025-09-01
Susan Turlington		2022-09-01
Sylvia Mary Graveney		2025-09-01
Trevor Ranson		
Victor George Allsop		2025-09-01
Yu Ki Tsui		2025-09-01

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Charnwood and Mowbray Methodist Circuit

England & Wales - Charity number 1129524

Accounts

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Charity number 1129524

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 August 2025

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Loughborough Methodist Circuit **Charity No. 1129524**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer ..... Date 31/10/25

Name and address of treasurer: Rachel Thorpe, 52 Priory Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3PP.

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on [ ] 2025.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Karen Beecham Date 9/12/25

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1129524

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 3 to 9. As the Circuit'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 Circuit'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.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signature of independent examiner: .....

Name of independent examiner: Martyn Speight

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: N/A

Address: 6 Laneshaw Avenue, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 4NT

Date: 25 November 2025.

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Income from monetary investments		1,113	7,474			**8,587**
Assessments on Churches		196,700				**196,700**
Grants received		12,648		1,046	6,392	**20,086**
Other charitable income		113				**113**
Total income		**210,574**	**7,474**	**1,046**	**6,392**	**225,486**
Expenditure						
Grants and donations			7,000		4,781	**11,781**
Salaries and associated costs	6	141,054			48,566	**189,620**
Property maintenance				11,586		**11,586**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy						**0**
District Assessment & Levy		27,769	6,432		20,000	**54,201**
Office expenses		4,173				**4,173**
Other outgoings		27,104	581		1,369	**29,054**
Total charitable expenditure		**200,100**	**14,013**	**11,586**	**74,716**	**300,415**
Net income/(expenditure)		**10,474**	**(6,539)**	**(10,540)**	**(68,324)**	**(74,929)**
Transfers between funds		(10,000)	(67,000)	10,000	67,000	0
Net movement in funds		**474**	**(73,539)**	**(540)**	**(1,324)**	**(74,929)**
Total funds brought forward		819,549	186,639	12,195	16,529	1,034,912
Total funds carried forward		**820,023**	**113,100**	**11,655**	**15,205**	**959,983**

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Income from monetary investments		1,935	11,914			**13,849**
Assessments on Churches		190,000				**190,000**
Grants received		3,817				**3,817**
Other charitable income		6,129	24,000		12,511	**42,640**
Total income		**201,881**	**35,914**	**0**	**12,511**	**250,306**
Expenditure						
Grants and donations					5,600	**5,600**
Salaries and associated costs	6	135,272			57,630	**192,902**
Property maintenance				27,435		**27,435**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy						**0**
District Assessment & Levy		33,546	7,542		15,000	**56,088**
Office expenses		4,224				**4,224**
Other outgoings		26,104	572		1,937	**28,613**
Total charitable expenditure		**199,146**	**8,114**	**27,435**	**80,167**	**314,862**
Net income/(expenditure)		**2,735**	**27,800**	**(27,435)**	**(67,656)**	**(64,556)**
Transfers between funds		(10,500)	(67,000)	34,500	32,000	(11,000)
Net movement in funds		**(7,765)**	**(39,200)**	**7,065**	**(35,656)**	**(75,556)**
Total funds brought forward		827,314	214,839	5,130	52,185	1,099,468
Total funds carried forward		**819,549**	**175,639**	**12,195**	**16,529**	**1,023,912**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Totals 2025	Totals 2024
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses	9	792,750	0	0	0	792,750	792,750
Total fixed assets		**792,750**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**792,750**	**792,750**
Current Assets							
Debtors	10	14,386	1,000		2,000	17,386	17,801
Investments with TMCP			112,100			112,100	178,639
Central Finance Board Deposits		48,508				48,508	52,808
Cash at Bank and in hand		2,853		11,655	13,205	27,713	31,339
Total current assets		**65,747**	**113,100**	**11,655**	**15,205**	**205,707**	**280,587**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)		(38,474)	0	0	0	(38,474)	(38,425)
Total current liabilities		**(38,474)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(38,474)**	**(38,425)**
Net current assets/liabilities		**27,273**	**113,100**	**11,655**	**15,205**	**167,233**	**242,162**
Net assets		**820,023**	**113,100**	**11,655**	**15,205**	**959,983**	**1,034,912**
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		820,023				**820,023**	819,549
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			113,100			**113,100**	186,639
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	11			11,655		**11,655**	12,195
Total Unrestricted Funds						**944,778**	**1,018,382**
Restricted Funds	11				15,205	**15,205**	**16,529**
Total Funds		**820,023**	**113,100**	**11,655**	**15,205**	**959,983**	**1,034,912**

Signed

Rachel Thorpe
Circuit Treasurer

Loughborough Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
Year Ended 31 August 2025

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 Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for a specific purpose. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. Details of each material fund are disclosed in note 11 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 Circuit Manses and Other properties are shown at their "deemed cost", being their insurance value as at 31 August 2015, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

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.

Resources Expended

These are 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 are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Circuit Meeting being satisfied, on the basis of progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities in these accounts.

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

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 insurance values. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the Manse and Other buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

Investments

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 are amounts owed to the Circuit and are measured on the basis of their recoverable amount.

Creditors

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter 2025/26 assessment received in August 2025.

4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting. This excludes stipends and payment to employed lay pastors.

Trustee expenses:	**2024/25**	**2023/24**
Number of Trustees	[ ]	47
Total trustee expenses	**£14,391**	**£14,732**

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel and computing costs.

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2024/25	**2023/24**
	£	£
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	NIL	NIL
Other fees paid to the independent examiner or auditor	NIL	NIL

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:	**2024/25**	**2023/24**
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	157,847	159,621
Employer's National Insurance costs	14,126	11,332
Pension costs	17,647	21,949
Total staff costs	**189,620**	**192,902**

Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	5.4	5.9

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At 31 August 2025 Resolutions of the Circuit Meeting had approved Grants of £NIL (2024: £10,000) that had not been paid.

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

	2024/25	**2023/24**
	£	£
Balance brought forward from last year	0	0
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	1,778	2,271
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	(1,778)	(2,271)
Balance carried forward	**0**	**0**

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Manses	Total
	£	£
Balance brought forward	792,750	792,750
Balance carried forward	**792,750**	**792,750**
Depreciation brought forward	0	0
Depreciation carried forward	**0**	**0**
Net Book Value brought forward	792,750	792,750
Net Book Value carried forward	**792,750**	**792,750**

Fixed Assets are included at their deemed cost at 31 August 2015, as represented by their insurance value at that date.

10 Debtors

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Loan to Barrow-upon-Soar Methodist Church	0	5,000
Loan to East Leake Methodist Church	1,000	3,000
Loan to Sileby Methodist Church	2,000	0
Prepayments and accrued income	14,386	9,801
Total staff costs	**17,386**	**17,801**

The loans to Barrow-upon-Soar, East Leake and Sileby Methodist Churches are all non-interest bearing and due for repayment in greater than one year.

11 Analysis of restricted and designated funds 2024/25

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	966	0	(966)	0	0	For musical worship
New Places for New People	0	3,000	0	0	3,000	For a specific mission project
Mission Fund	15,563	3,392	(73,750)	67,000	12,205	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**16,529**	**6,392**	**(74,716)**	**67,000**	**15,205**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	1,109	0	0	3,000	4,109	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	11,086	1,046	(11,586)	7,000	7,546	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**12,195**	**1,046**	**(11,586)**	**10,000**	**11,655**	
Totals	**28,724**	**7,438**	**(86,302)**	**77,000**	**26,860**	

From 1 September 2022 the costs of employment and the associated expenses of the circuit lay pastors £49,750 (2023/24: £59,264), less grants received to part cover such costs £3,392 (2023/24: £12,511) are

paid from the Mission Fund in accordance with the direction given by the Trustees at a Circuit Meeting in June 2022.

Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2023/24

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	966	0	0	0	966	For musical worship
Mission Fund	51,219	12,511	(80,167)	32,000	15,563	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**52,185**	**12,511**	**(80,167)**	**32,000**	**16,529**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	3,654	0	(5,545)	3,000	1,109	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	1,476	0	(21,890)	31,500	11,086	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**5,130**	**0**	**(27,435)**	**34,500**	**12,195**	
Totals	**57,315**	**12,511**	**(107,602)**	**66,500**	**28,724**	

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

The Trustees are pleased to submit their Annual Report on the activities of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit.

Please note that as of 1st September 2025, the Loughborough Methodist Circuit merged with the Melton Mowbray Methodist Circuit to form the Charnwood and Mowbray Methodist Circuit.

As a circuit of churches we aim to support each other in maintaining our places of worship as centres for community engagement and spiritual renewal. This annual report of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit reflects that aim in the diversity of outreach opportunities that we have undertaken throughout the year. Though the membership of the churches remains fairly static, it is encouraging to see that the enthusiasm and commitment of all involved in the churches continues to be a blessing in the communities they serve.

The age profile of church members tends to be mainly those over 50, which is disappointing given the level of work that is done with children and young families. However, we continue to look for ways in which we might reverse this trend, while recognising the importance of continued support and encouragement in those churches that have a particular ministry to and with the older generations. The exception is the Chinese Church.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

Charity Name

Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity Number

1129524

Date of registration

11 May 2009

Charity's Principal Address

The Circuit Administrator
Trinity Methodist Church
Royland Road
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE11 2EH

Names of Trustees who managed the charity for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev. Karen Beecham	Superintendent	-	Trustee via office
Rev. Martin Swan	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. Calvin Cheung	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. Sandra Marshall	Minister	01/09/24 – 31/06/25	Trustee via office
Dr Karen Ette	Senior Circuit Steward	-	Circuit Meeting
Mr Bryan Harrison	Circuit Steward Senior Steward	- -	Circuit Meeting East Leake Church Council
Mr David Bristow	Circuit Steward Quinquennial Inspections		Circuit Meeting
Mr Robert Peach	Circuit Secretary Action for Children	- -	Circuit Meeting Circuit Meeting
Mrs Rachel Thorpe	Circuit Treasurer Treasurer	-	Circuit Meeting Trinity Church Council
Mrs Eleri Bristow	Safeguarding Officer Local Lay Pastor (Wymeswold)	-	Circuit Meeting
Mr Man Ting Nam (Martin)	Youth and Families Worker	01/04/25 – 31/08/25	Circuit Meeting
Mr Granville Mercy	Local Preachers' Representative	-	Circuit Meeting
Mrs Christine Watkins	Local Lay Pastor (East Leake)	-	Circuit Meeting
Mr Rob Newton	Local Lay Pastor (Sileby)	-	Circuit Meeting
Ms Katy Brookes-Duncan	Community Lay Worker (Shepshed)	-	Circuit Meeting

Mr John Pipet	Digital Lay Worker (12th Church)	01/09/24 – 30/06/25	Circuit Meeting
Mrs Lorraine Cutts	MHA Representative	-	Circuit Meeting
Ms Heather Doda	Steward	01/07/25 – 31/08/25	Barrow Church Council
Mrs Carolyn Thornborow	Steward	01/07/25 – 31/08/25	Barrow Church Council
Mr Peter Yates	Treasurer	-	Barrow Church Council
Mr Roger Latham	Treasurer	-	East Leake Church Council
Mrs Angela Latham	Representative	-	East Leake Church Council
Mrs Pauline Hargraves	Representative	-	East Leake Church Council
Mr Harry Tyler	Representative	-	Knightthorpe Church Council
Mrs Joan Tassell	Treasurer	01/11/24 – 31/08/25	Knightthorpe Church Council
Mrs Dorothy Mee	Senior Steward	-	Mountsorrel Church Council
Mr Geoff Wainwright	Treasurer	-	Mountsorrel Church Council
Mr Les Longmire	Representative	-	Mountsorrel Church Council
Mrs Jenny Cheung	Representative	-	Chinese Church Council
Mr Mike Bird	Representative	-	Quorn Church Council
Mrs Diane Bird	Senior Steward	-	Quorn Church Council
Mr Keith Croysdale	Representative	-	Quorn Church Council
Mrs Susan Turlington	Representative	-	Quorn Church Council
Mrs Dawn Scott	Treasurer	-	Christchurch Shepshed Church Council
Mr Ian Scott	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed Church Council
Mrs Rosemary Grimley	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed Church Council
Mr Andrew Thorpe	Senior steward	-	Trinity Church Council
Mr Simon Scoggins	Representative	-	Trinity Church Council
Mr Nigel Cox	Representative	-	Trinity Church Council
Mrs Sian Mollart	Secretary	-	Woodhouse Eaves Church Council
Mrs Gill Thompson	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves Church Council
Mr Mark Blatherwick	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves Church Council
Mr Barry Thompson	Treasurer	-	Woodhouse Eaves Church Council

Ms Margaret Folwell	Senior Steward	-	Wymeswold Church Council
Mrs Sue Fossey	Treasurer	-	Wymeswold Church Council

Treasurer Mrs Rachel Thorpe

Administrator Mrs Josephine Wills

Independent Examiner Mr Martyn Speight

Bankers CAF Bank Ltd
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Names of the Trustees for the Charity
The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (custodian trustee)

Type of Governing document
Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the charity is constituted
Act of Parliament

Trustee selection methods
Appointed by local churches and officers appointed by existing trustees. Ministers are automatically trustees.

Objectives, aims and organisation.
The Charity objective is to act as a resource provider for the Methodist Church within the area around Loughborough.
The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union, the advancement of:
a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church.
b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church.
c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.
d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Church exists to:

- Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- Become a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- Make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives.
We confirm the trustees had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.
The main activities of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit are:

- Provision of worship in the Circuit's churches, open to all members of the public and seeking, through the ideas advanced by fresh expressions of church, to provide a range of different styles of worship that will mean the worship provided is relevant to new people.
- Training of those who lead worship and preach.
- Working in partnership with other agencies, e.g. Street Pastors, to show through the caring nature of members of the church the love of God to those out on the streets of Loughborough in the evenings.
- Providing staff for marriages, funerals and baptisms within the churches of the Circuit.
- Supervising and implementing the work of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults in the life of the Circuit and its churches.
- Overseeing of significant building work for the manses and churches to ensure each church's property is in an appropriate state for its use in furthering the church's aims.
- Supporting and directing the work of the ministry team.

The main achievements of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit during the year.

Our Churches:

Barrow upon Soar: (33 members) The church community enjoyed a busy and uplifting season of activities and fellowship. In July, the New Horizons Bereavement Group took a scenic cruise along the River Soar with lunch at the Waterside Inn. The outing was warmly supported by the Peter Le Marchant Trust crew.
Many regular groups met over the year including Ladies Circle, Fun@Church, Men's Supper Group, Sharing Scripture, Bible Study, and Crochet and Craft.
Community use of the premises continued to expand, with groups such as Charnwood Saxes, Barrow Playgroup, 1st Barrow upon Soar Guides, Cosmic Theatre Group, Barrow Arts and Theatre Society, and Karate helping support the upkeep of the facilities.
Collaboration with Barrow upon Soar Churches Together has remained strong.

Christchurch, Shepshed: (55 members) Weekly coffee mornings have continued including the Charity Coffee Morning on the first Friday of the month. Each Charity has 6 months of support. Fundraising for the Air Ambulance Charity was completed and the RNLI was the next focus. Charities supported so far have been: Alzheimer's Society, British Heart Foundation, Parkinson's UK, Cancer Research, MND, and Air Ambulance. Chat and Chomp, which is run by staff, students and volunteers of a local college with church support, has been held every Wednesday. This activity provided a great opportunity to connect with those at the margins of society and some have responded well to the gospel message. The Church has continued to offer a range of worship styles to appeal to all comers including a monthly informal service called Something Different which has proved popular. They have also continued to share with ecumenical partners in hosting Connected Worship, a time of praise, worship, prayer and reflection accompanied by a live worship band.

East Leake: (23 members) East Leake is the only circuit church not located in the Borough of Charnwood, and is in the Borough of Rushcliffe, Nottinghamshire. This is one of the smaller churches in the circuit, situated in the centre of the village near the shops and next to the Village Hall.
The building has continued to be well used. Alongside the Methodist Brownies and other regular groups, a new Rainbow Unit joined, which is already fully subscribed. The church

and its facilities are a safe and welcoming space that support spiritual and social activities within the community. The congregation have committed to becoming a Bronze Eco Church and have been working through the process. They have also maintained links with the National Rehabilitation Centre and have continued to support the thriving community Memory Café.

Knightthorpe Methodist Church: (28 members) The church has hosted a number of groups and the church's coffee and craft group has continued to meet together on Wednesday mornings at 10.00 a.m. Morris dancers, a community choir, a karate club and other groups have continued to use the premises during the week.
In partnership with Incredible Edible Loughborough, the community garden has continued to flourish, growing in both scale and variety. Volunteers have regularly harvested fresh produce, which was made freely available to local residents. The back garden has been transformed into a welcoming, peaceful space with flowers, plants and handmade pallet furniture, while the car park has gradually become a natural green area. Plans are also underway for a memorial and tranquillity garden. The garden was awarded Level 5 (the highest level) by the Loughborough in Bloom judges.
Creative activities brought the community together including a well-attended patchwork and flower pot decoupage workshop. The Summer Party and Flower Festival featured a repair café, craft activities, flower pot painting, live music and beautiful floral displays. Friends from the church, circuit, Incredible Edible Loughborough and the wider community joined in for a day of connection and celebration.

The Chinese Methodist Congregation: (110 members) Loughborough Chinese Methodist Church, established in 2012, is the newest church in the Circuit. A Cantonese-speaking congregation, it has been meeting at Trinity Methodist Church in Loughborough since 2021, after outgrowing its previous venue.
Among the many events that took place was a joyful mid-autumn festival celebration organised jointly with Derby Chinese Church through the Joint Elderly Fellowship. A Christmas Cantata was held at Trinity Methodist Church, which featured a special performance by the Chinese congregation of Epsom Methodist Church, bringing together worship, music and fellowship in celebration of the season. There was an Easter Retreat Camp at The Hayes Conference Centre which was attended by approximately 300 participants from various Methodist Chinese Churches across the UK. In May there was an evangelical night where the ACM Evangelical Team from Hong Kong presented "The Way Evangelical Night" attended by over 100 people.
In July, the Derby and Loughborough congregations celebrated the completion of the 34-week Discipleship Course together.
A Combined Elderly Fellowship, together with Derby Chinese Church, took place in August 2025. This gathering included a day trip to Coventry for more than 60 people.

Mountsorrel Methodist Church (14 members) The Church Anniversary celebrations began on Saturday, 6th September with an organ recital by Anne de Graeve of Wigston, followed by a buffet supper. Celebrations continued on Sunday 14th September at 10.30 a.m. with the Anniversary and annual Covenant Service, joined by members of Churches Together in Mountsorrel.
The fourth-Sunday services at 4.00 p.m. followed by a bring-and-share tea, have continued and prove popular, drawing in some members from around the circuit. The Boys' Brigade remains strong and has been supported by a dedicated team of leaders and helpers. Ladies'

Night has continued to meet fortnightly on Wednesdays, and Meet and Greet has gathered twice a month.
The premises have been well-used by the community.

Trinity Methodist Church: (118 members) Trinity embarked on a building project called "Open the Doors" to make better use of space in the hall wing. The work has created a small meeting room with kitchen and toilet facilities, along with office and storage space for the playgroup, enabling the rest of the building to remain accessible during their sessions. The new layout will allow further development going forward, including a proposed weekly coffee hour for playgroup parents and others, possible FEAST groups, and additional lettings to support church finances.
Church groups which have met over the year include: Monday @2 (with speakers), fortnightly home groups, Boys' and Girls' Brigades with Band, a young adults' FEAST Bible study, and choir rehearsals. Trinity continues to host other choirs for rehearsals and concerts. Strong links have been maintained with the local Baptist and URC churches. The congregation have shared occasional services with the Chinese congregation, and have continued to hold quarterly Jazz Vespers, which attracts people from across the circuit.

Sileby Methodist Church: (21 members) Sileby has continued to hold a Coffee morning each Thursday from 10.00 a.m.–12.00 noon. On the 4th Sunday of each month, Sileby has hosted Café Live – a friendly, open mic night with hot pasties, sausage rolls and hot and cold drinks available. Work has continued with a local school and links have been maintained with other churches in the village.

Woodhouse Eaves Methodist Church: (21 members) The premises have continued to be well-used by community groups including: Baby Ballet, two weekly choirs, a local history group, Beacon Players (a local drama group) as well as occasional bookings for events and parties.
Messy Church has continued to be held on the first Sunday of the month and has remained successful and popular. The church was pleased that two of the young men who are reaching their teens, have volunteered to help with sessions in the new academic year. Play and Praise has continued to take place every Thursday morning during term time.
Work has continued ecumenically with the Baptist Church and St Leonard's, Swithland, with a regular seasonal bible study, which was hosted in turn by the churches. The World Day of Prayer in March was planned and led by a committee with representatives from six local congregations in Woodhouse, Woodhouse Eaves and Swithland. Take Time has continued to take place via Zoom from 10.30 a.m. – 11.00 a.m. on the first Friday of the month. It is a meditative, reflective session led by trained practitioners, to listen to an imaginatively formatted Bible passage and then have a guided quiet time to speak to and listen to Jesus. This was open to everyone from the circuit. The church has installed a new sound system with more up to date technology.

Wymeswold Methodist Church: (15 members) Although small in number, Wymeswold are big with their ideas and try to engage with the community whenever they can. They have continued a good relationship with the village school and have helped to coordinate an Ecumenical Group of Open the Book Storytellers who have gone into school each week to bring the bible stories alive to the children. The school children and staff were invited to the chapel twice during the year for Experience Journeys which supported the RE curriculum of the school. A Warm Welcome event was held every Tuesday afternoon from 1.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. with refreshments and this has continued to prove very popular. The monthly

coffee mornings, held on the first Saturday of the month, were also well-attended over the course of the year. Worship, as has become usual, was mostly held in partnership with the local Anglicans, either at St Mary's or in the Chapel. An ecumencial Bible study group has continued to meet in the Chapel fortnightly on Monday evenings and an ecumenical house group has also met fortnightly for prayer and fellowship in a village home.

The Twelfth Church: Since March 2020, the Loughborough Methodist Circuit has put out a service each Sunday morning onto Facebook, comprising a mixture of livestreams and prerecorded services and this will continue under the Charnwood and Mowbray Circuit banner. In future, services will be mainly livestreamed from a variety of churches around the circuit. Services are available to stream live or can be watched back later for up to 30 days. www.facebook.com/TwelfthChurch

St Bartholomew's United, Quorn: (108 members) At Pentecost in 1975 Quorn Methodist Church came together in unity with the Parish Church of St Bartholomew. Though never a formal LEP, the two congregations became one, and by agreement after a few years chose to worship exclusively in the 800-year-old parish church. Since then Quorn United Church has been fully part of both its Methodist Circuit and Anglican Diocese, paying an Assessment to each and with a single Church Council. For the last four years they have been without a vicar but never without a Methodist Minister. Worship has continued to be led by a variety of ministers, ordained and lay, from both denominations and reflecting both traditions. Weekly attendance at services ranges between 50 and 60 and has been increasing over the year. It is a lively church with a strong relationship with the two church schools in the village, a team of bell ringers and a full choir at each service.

The **Circuit Stewards** have continued to meet on a regular basis to contribute to the support of the Circuit ministry and maintain the Manses.

The Circuit has continued its ministry to **local residential and nursing homes**.

Ministry via participation in collective worship in schools has continued. Ecumenical teams in Quorn and Wymeswold take *Open the Book* to village primary schools.

Brief financial review of the year.
The Circuit is financially stable with assessments mainly covering ongoing costs – the remaining amount was taken from reserves. Some reserves were also spent on lay workers salaries and expenses in the year which is part of the plan to use reserves for mission.
As of 1st September 2025, the Loughborough Circuit merged with the Melton Mowbray Circuit to form the new Charnwood and Mowbray Circuit. The Melton Mowbray Circuit had funds of £344,700 at that date which they brought into the new circuit, plus 2 manses (one of which is now for sale) and 6 church buildings (one of which is now for sale).

Governance and Management.
The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).
Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).
Day-to-day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team.

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

Safeguarding.

The Loughborough Circuit has a Circuit Safeguarding Officer who supports the individual churches' safeguarding officers.

Every person has a value and dignity, which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
- The establishing of safe, caring communities, which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.

We will respond without delay to every complaint made, which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.

We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral, to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

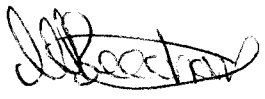
The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

SECTION F DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature 

Full Name Rev Karen Beecham.

Position Chair

Date 12.03.26

Charnwood and Mowbray Methodist Circuit

England & Wales - Charity number 1129524

Accounts

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Charity number 1129524

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 August 2024

Contents

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Loughborough Methodist Circuit **Charity No. 1129524**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer ..... Date 19/12/24

Name and address of treasurer: Rachel Thorpe, 52 Priory Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3PP.

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 5 December 2024.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Karen Beecham Date 5/12/24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1129524

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 3 to 9. As the Circuit'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 Circuit'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.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signature of independent examiner: Martyn Speight

Name of independent examiner: Martyn Speight

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: N/A

Address: 6 Laneshaw Avenue, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 4NT

Date: 18 Nov 2024

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Income from monetary investments		1,935	11,914			**13,849**
Assessments on Churches		190,000				**190,000**
Grants received		3,817				**3,817**
Other charitable income		6,129	24,000		12,511	**42,640**
Total income		**201,881**	**35,914**	**0**	**12,511**	**250,306**
Expenditure						
Grants and donations					5,600	**5,600**
Salaries and associated costs	6	135,272			57,630	**192,902**
Property maintenance				27,435		**27,435**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy						**0**
District Assessment & Levy		33,546	7,542		15,000	**56,088**
Office expenses		4,224				**4,224**
Other outgoings		26,104	572		1,937	**28,613**
Total charitable expenditure		**199,146**	**8,114**	**27,435**	**80,167**	**314,862**
Net income/(expenditure)		**2,735**	**27,800**	**(27,435)**	**(67,656)**	**(64,556)**
Transfers between funds		(10,500)	(56,000)	34,500	32,000	0
Net movement in funds		**(7,765)**	**(28,200)**	**7,065**	**(35,656)**	**(64,556)**
Total funds brought forward		827,314	214,839	5,130	52,185	1,099,468
Total funds carried forward		**819,549**	**186,639**	**12,195**	**16,529**	**1,034,912**

Loughborough Methodist Circuit **Charity No. 1129524**

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Income from monetary investments		2,529	6,492			**9,021**
Assessments on Churches		172,000				**172,000**
Grants received		22,642				**22,642**
Other charitable income		5,913			12,425	**18,338**
Total income		**203,084**	**6,492**	**0**	**12,425**	**222,001**
Expenditure						
Grants and donations					12,800	**12,800**
Salaries and associated costs	6	123,464			35,352	**158,816**
Property maintenance				12,736		**12,736**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy						**0**
District Assessment & Levy		33,986	7,639			**41,625**
Office expenses		4,378				**4,378**
Other outgoings		26,007	578		2,743	**29,328**
Total charitable expenditure		**187,835**	**8,217**	**12,736**	**50,895**	**259,683**
Net income/(expenditure)		**15,249**	**(1,725)**	**(12,736)**	**(38,470)**	**(37,682)**
Transfers between funds		(13,000)	(6,000)	13,000	6,000	0
Net movement in funds		**2,249**	**(7,725)**	**264**	**(32,470)**	**(37,682)**
Total funds brought forward		825,065	222,564	4,866	84,655	1,137,150
Total funds carried forward		**827,314**	**214,839**	**5,130**	**52,185**	**1,099,468**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses	9	792,750	0	0	0	792,750	792,750
Total fixed assets		**792,750**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**792,750**	**792,750**
Current Assets							
Debtors	10	9,801	8,000			17,801	23,569
Investments with TMCP			178,639			178,639	200,839
Central Finance Board Deposits		52,808				52,808	111,665
Cash at Bank and in hand		2,615		12,195	16,529	31,339	7,857
Total current assets		**65,224**	**186,639**	**12,195**	**16,529**	**280,587**	**343,930**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)		(38,425)	0	0	0	(38,425)	(37,213)
Total current liabilities		**(38,425)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(38,425)**	**(37,213)**
Net current assets/liabilities		**26,799**	**186,639**	**12,195**	**16,529**	**242,162**	**306,718**
Net assets		**819,549**	**186,639**	**12,195**	**16,529**	**1,034,912**	**1,099,468**
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		819,549				**819,549**	827,314
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			186,639			**186,639**	214,839
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	11			12,195		**12,195**	5,130
Total Unrestricted Funds						**1,018,382**	**1,047,283**
Restricted Funds	11				16,529	**16,529**	52,185
Total Funds		**819,549**	**186,639**	**12,195**	**16,529**	**1,034,912**	**1,099,468**

Signed

Rachel Thorpe
Circuit Treasurer

Loughborough Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
Year Ended 31 August 2024

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 Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for a specific purpose. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. Details of each material fund are disclosed in note 11 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 Circuit Manses and Other properties are shown at their "deemed cost", being their insurance value as at 31 August 2015, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

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.

Resources Expended

These are 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 are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Circuit Meeting being satisfied, on the basis of progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities in these accounts.

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

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 insurance values. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the Manse and Other buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

Investments

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 are amounts owed to the Circuit and are measured on the basis of their recoverable amount.

Creditors

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter 2024/25 assessment received in August 2024.

4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting. This excludes stipends and payment to employed lay pastors.

Trustee expenses:	**2023/24**	**2022/23**
Number of Trustees	47	46
Total trustee expenses	**£14,732**	**£14,060**

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel and computing costs.

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2023/24	**2022/23**
	£	£
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	NIL	NIL
Other fees paid to the independent examiner or auditor	NIL	NIL

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:	**2023/24**	**2022/23**
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	159,621	130,361
Employer's National Insurance costs	11,332	9,409
Pension costs	21,949	19,046
Total staff costs	**192,902**	**158,816**
Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	5.9	5.1

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At 31 August 2024 Resolutions of the Circuit Meeting had approved Grants of £10,000 (2023: £15,600) that had not been paid.

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

	2023/24	**2022/23**
	£	£
Balance brought forward from last year	0	0
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	2,271	3,531
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	(2,271)	(3,531)
Balance carried forward	**0**	**0**

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Manses	Total
	£	£
Balance brought forward	792,750	792,750
Balance carried forward	**792,750**	**792,750**
Depreciation brought forward	0	0
Depreciation carried forward	**0**	**0**
Net Book Value brought forward	792,750	792,750
Net Book Value carried forward	**792,750**	**792,750**

Fixed Assets are included at their deemed cost at 31 August 2015, as represented by their insurance value at that date.

10 Debtors

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Loan to Barrow-upon-Soar Methodist Church	5,000	10,000
Loan to East Leake Methodist Church	3,000	4,000
Prepayments and accrued income	9,801	9,569
Total staff costs	**17,801**	**23,569**

The loans to Barrow-upon-Soar and East Leake Methodist Churches are both non-interest bearing and due for repayment in greater than one year.

11 Analysis of restricted and designated funds 2023/24

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	966	0	0	0	966	For musical worship
Mission Fund	51,219	12,511	(80,167)	32,000	15,563	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**52,185**	**12,511**	**(80,167)**	**32,000**	**16,529**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	3,654	0	(5,545)	3,000	1,109	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	1,476	0	(21,890)	31,500	11,086	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**5,130**	**0**	**(27,435)**	**34,500**	**12,195**	
Totals	**57,315**	**12,511**	**(107,602)**	**66,500**	**28,724**	

From 1 September 2022 the costs of employment and the associated expenses of the circuit lay pastors £59,2664 (2022/23: £37,792), less grants received to part cover such costs £12,511 (2022/23: £12,225) are paid from the Mission Fund in accordance with the direction given by the Trustees at a Circuit Meeting in June 2022.

Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2022/23

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	966	0	0	0	966	For musical worship
Mission Fund	83,689	12,425	(50,895)	6,000	51,219	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**84,655**	**12,425**	**(50,895)**	**6,000**	**52,185**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	1,662	0	(1,008)	3,000	3,654	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	3,204	0	(11,728)	10,000	1,476	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**4,866**	**0**	**(12,736)**	**13,000**	**5,130**	
Totals	**89,521**	**12,425**	**(63,631)**	**19,000**	**57,315**	

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

The Trustees are pleased to submit their Annual Report on the activities of the Loughborough Circuit.

As a circuit of churches we aim to support each other in maintaining our places of worship as centres for community engagement and spiritual renewal. This annual report of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit reflects that aim in the diversity of outreach opportunities that we have undertaken throughout the year. Though the membership of the churches remains fairly static, it is encouraging to see that the enthusiasm and commitment of all involved in the churches continues to be a blessing in the communities they serve.

The age profile of church members tends to be mainly those over 50, which is disappointing given the level of work that is done with children and young families. However, we continue to look for ways in which we might reverse this trend, while recognising the importance of continued support and encouragement in those churches that have a particular ministry to and with the older generations. The exception is the Chinese Church.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

Charity Name

Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity Number

1129524

Date of registration

11 May 2009

Charity's Principal Address

The Circuit Administrator
Trinity Methodist Church
Royland Road
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE11 2EH

Names of Trustees who manage the charity for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev. Karen Beecham	Superintendent	-	Trustee via office
Rev. Martin Swan	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. Calvin Cheung	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. Sandra Marshall	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Mr Trevor Ranson	Senior circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Dr Karen Ette	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Mr B Harrison	Circuit steward Senior steward	- -	Circuit meeting East Leake church council
Mr S R Peach	Circuit secretary Action for Children	- -	Circuit meeting Circuit meeting
Mrs R Thorpe	Circuit treasurer Treasurer	-	Circuit meeting Trinity church council
Mrs Eleri Bristow	Safeguarding Officer	-	Circuit meeting
Mr J Bateman	Local preachers' secretary	- -	Circuit meeting
Mr G Mercy	Local preachers' representative	- -	Circuit meeting
F Edum-Fotwe	World Church	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs C Watkins	Local Pastor (East Leake)	-	Circuit meeting
Mr R Newton	Lay-pastor (Sileby)	-	Circuit meeting
Ms V Li	Lay-worker (Knightthorpe)	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs E Bristow	Lay-pastor (Wymeswold) Circuit safeguarding officer	-	Circuit meeting

Ms K Brookes-Duncan	Lay-worker (Shepshed)	-	Circuit meeting
Mr J Pipet	Digital lay-worker (12th Church)	-	Circuit meeting
Mr D Bristow	Quinquennial Inspections	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs L Cutts	MHA Representative	-	Circuit meeting Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs S Webb	Senior steward	-	Barrow church council
Mr P Yates	Treasurer	-	Barrow church council
Mr R Latham	Treasurer	-	East Leake church council
Mrs A Latham	Representative	-	East Leake church council
Mrs P Hargraves	Representative	-	East Leake church council
Mr H Tyler	Representative	-	Knightthorpe church council
Mrs D Mee	Senior steward	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mr G Wainwright	Treasurer	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mr L Longmire	Representative	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mrs J Cheung	Representative	-	Chinese church council
Ms F Wong	Treasurer	-	Chinese church council
Mr M Bird	Representative	-	Quorn church council
Mrs D Bird	Senior steward	-	Quorn church council
Mr K Croysdale	Representative	-	Quorn church council
Mrs S Turlington	Representative	-	Quorn church council
Mrs D Scott	Treasurer	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mr I Scott	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs R Grimley	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs A Barber	Representative	-	Sileby church council
Mr A Thorpe	Senior steward	-	Trinity church council
Mr S Scoggins	Representative	-	Trinity church council
Mr N Cox	Representative	-	Trinity church council
Mrs S Mollart	Secretary	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Mrs G Thompson	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Mr M Blatherwick	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Ms M Folwell	Senior steward	-	Wymeswold church council

Ms S Fossey	Treasurer	-	Wymeswold church council

Treasurer Mrs R Thorpe

Administrator Mrs Josephine Wills

Independent Examiner Mr Martyn Speight

Bankers Caf Bank Ltd
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Names of the Trustees for the Charity
The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (custodian trustee)

Type of Governing document
Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the charity is constituted
Act of Parliament

Trustee selection methods
Appointed by local churches and officers appointed by existing trustees. Ministers are automatically trustees.

Objectives, aims and organisation.

The Charity objective is to act as a resource provider for the Methodist Church within the area around Loughborough.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church.

b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church.

c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Church exists to:

- Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.

- Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- Become a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- Make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives.

We confirm the trustees had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The main activities of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit are:

- Provision of worship in the Circuit's churches, open to all members of the public and seeking, through the ideas advanced by fresh expressions of church, to provide a range of different styles of worship that will mean the worship provided is relevant to new people.
- Training of those who lead worship and preach.
- Working in partnership with other agencies, e.g. Street Pastors, to show through the caring nature of members of the church the love of God to those out on the streets of Loughborough in the evenings.
- Providing staff for marriages, funerals and baptisms within the churches of the Circuit.
- Supervising and implementing the work of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults in the life of the Circuit and its churches
- Overseeing of significant building work for the manses and churches to ensure each church's property is in an appropriate state for its use in furthering the church's aims.
- Supporting and directing the work of the ministry team.

The main achievements of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit during the year.

Our Churches:

Barrow upon Soar: The Ladies' Fellowship celebrated their diamond anniversary. The church has supported many charities over the years and the chosen charity for 2024–2025 is Street Pastors. They also have a bereavement group once a month and a men's supper club.

Christchurch, Shepshed: in May, Christchurch hosted the village Connected Worship service. The service was led jointly by members of St Botolph's, Shepshed Baptists and Christchurch. It is a time of praise, worship, prayer and reflection accompanied by live music. In July the annual over 80s afternoon tea was held. On the third Sunday of the month, the 'Something Different' gathering is held for informal praise and worship. There is a charity coffee morning on the first Friday of the month and on Wednesdays there is the community Chat and Chomp, which is run by staff, students and volunteers of a local college.

East Leake: East Leake is the only circuit church not located in the Borough of Charnwood, and is in the Borough of Rushcliffe, Nottinghamshire. The church has been actively working towards having a community lay worker and have had a constructive conversation with representatives from the church's leadership team, and members of the circuit and the District

enabler. The feedback received was that East Leake Methodist Church is a welcoming church, spiritually mature and inclusive and witnesses to those who are disabled or neurodiverse, a church whose building is well-used by the community. It is a church of committed volunteers that have little capacity – a church of friendship.

Knightthorpe Methodist Church: continues to engage with the community through activities for everyone, which seeks to fulfil the local community's needs and to enhance the involvement of members and friends of the church and circuit as volunteers and participants. Some of the community engagement activities are: the gardening club, who meet bi-weekly on Wednesday afternoons, working with Incredible Edible and students from Loughborough University. The front garden has been transformed into a vegetable garden for anyone in the community to both join in with and enjoy the produce. There was an evening of carol singing on the front lawn and spring and summer parties, which were well-attended by members of the community and church. There has also been jewellery making and calligraphy workshops. The coffee and craft group continue to meet on Wednesday mornings, coffee mornings on the first Saturday of the month and room lettings to various groups throughout the week.

The Chinese Methodist Congregation: The largest church in the circuit, the Chinese congregation continues to grow and celebrated their 12th anniversary in January. Also in January, and in May, there was a combined senior adults' fellowship with the Derby Chinese Church. A choir has also been formed. In June, the Chinese church hosted an evangelical tour party from Hong Kong. From January to June 2024, Y-Fire – Youth Programme ran every Saturday for around 30 young people from curriculum Years 6 to 13.

Mountsorrel Methodist Church has a large suite of premises, which are used by various groups, seven days a week including Boys' Brigade and a Ladies' Night. A commercial pre-school playgroup meets five days per week, the Loughborough Seventh-day Adventist Church meets on Saturdays plus a dance school and keep-fit classes. On the fourth Sunday of each month, the service is at 4.00 p.m. followed by a bring-and-share tea. The Wesley History Society meets in the chapel twice year and two members of the congregation host an afternoon of strawberry teas at their home in June. Organ recitals continue throughout the year and for the church anniversary on Saturday, 31 August, one was given by Dr Simon Ainge, followed by tea and fellowship.

Trinity Methodist Church is part of a three-churches partnership with the local URC and Baptist churches and there have been various joint services across the year. There have also been united services with the Chinese congregation, which leads to a full church; part of the service is in English and part in Cantonese with simultaneous translations of the sermon and other translations via a screen. Each service has also been followed by a joint lunch where a couple of times there has been Chinese first courses and British deserts (playing to our strengths maybe).

During the summer months there has been a number of open gardens on Saturday mornings, which are well attended and often raise funds for a charity close to the heart of the family hosting. At Easter and Pentecost, there were a number of events alongside our Baptist and URC friends. In particular, the Good Friday service of readings and related hymns was very moving. A FEAST group has been running for a few months for our young adults where they studied the book of Acts. This was the first time in several years that we have managed to

engage better with students from the University and make them feel more at home. The church is also working towards reorganising the building to allow the playgroup to use just the halls off the entrance, which will allow the rest of the church to be available for use at the same time as the playgroup is meeting. A newly created meeting space that will be part of this will become known as the Richardson Room in memory of the late Revd Sidney Richardson, the founder and long term leader of Trinity's Teamprint. Trinty has a flourishing Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade with the joint Brigades' Band leading the town Remembrance Day Parade in November 2023.

Sileby Methodist Church has a community outreach and lay pastor who runs an informal worship lounge some Sundays. Coffee mornings are held weekly on Thursdays from 10.00 a.m.–12 noon and coffee evenings, 6.00 p.m.–8.00 p.m. on the first and third Monday of the month. There is an open-mic night, Café Live, every fourth Sunday from 7.00 p.m.– 9.30 p.m. The wellbeing hub is now weekly rather than fortnightly. A theatre group meets on Thursday evenings and daytime on Saturdays. Work continues with a local school.

Woodhouse Eaves Methodist Church:
Play and Praise, a thriving parent-toddler group for preschool children continues to meet at 9.15 a.m. every Thursday morning in term time.
Taketime is an opportunity to reflect and meditate on a bible passage. It is held at the church on the first Friday of the month and via Zoom on the third, both at 10.30 a.m. Everyone in the circuit is welcome to join in.
Messy Church is an informal family time of crafts, fun, food and bible stories. It is held on the second Sunday of each month at 4.00 p.m.
We thought that food, fellowship and prayer was a good model to follow, so we trialled our first 'breakfast and prayer' session. We shared in a simple breakfast together and then moved on to praying for our world, church and community. Prayer stations were set up around church and people could move around and offer their prayers. We closed with a worship song and the Grace. It was a lovely experience which we plan to repeat in the future. We also hope to open to the community.

Wymeswold Methodist Church: Although are small in number, Wymeswold are big with their ideas and try to engage with the community whenever they can. Wymeswold now have a local lay pastor. They have a good relationship with the village school and help to coordinate an Ecumenical Group of Open the Book Storytellers who go into school each week to bring the bible stories alive to the children. The school children and staff are invited to the chapel twice a year for experience journeys. The Warm Welcome event is held on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. with refreshments, but the main thing is the chatter and fellowship with the lovely dozen or more people who attend, ranging in age from 1 to 91 years or so. The monthly coffee mornings, held on the first Saturday of the month is also well-attended by a slightly different group and provides another great opportunity to chat and network with those who attend from several of the local villages. Worship is mostly held in partnership with the local Anglicans, either at St Mary's or in the Chapel. A Bible study group meets in the Chapel fortnightly on Monday evenings

The Twelfth Church: It's now getting on for 41/2 years since the Loughborough Circuit started providing a way on the internet for people to worship together as part of this circuit even if unable to attend a church service in person – the 12th Church.

St Bartholomew's United, Quorn: Reorganisation of Leicester Diocese continues at a steady pace through a project titled 'Shaped by God Together', which will result in groupings of parishes that will look remarkably like Methodist Circuits. In our case we will probably become one of 13 parishes comprising a 'Minster Community' under the leadership of a team of four people, only one of which has to be an ordained minister. This will be challenging for all concerned but also offers opportunities for the churches concerned to work together in mission and to share resources. It will probably be 2026 before this new structure is finally in place. These changes do not affect Quorn's membership and involvement in the Loughborough Circuit which we have particularly valued during our Interregnum. We will be celebrating the Golden Anniversary of the coming together of our Methodist and Anglican churches in Quorn at Pentecost on 8 June this year – a moment for celebration!

The **Circuit Stewards** have continued to meet on a regular basis to contribute to the support of the Circuit ministry and maintain the Manses.

The Circuit has continued its ministry to **local residential and nursing homes**.
Ministry via participation in collective worship in schools has continued. Ecumenical teams in Quorn and Wymeswold take *Open the Book* to village primary schools.

Brief financial review of the year.

The Circuit is in good shape financially, starting the year with over £300,000 in reserves.

The general account was in deficit in the year, as we had deliberately set a budget that runs down the general account.

The District Assessment was high in the year – it is partly based on Circuit reserves, which are large. We took £15,000 from reserves to help cover this charge as we felt it was unfair to put up assessments by that much or to take it from the general account.

We spent £59,000 on part-time lay-workers and local pastors in the year. These staff help the ministers in local churches, with the focus on mission and community outreach.

The plan is to continue employing more lay-workers over the coming years, using up the money the Circuit received from the sale of International House a few years back.

Governance and Management.

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day-to-day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team.

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

Safeguarding.

The Loughborough Circuit has a circuit safeguarding officer who supports the individual churches' safeguarding officers.

Every person has a value and dignity, which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

• The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.

• The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.

• The establishing of safe, caring communities, which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.

We will respond without delay to every complaint made, which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.

We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral, to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

SECTION F DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature



Full Name Rev Karen Beecham

Position Chair

Date 20.03.25

Charnwood and Mowbray Methodist Circuit

England & Wales - Charity number 1129524

Accounts

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Charity number 1129524

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 August 2023

Contents

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Loughborough Methodist Circuit **Charity No. 1129524**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer ..... Date 31/10/23

Name and address of treasurer: Rachel Thorpe, 52 Priory Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3PP.

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 23 November 2023.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Karen Beecham Date 23.11.23

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1129524

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 3 to 9. As the Circuit'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 Circuit'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.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signature of independent examiner: .....

Name of independent examiner: Martyn Speight

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: N/A

Address: 6 Laneshaw Avenue, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 4NT

Date: 31 Oct 2023

Loughborough Methodist Circuit **Charity No. 1129524**

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Income from monetary investments		2,529	6,492			**9,021**
Assessments on Churches		172,000				**172,000**
Grants received		22,642				**22,642**
Other charitable income		5,913			12,425	**18,338**
Total income		**203,084**	**6,492**	**0**	**12,425**	**222,001**
Expenditure						
Grants and donations					12,800	**12,800**
Salaries and associated costs	6	123,464			35,352	**158,816**
Property maintenance				12,736		**12,736**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy						**0**
District Assessment & Levy		33,986	7,639			**41,625**
Office expenses		4,378				**4,378**
Other outgoings		26,007	578		2,743	**29,328**
Total charitable expenditure		**187,835**	**8,217**	**12,736**	**50,895**	**259,683**
Net income/(expenditure)		**15,249**	**(1,725)**	**(12,736)**	**(38,470)**	**(37,682)**
Transfers between funds		(13,000)	(6,000)	13,000	6,000	0
Net movement in funds		**2,249**	**(7,725)**	**264**	**(32,470)**	**(37,682)**
Total funds brought forward		825,065	222,564	4,866	84,655	1,137,150
Total funds carried forward		**827,314**	**214,839**	**5,130**	**52,185**	**1,099,468**

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Income from monetary investments		198	782	0	29	**1,009**
Assessments on Churches		164,132	0	0	0	**164,132**
Grants received		17,848	0	0	0	**17,848**
Other charitable income		5,120	0	2,831	400	**8,351**
Total income		**187,298**	**782**	**2,831**	**429**	**191,340**
Expenditure						
Grants and donations		0	105,000	0	600	**105,600**
Salaries and associated costs	6	130,703	0	0	0	**130,703**
Property maintenance		0	0	16,450	0	**16,450**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy		0	0	0	0	**0**
District Assessment & Levy		33,951	18,173	0	0	**52,124**
Office expenses		5,989	0	0	0	**5,989**
Other outgoings		23,336	25,023	0	2,167	**50,526**
Total charitable expenditure		**193,979**	**148,196**	**16,450**	**2,767**	**361,392**
Net income/(expenditure)		**(6,681)**	**(147,414)**	**(13,619)**	**(2,338)**	**(170,052)**
Transfers between funds		(1,925)	(8,280)	7,500	2,705	0
Net movement in funds		**(8,606)**	**(155,694)**	**(6,119)**	**367**	**(170,052)**
Total funds brought forward		833,671	378,258	10,985	84,288	1,307,202
Total funds carried forward		**825,065**	**222,564**	**4,866**	**84,655**	**1,137,150**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses	9	792,750	0	0	0	792,750	792,750
Total fixed assets		**792,750**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**792,750**	**792,750**
Current Assets							
Debtors	10	9,569	14,000	0	0	23,569	28,898
Investments with TMCP		0	200,839	0	0	200,839	202,564
Central Finance Board Deposits		60,446	0	0	51,219	111,665	68,150
Cash at Bank and in hand		1,761	0	5,130	966	7,857	82,246
Total current assets		**71,776**	**214,839**	**5,130**	**52,185**	**343,930**	**381,858**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)		(37,213)	0	0	0	(37,213)	(37,458)
Total current liabilities		**(37,213)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(37,213)**	**(37,458)**
Net current assets/liabilities		**34,564**	**214,839**	**5,130**	**52,185**	**306,718**	**344,400**
Net assets		**827,314**	**214,839**	**5,130**	**52,185**	**1,099,468**	**1,137,150**
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		827,314				**827,314**	825,065
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			214,839			**214,839**	222,564
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	11			5,130		**5,130**	4,866
Total Unrestricted Funds						**1,047,283**	**1,052,495**
Restricted Funds	11				52,185	**52,185**	**84,655**
Total Funds		**827,314**	**214,839**	**5,130**	**52,185**	**1,099,468**	**1,137,150**

Signed

Rachel Thorpe
Circuit Treasurer

Loughborough Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
Year Ended 31 August 2023

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 Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for a specific purpose. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. Details of each material fund are disclosed in note 11 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 Circuit Manses and Other properties are shown at their "deemed cost", being their insurance value as at 31 August 2015, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

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.

Resources Expended

These are 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 are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Circuit Meeting being satisfied, on the basis of progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities in these accounts.

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

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 insurance values. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the Manse and Other buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

Investments

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 are amounts owed to the Circuit and are measured on the basis of their recoverable amount.

Creditors

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter 2023/24 assessment received in August 2023.

4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting. This excludes stipends and payment to employed lay pastors.

Trustee expenses:	**2022/23**	**2021/22**
Number of Trustees	46	48
Total trustee expenses	**£14,060**	**£11,771**

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel and computing costs.

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2022/23	**2021/22**
	£	£
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	NIL	NIL
Other fees paid to the independent examiner or auditor	NIL	NIL

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:	**2022/23**	**2021/22**
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	130,361	104,335
Employer's National Insurance costs	9,409	8,272
Pension costs	19,046	18,096
Total staff costs	**158,816**	**130,703**

Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	5.1	4.1

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At 31 August 2023 Resolutions of the Circuit Meeting had approved Grants of £15,600 (2022: £10,756) that had not been paid.

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

	2022/23	**2021/22**
	£	£
Balance brought forward from last year	0	0
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	3,531	2,501
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	(3,531)	(2,501)
Balance carried forward	**0**	**0**

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Manses	Total
Balance brought forward	792,750	792,750
Balance carried forward	**792,750**	**792,750**
Depreciation brought forward	0	0
Depreciation carried forward	**0**	**0**
Net Book Value brought forward	792,750	792,750
Net Book Value carried forward	**792,750**	**792,750**

Fixed Assets are included at their deemed cost at 31 August 2015, as represented by their insurance value at that date.

10 Debtors

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Loan to Barrow-upon-Soar Methodist Church	10,000	15,000
Loan to East Leake Methodist Church	4,000	5,000
Prepayments and accrued income	9,569	8,898
Total staff costs	**23,569**	**28,898**

The loans to Barrow-upon-Soar and East Leake Methodist Churches are both non-interest bearing and due for repayment in greater than one year.

11 Analysis of restricted and designated funds 2022/23

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	966	0	0	0	966	For musical worship
Mission Fund	83,689	12,425	(50,895)	6,000	51,219	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**84,655**	**12,425**	**(50,895)**	**6,000**	**52,185**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	1,662	0	(1,008)	3,000	3,654	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	3,204	0	(11,728)	10,000	1,476	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**4,866**	**0**	**(12,736)**	**13,000**	**5,130**	
Totals	**89,521**	**12,425**	**(63,631)**	**19,000**	**57,315**	

From 1 September 2022 the costs of employment and the associated expenses of the circuit lay pastors (£37,792), less grants received to part cover such costs (£12,225) are paid from the Mission Fund in accordance with the direction given by the Trustees at a Circuit Meeting in June 2022.

Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2021/22

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	1,644	0	(678)	0	966	For musical worship
LMCIC	77,561	29	(1,109)	(76,481)	0	For provision of accommodation to foreign students
Mission Fund	5,083	400	(980)	79,186	83,689	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**84,288**	**429**	**(2,767)**	**2,705**	**84,655**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	6,300	0	(7,638)	3,000	1,662	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	4,685	2,831	(8,812)	4,500	3,204	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**10,985**	**2,831**	**(16,450)**	**7,500**	**4,866**	
Totals	**95,273**	**3,260**	**(19,217)**	**10,205**	**89,521**	

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023.

The Trustees are pleased to submit their Annual Report on the activities of the Loughborough Circuit.

As a circuit of churches we aim to support each other in maintaining our places of worship as centres for community engagement and spiritual renewal. This annual report of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit reflects that aim in the diversity of outreach opportunities that we have undertaken throughout the year. Though the membership of the churches remains fairly static, it is encouraging to see that the enthusiasm and commitment of all involved in the churches continues to be a blessing in the communities they serve.

The age profile of church members tends to be mainly those over 50, which is disappointing given the level of work that is done with children and young families. However, we continue to look for ways in which we might reverse this trend, while recognising the importance of continued support and encouragement in those churches that have a particular ministry to and with the older generations. The exception is the Chinese Church.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

Charity Name

Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity Number

1129524

Date of registration

11 May 2009

Charity's Principal Address

The Circuit Administrator
Trinity Methodist Church
Royland Road
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE11 2EH

Names of Trustees who manage the charity for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023.

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev. Andrew Lomax	Superintendent	-	Trustee via office
Rev. Martin Swan	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. Calvin Cheung	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. Sandra Marshall	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Deacon Janet Sutton	University Chaplain	-	Trustee via office
Mr Trevor Ranson	Senior Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs Carolyn Thornborow	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Dr Karen Ette	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Mr B Harrison	Circuit steward		
Mr S R Peach	Circuit secretary	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs R Thorpe	Circuit treasurer	-	Circuit meeting
Rev. Andrew Lomax	Safeguarding Officer	-	Circuit meeting
Mr J Bateman	Local preachers' secretary	-	Circuit meeting
Mr G Mercy	Local preachers' representative	-	Circuit meeting
F Edum-Fotwe	World Church	-	Circuit meeting
Mr S R Peach	Action for Children	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs C Watkins	Local Pastor (East Leake)	-	Circuit meeting
Mr R Newton	Lay worker (Sileby)	-	Circuit meeting
Ms V Li	Lay worker (Knightthorpe)	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs E Bristow	Lay worker (Mountsorrel)	-	Circuit meeting
Ms K Brookes-Duncan	Lay worker (Shepshed)		Circuit meeting

Mr J Pipet	Digital lay worker (12th Church)		Circuit meeting
Mr D Bristow	Quinquennial Inspections		Circuit meeting
Mrs L Cutts	MHA	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs S Webb	Senior steward	-	Barrow church council
Mr P Yates	Treasurer	-	Barrow church council
Mr B Harrison	Senior steward	-	East Leake church council
Mr R Latham	Treasurer	-	East Leake church council
Mrs A Latham	Representative	-	East Leake church council
Mrs P Hargraves	Representative	-	East Leake church council
Mr H Tyler	Representative	-	Knightthorpe church council
Mrs D Mee	Senior steward	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mr G Wainwright	Treasurer	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mr L Longmire	Representative	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mrs J Cheung	Representative	-	Chinese church council
Ms F Wong	Treasurer	-	Chinese church council
Mr M Bird	Representative	-	Quorn church council
Mrs D Bird	Senior steward	-	Quorn church council
Mr K Croysdale	Representative		Quorn church council
Mrs S Turlington	Representative	-	Quorn church council
Mrs D Scott	Treasurer	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mr I Scott	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs L Cutts	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs R Grimley	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs A Barber	Representative	-	Sileby church council
Mr A Thorpe	Senior steward	-	Trinity church council
Mr S Scoggins	Representative	-	Trinity church council
Mrs R Thorpe	Treasurer	-	Trinity church council
Mr N Cox	Representative	-	Trinity church council

Mrs S Mollart	Secretary	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Mrs G Thompson	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Mr M Blatherwick	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Ms M Folwell	Senior steward	-	Wymeswold church council
Ms S Fossey	Treasurer	-	Wymeswold church council

Treasurer Mrs R Thorpe

Administrator Mrs Josephine Wills

Independent Examiner Mr Martyn Speight

Bankers Caf Bank Ltd
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Names of the Trustees for the Charity
The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (custodian trustee)

Type of Governing document
Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the charity is constituted
Act of Parliament

Trustee selection methods
Appointed by local churches and officers appointed by existing trustees. Ministers are automatically trustees.

Objectives, aims and organisation.

The Charity objective is to act as a resource provider for the Methodist Church within the area around Loughborough.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church.

b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church.

c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Church exists to:

- Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- Become a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- Make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives.

We confirm the trustees had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The main activities of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit are:

- Provision of worship in the Circuit's churches, open to all members of the public and seeking, through the ideas advanced by fresh expressions of church, to provide a range of different styles of worship that will mean the worship provided is relevant to new people.
- Training of those who lead worship and preach.
- Working in partnership with other agencies, e.g. Street Pastors, to show through the caring nature of members of the church the love of God to those out on the streets of Loughborough in the evenings, and with Loughborough University, to participate in the chaplaincy for the students at the university.
- Providing staff for marriages, funerals and baptisms within the churches of the Circuit.
- Supervising and implementing the work of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults in the life of the Circuit and its churches
- Overseeing of significant building work for the manses and churches to ensure each church's property is in an appropriate state for its use in furthering the church's aims.
- Supporting and directing the work of the ministry team.

The main achievements of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit during the year.

The Circuit did own a property called International House, in Loughborough that had been left to it for the use of International Students. Over the years the need for this property had lessened and the difficulties of running the building had increased so the building was sold. After the Methodist Connexion had taken a percentage, funding was given to some international charities and some designated for use with international students. The remainder has been put in the Circuit Mission Funds and is being used to pay for employing lay workers in various churches; three have been appointed this year with more envisaged for next.

A new superintendent minister, Rev. Karen Beecham, has been appointed and we look forward to her work and ministry in the Circuit next year.

Our Churches:

Barrow upon Soar: The village is growing rapidly and more people are using the new premises with regular bookings by two theatre groups, a karate club, gardening club and many one-off bookings for children's birthday parties, holiday clubs, dance practice sessions, etc. Our church groups continue with bible study on alternate weeks and we attract friends to our monthly Minimarkets. Cuppa and Chatta, our afternoon group, welcomes friends for tea and refreshments and the Saturday Crochet and Craft group continues to grow. Ladies Circle meet every two weeks and in 2024 will be celebrating their Diamond Anniversary. The Men's Supper Group meet for supper and activities and both groups attract both church members and village friends. Fun@Church became the Sunday School with children meeting on Wednesday afternoons after school once a month. The church is also involved in regular activities with Barrow upon Soar Churches Together, a new event for 2023 being a Walking Nativity around the village.
Special events were held to mark Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee where there was a life-size figure of Her Majesty available for photographs, and a window display for the Coronation of King Charles III as well as the annual ones for Christmas, Easter and Remembrance Day. The bollards outside the church are yarn-bombed, which attracts a lot of interest on social media, and there is the very popular life-size stable, complete with Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds and lots of sheep in the foyer, lit up daily during Advent.
BoS is looking to the future in faith that they can continue to show and share the love of Jesus with friends in the community.

East Leake Methodist Church is one of the smaller churches in the Circuit, located in the centre of the village, close to shops and adjacent to the Village Hall. It is the only circuit church not located in the Borough of Charnwood and are in fact in the Borough of Rushcliffe, Nottinghamshire.
In recent times, the village has rapidly expanded from 3,000-4,000 with population soon expected to be over 10,000 due to new and on-going housing developments.
The worship area is flexible, with a visual and audio system and Wi-Fi enabling "Zooming" of Sunday services and other church meetings. This has helped to continue with outreach to church members who are unable to attend for various reasons, and on occasions, those who do not live in the local area or are away on holiday.
The congregation offers a community coffee morning each Saturday morning, badged as a "warm space" during the winter months.
All facilities are on the ground floor and easily accessible for disabled. This has encouraged the local Community Care to run a Memory Café, once a week.
The Brownie group meets weekly, with a Ladies Fellowship meeting fortnightly, as does a Bible study/social group called Four Square. Services are held at a local residential care home in partnership with Churches Together.
In response to our church mission statement we offer facilities for community art, craft, and exercise groups, a second Brownie pack and East Leake Community Care group. The church benefits greatly by having an active part time local pastor. There are also strong ecumenical links between the Anglican, Baptist and Roman Catholic churches in the village.

Knightthorpe Methodist Church officially kick-started their community engagement project in the summer, having spent the first half of the year on fostering connections and partnership opportunities with local organisations and charities.
As part of the community engagement activities, a Gardening Club has been established where new and experienced gardeners meet regularly on Wednesday afternoons to do gardening tasks for the Church and is partnered with Incredible Edible Loughborough (IEL)

to develop a community garden in the Church's front lawn. Any harvest will be shared with the local community. A community Christmas wreath workshop ran in November.
The longer-term goal is that the Church spaces can fill the lack of a community hub in the area, where the local community can meet for activities, and that they can be served in response to their needs and thereby sow the seeds of the Gospel which can take root and come to life at God's will and timing.
The Coffee and Crafts group continues to meet on Wednesday mornings and there are room lettings to various groups throughout each week.

Mountsorrel Methodist Church has a large suite of premises, which are used by various groups, seven days a week including Boys' Brigade and a Ladies' Night.
A commercial pre-school playgroup meets five days per week, the Loughborough Seventh-day Adventist Church meets on Saturdays plus a dance school and keep-fit classes.
On the fourth Sunday of each month, the service is at 4.00 p.m. followed by a bring-and-share tea.
A lay community worker appointed by the Loughborough Circuit who is piloting a Praying for the Streets project.

Shepshed Christchurch's focus has been on community and has had a community lay-worker appointed during the year.
The weekly Friday coffee mornings continue to grow in popularity, providing an opportunity to meet regularly with local people who are generally non-attendees of Christchurch.
The warm hub, originally set up as a space for the community to come together and to stay warm despite the rising living costs, has proved to be so well received it has continued into the warmer months with a new name of Chat & Chomp.
A space within the church itself has been created that can be used for quiet contemplation, bible study and reflection. This space is open to all during the community centred fellowship.
Successful fundraising events have provided opportunities to greet new faces and welcome in old friends.

Sileby Methodist Church has had a community and outreach lay worker appointed this year who runs an informal worship lounge on alternate Sundays.
Coffee mornings are held weekly on Thursdays from 10.00 a.m.–12 noon and coffee evenings, 6.00 p.m.–8.00 p.m. on the first and third Monday of the month.
There is an open-mic night, Café Live, every fourth Sunday from 7.00 p.m.–9.30 p.m. with hot pasties and sausage rolls provided.
On Shrove Tuesday there was a pancake lunch.

Trinity Methodist Church is part of a three-churches partnership with the local URC and Baptist churches and there have been various joint services across the year.
There have been united services with the Chinese congregation, which leads to a full church, part of the service is in English and part in Cantonese with simultaneous translations of the sermon and other translations via the screen. Each service has also been followed by a joint lunch where a couple of times there has been Chinese first courses and British deserts (playing to our strengths maybe.)
A more recent change is that after over 40 years of faithful service, printing for churches and other voluntary organisations, Teamprint, has finally called it a day. It was founded by the late Reverend Sidney Richardson and over the years there have been many volunteers and the

team have printed numerous magazines and even a few books, including Sidney's autobiography. Unfortunately, COVID-19 led to their temporary closure and this gave a further impetus for groups to change their magazines to mainly digital versions, leading to a much reduced need for Teamprint and the last group of four volunteers decided to call time. At Trinity we would like to offer many thanks to all those who have served in this unique group assisting churches and voluntary groups. However, this does mean Trinity has a newly available space and we will be thinking how best we can utilise this over the coming months.

Woodhouse Eaves Methodist Church:
Play and Praise, a thriving parent-toddler group for preschool children meets at 9.15 a.m. every Thursday morning in term time.
Prayer Meetings are held on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Fridays of the month at the church, 8.30–9.00 a.m. – a focused time to start the day.
Taketime is time to reflect and meditate on a bible passage held at the church on the first Friday of the month and via Zoom on the third, both at 10.30 a.m. Everyone in the circuit is welcome to join in.
An informal family time of crafts, fun, food and bible stories is held on the second Sunday of each month at 4.00 p.m.
Christians in the Forest Bible Study is an ecumenical bible study run by the churches in Woodhouse, Woodhouse Eaves and Swithland. Weekly meetings looking at seasonal themes.
The church building is used extensively by the community.

Wymeswold Methodist Church: Although we are small in number, Wymeswold are big with their ideas and try to engage with the community whenever they can. They have a good relationship with the village school and help to coordinate an Ecumenical Group of Open the Book Storytellers who go into school each week to bring the bible stories alive to the children. The school children and staff are invited to the chapel twice a year for experience journeys. They celebrated 'Experience Easter' and for the first time, 'Experience Harvest'. Next year's experiences will be 'Experience Pentecost' and 'Experience Christmas'.
With works undertaken for the installation of a new boiler came additional costs and plans for continued maintenance, which has necessitated a push on fundraising.
A fortnightly pre-school group known as Mini-Fish, continues. The first half of the year there were three or four children attending, three of whom were due to start school in September, so this meant that numbers have been low and so this group will be reviewed. Wymeswold are looking at offering a warm chapel welcome to anyone feeling lonely, or in need of some socialisation. Primarily, it is hoped to offer this to those who may be struggling perhaps as carers, and there are those who are suffering with early-stage dementia or illnesses such as Parkinson's. The doors will still be open to the pre-school children, their parents and grandparents as well and it is hoped to foster a multigenerational afternoon to socialise together.

The Chinese Methodist Congregation: The Chinese community will also be having a community lay worker who, with support from Rev. Calvin Cheung, will work with the Chinese Overseas Christian Mission to conduct the Y'Fire Programme among the Chinese Congregation of Methodists between Leicester, Loughborough and Derby. This programme is to draw the new immigrants, Chinese youth back to the church during weekends. Following on from this, there is a plan to conduct a new programme called God's Army Workshop. This will be a summer programme that will include teaching the word of God

time, playing time, training time, and popcorn and movies time. They are also looking to start a young children's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) through Zoom on Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday and Saturday evenings.

The Twelfth Church: has weekly, online services that are well-attended, not just by local people but by those in other parts of the country, and other countries.

The top priority has been to produce a worship service each week – different preachers leading in their own different ways. The majority of services are pre-recorded, but are live-streamed sometimes, including from Trinity on the first Sunday of each month.
The hymn video library now has over 260 different hymns. If there is not a recording of a hymn that a preacher wants, then there is every endeavour to get a version recorded.

The **Circuit Stewards** have continued to meet on a regular basis to contribute to the support of the Circuit Ministry and maintain the Manses.

Work at **Loughborough University** is supported by one of the local pastors and a circuit steward volunteering as lay chaplains alongside the Methodist University Chaplain.

The Circuit has continued its ministry to **local residential and nursing homes.**
Ministry via participation in collective worship in schools has continued. Ecumenical teams in Quorn and Wymeswold take *Open the Book* to village primary schools.

Brief financial review of the year.

In the financial year 2022–23, the Circuit ended up with a surplus of over £2,000 in the General account. As usual, most of the income came from the Circuit churches and most of the expenditure was to do with employing Circuit ministers, their housing and travel costs and paying for a Circuit administrator.

The Circuit also has a large amount of money in reserves that is the result of selling property, it has been agreed to spend this money on mission. By the end of the financial year, six churches (five physical plus the online church) all had part time lay workers attached to them to improve their Mission work. The aim is to increase that number over 2023–24.

Governance and Management.

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day-to-day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team.

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

Safeguarding.

Every person has a value and dignity, which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

• The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.

• The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.

• The establishing of safe, caring communities, which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.

We will respond without delay to every complaint made, which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.

We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral, to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.
The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

SECTION F DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

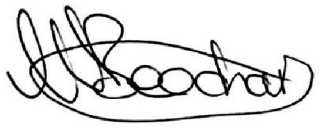
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature

Full Name REV KAREN ANNE BEECHAM

Position Chair SUPERINTENDENT

Date 20.06.24



Charnwood and Mowbray Methodist Circuit

England & Wales - Charity number 1129524

Accounts

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Charity number 1129524

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 August 2022

Contents

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Loughborough Methodist Circuit **Charity No. 1129524**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer ..... Date ...14/11/22.....

Name and address of treasurer: Rachel Thorpe, 52 Priory Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3PP.

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on [...] 2022. - 29th November 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Andrew Lomax Date ...18/12/22...

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1129524

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages 3 to 9. As the Circuit'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 Circuit'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.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signature of independent examiner: .....

Name of independent examiner: Martyn Speight

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: N/A

Address: 6 Laneshaw Avenue, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 4NT

Date: 9 Nov 2022

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021-22 £
Income						
Income from monetary investments		198	782	0	29	**1,009**
Assessments on Churches		164,132	0	0	0	**164,132**
Grants received		17,848	0	0	0	**17,848**
Other charitable income		5,120	0	2,831	400	**8,351**
Total income		**187,298**	**782**	**2,831**	**429**	**191,340**
Expenditure						
Grants and donations		0	105,000	0	600	**105,600**
Salaries and associated costs	6	130,703	0	0	0	**130,703**
Property maintenance		0	0	16,450	0	**16,450**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy		0	0	0	0	**0**
District Assessment & Levy		33,951	18,173	0	0	**52,124**
Office expenses		5,989	0	0	0	**5,989**
Other outgoings		23,336	25,023	0	2,167	**50,526**
Total charitable expenditure		**193,979**	**148,196**	**16,450**	**2,767**	**361,392**
Net income/(expenditure)		**(6,681)**	**(147,414)**	**(13,619)**	**(2,338)**	**(170,052)**
Transfers between funds		(1,925)	(8,280)	7,500	2,705	0
Net movement in funds		**(8,606)**	**(155,694)**	**(6,119)**	**367**	**(170,052)**
Total funds brought forward		833,671	378,258	10,985	84,288	1,307,202
Total funds carried forward		**825,065**	**222,564**	**4,866**	**84,655**	**1,137,150**

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2020-21
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Income from monetary investments		92	298	0	36	**426**
Assessments on Churches		141,635	0	0	0	**141,635**
Grants received		28,279	0	0	0	**28,279**
Other charitable income		7,464	0	0	9,492	**16,956**
Total income		**177,470**	**298**	**0**	**9,528**	**187,296**
Expenditure						
Salaries and associated costs	6	114,579	0	0	0	**114,579**
Property maintenance		0	0	5,975	942	**6,917**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy		0	149,738	0	0	**149,738**
District Assessment & Levy		39,251	2,726	0	0	**41,977**
Office expenses		4,093	0	0	0	**4,093**
Other outgoings		15,366	209	0	13,303	**28,878**
Total charitable expenditure		**173,289**	**152,673**	**5,975**	**14,245**	**346,182**
Gain on sale of fixed assets		**0**	**42,345**	**0**	**0**	**42,345**
Net income/(expenditure)		**4,181**	**(110,030)**	**(5,975)**	**(4,717)**	**(116,541)**
Transfers between funds		(388,780)	381,280	7,500	0	0
Net movement in funds		**(384,599)**	**271,250**	**1,525**	**(4,717)**	**(116,541)**
Total funds brought forward		1,218,270	107,008	9,460	89,005	1,423,743
Total funds carried forward		**833,671**	**378,258**	**10,985**	**84,288**	**1,307,202**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Totals 2022	Totals 2021
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses	9	792,750	0	0	0	792,750	792,750
Total fixed assets		**792,750**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**792,750**	**792,750**
Current Assets							
Debtors	10	8,898	20,000	0	0	28,898	28,479
Investments with TMCP		0	202,564	0	0	202,564	358,258
Central Finance Board Deposits		0	0	0	68,150	68,150	78,903
Cash at Bank and in hand		60,875	0	4,866	16,505	82,246	85,736
Total current assets		**69,773**	**222,564**	**4,866**	**84,655**	**381,858**	**551,376**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)		(37,458)	0	0	0	(37,458)	(36,924)
Total current liabilities		**(37,458)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(37,458)**	**(36,924)**
Net current assets/liabilities		**32,315**	**222,564**	**4,866**	**84,655**	**344,400**	**514,452**
Net assets		**825,065**	**222,564**	**4,866**	**84,655**	**1,137,150**	**1,307,202**
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		825,065				**825,065**	833,671
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			222,564			**222,564**	378,258
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	11			4,866		**4,866**	10,985
Total Unrestricted Funds						**1,052,495**	**1,222,914**
Restricted Funds	11				84,655	**84,655**	84,288
Total Funds		**825,065**	**222,564**	**4,866**	**84,655**	**1,137,150**	**1,307,202**

Signed

Rachel Thorpe
Circuit Treasurer

Loughborough Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
Year Ended 31 August 2022

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 Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for a specific purpose. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. Details of each material fund are disclosed in note 11 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 Circuit Manses and Other properties are shown at their "deemed cost", being their insurance value as at 31 August 2015, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

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.

Resources Expended

These are 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 are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Circuit Meeting being satisfied, on the basis of progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities in these accounts.

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

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 insurance values. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the Manse and Other buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

Investments

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 are amounts owed to the Circuit and are measured on the basis of their recoverable amount.

Creditors

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter 2022/23 assessment received in August 2022.

4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting. This excludes stipends.

Trustee expenses:	**2021/22**	**2020/21**
Number of Trustees	48	45
Total trustee expenses	**£11,771**	**£3,412**

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel and computing costs.

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2021/22	**2020/21**
	£	£
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	NIL	NIL
Other fees paid to the independent examiner or auditor	NIL	NIL

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:	**2021/22**	**2020/21**
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	104,335	89,280
Employer's National Insurance costs	8,272	7,438
Pension costs	18,096	17,861
Total staff costs	**130,703**	**114,579**
Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	4.1	3.4

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At 31 August 2022 Resolutions of the Circuit Meeting had approved Grants of £10,756 (2021: £16,330) that had not been paid.

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

	2021/22	**2020/21**
	£	£
Balance brought forward from last year	0	0
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	2,501	2,391
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	(2,501)	(2,391)
Balance carried forward	**0**	**0**

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Manses	Total
Balance brought forward	792,750	792,750
Balance carried forward	**792,750**	**792,750**
Depreciation brought forward	0	0
Depreciation carried forward	**0**	**0**
Net Book Value brought forward	792,750	792,750
Net Book Value carried forward	**792,750**	**792,750**

Fixed Assets are included at their deemed cost at 31 August 2015, as represented by their Insurance value at that date.

10 Debtors

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
Loan to Barrow-upon-Soar Methodist Church	15,000	20,000
Loan to East Leake Methodist Church	5,000	0
Prepayments and accrued income	8,898	8,479
Total staff costs	**28,898**	**28,479**

The loans to Barrow-upon-Soar and East Leake Methodist Churches are both non-interest bearing and due for repayment in greater than one year.

11 Analysis of restricted and designated funds 2021/22

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	1,644	0	(678)	0	966	For musical worship
LMCIC	77,561	29	(1,109)	(76,481)	0	For provision of accommodation to foreign students
Mission Fund	5,083	400	(980)	79,186	83,689	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**84,288**	**429**	**(2,767)**	**2,705**	**84,655**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	6,300	0	(7,638)	3,000	1,662	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	4,685	2,831	(8,812)	4,500	3,204	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**10,985**	**2,831**	**(16,450)**	**7,500**	**4,866**	
Totals	**95,273**	**3,260**	**(19,217)**	**10,205**	**89,521**	

Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2020/21

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	1,644	0	0	0	1,644	For musical worship
LMCIC	82,278	9,528	(14,245)	0	77,561	For provision of accommodation to foreign students
Mission Fund	5,083	0	0	0	5,083	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**89,005**	**9,528**	**(14,245)**	**0**	**84,288**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	5,764	0	(2,464)	3,000	6,300	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	3,696	0	(3,511)	4,500	4,685	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**9,460**	**0**	**(5,975)**	**7,500**	**10,985**	
Totals	**98,465**	**9,528**	**(20,220)**	**7,500**	**95,273**	

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022.

The Trustees are pleased to submit their Annual Report on the activities of the Loughborough Circuit.

As a circuit of churches we aim to support each other in maintaining our places of worship as centres for community engagement and spiritual renewal. This annual report of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit reflects that aim in the diversity of outreach opportunities that we have undertaken throughout the year. Though the membership of the churches remains fairly static, it is encouraging to see that the enthusiasm and commitment of all involved in the churches continues to be a blessing in the communities they serve.

The age profile of church members tends to be mainly those over 50, which is disappointing given the level of work that is done with children and young families. However, we continue to look for ways in which we might reverse this trend, while recognising the importance of continued support and encouragement in those churches that have a particular ministry to and with the older generations.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

Charity Name

Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity Number

1129524

Date of registration

11 May 2009

Charity's Principal Address

The Circuit Administrator
Trinity Methodist Church
Royland Road
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE11 2EH

Names of Trustees who manage the charity for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022.

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev. A Lomax	Superintendent	-	Trustee via office
Rev. M Swan	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. C Cheung	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. S Marshall	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Deacon J Sutton	University Chaplain	-	Trustee via office
Mr T Ranson	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs C Thornborow	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Dr K Ette	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Mr S R Peach	Circuit secretary	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs R Thorpe	Circuit treasurer	-	Circuit meeting
Rev. A Lomax	Safeguarding Officer	-	Circuit meeting
Mr J Bateman	Local preachers' secretary	-	Circuit meeting
Mr G Mercy	Local preachers' representative	-	Circuit meeting
F Edum-Fotwe	World Church	-	Circuit meeting
Mr S R Peach	Action for Children	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs C Watkins	Local Pastor (East Leake)	-	Circuit meeting
Mr J Pipet	Digital lay worker (12th Church)	From August 2021	Circuit meeting
Mr D Bristow	Quinquennial Inspections		Circuit meeting
Mrs L Cutts	MHA	-	Circuit meeting
Mr A Speight		-	International House
Mrs S Webb	Senior steward	-	Barrow church council
Mr P Yates	Treasurer	-	Barrow church council
Mr B Harrison	Senior steward	-	East Leake church council
Mr R Latham	Treasurer	-	East Leake church council
Mrs A Latham	Representative	-	East Leake church council

Mrs P Hargraves	Representative	-	East Leake church council
Mr H Tyler	Representative	-	Knightthorpe church council
Mr D Ette	Representative	-	Knightthorpe church council
Mrs D Mee	Senior steward	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mr G Wainwright	Treasurer	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mr L Longmire	Representative	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mrs J Cheung	Representative	-	Chinese Church Council
Mr M Bird	Representative	-	Quorn church council
Mrs D Bird	Senior steward	-	Quorn church council
Mr K Croysdale	Representative		Quorn church council
Mrs Su Turlington	Representative	-	Quorn church council
Mrs D Scott	Treasurer	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mr I Scott	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs L Hobson	Senior steward	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs L Cutts	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs A Barber	Representative	-	Sileby church council
Mr A Thorpe	Senior steward	-	Trinity church council
Mr S Scoggins	Representative	-	Trinity church council
Mrs R Thorpe	Treasurer	-	Trinity church council
Mr N Cox	Representative	-	Trinity church council
Mrs S Mollart	Secretary	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Mrs G Thompson	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Mr M Blatherwick	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Ms M Folwell	Senior steward	-	Wymeswold church council
Ms S Fossey	Treasurer	-	Wymeswold church council

Treasurer Mrs R Thorpe

Administrator Mrs Josephine Wills

Independent Examiner Mr Martyn Speight

Bankers Caf Bank Ltd
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Names of the Trustees for the Charity
The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (custodian trustee)

Type of Governing document
Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the charity is constituted
Act of Parliament

Trustee selection methods
Appointed by local churches and officers appointed by existing trustees. Ministers are automatically trustees.

Objectives, aims and organisation.

The Charity objective is to act as a resource provider for the Methodist Church within the area around Loughborough.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church.

b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church.

c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Church exists to:

- Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- Become a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- Make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives.

We confirm the trustees had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The main activities of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit are:

- Provision of worship in the Circuit's churches, open to all members of the public and seeking, through the ideas advanced by fresh expressions of church, to provide a range of different styles of worship that will mean the worship provided is relevant to new people.
- Training of those who lead worship and preach.
- Working in partnership with other agencies, e.g. Street Pastors, to show through the caring nature of members of the church the love of God to those out on the streets of

Horizons (bereavement group), Ladies Circle, Men's Supper Group, Fun@Church, Cuppa and Chatta, Crochet and Craft, and the monthly Minimarket which attracts people from all around the village and beyond to seek out a bargain and to enjoy refreshments and friendship. Our new glass fronted entrance hall and display window give plenty of opportunities to highlight special occasions or times of year, as do the bollards outside which have inspired the imagination of our many talented 'yarn bombers', and have become a talking point in the village and on social media.

The premises are also well used by various user groups such as the Gardening Club, Panto Group, Theatre Group, Guides, and Karate club, as well as holiday clubs who come in when playgroup are away. The new coffee lounge is also well used for meetings by the Circuit Leadership Team, Parish Council, Charity groups etc. as well as for informal ecumenical services and meetings.

East Leake 2021/22 We have started to re-established and " normalise" our Sundays morning services after covid restriction have eased and have reengage with our user groups to maintain a good caring service to the local community.

We continue to enhance our Sunday morning service via Zoom and sending out to all members an email and or printed version of the service.

We replaced our broken boiler upgraded our heater control system and future proofed our pipework system by replaced all underground central heating pipes.
We committed ourselves to an essential building maintenance policy only.

Knightthorpe 2021/2022 Knightthorpe I am pleased to say Congregation number are slowly increasing as we have many room bookings people are joining us for worship, The Coffee and Craft Group meet every Wednesday and our Monthly Coffee Morning is a great success thanks too Anne and Pat's baking skills. Narcotics Group meet every Tuesday and have done for the last 25 years It's so long since I set the group up memory plays tricks.

Each year floats past we have Home School and Orchestra, lots of children's parties, and being the largest hall we host Finney's Mobile Homes Residents Association.

Mountsorrel 2021/2022 Although there is a popular saying "..that things will never be the same again.." we, at Mountsorrel, have experienced a sense of getting back to normality during this last (Methodist) year. We have been able to hold regular Sunday Worship Services again even though several services each quarter are planned as "Local Arrangement" which enables us to worship in differing styles.

From September we have been enriched with the appointment of Rev. Sandra Marshall as being our local minister even though she has oversight of five more churches in the circuit. During the year we have celebrated the usual Church Anniversary, Harvest Festival, Christmas Carols Service, Easter Celebration and Special (Methodist) Sundays together with our usual "Sunday @ Eight" Organ Recitals.

Our Boys' Brigade grows from strength to strength and our Ladies' Night continues to meet on a regular basis.

It is anticipated that the circuit will be appointing a part-time Community Worker – we await further details.

Our premises are also used by the community, in varying ways. At the moment our funds are in a healthy position but this could change when new energy costs come into force in 2023.

St Bartholomew's United Church, Quorn, 2021/2022

The start of the Connexional year saw the departure of our Children's and Family Worker, Wendy Walker, whose contract came to an end after more than four years of productive work. This was followed by the retirement of the Vicar, Revd David Bowler, after thirty three years faithful incumbency. This latter move put the Parish into an extended interregnum which coincided with the beginning of a major reorganisation within the Diocese which will eventually lead to the incorporation of our United Church within what is to be called a 'Minster Community' together with perhaps ten or so other Anglican churches. At present nothing is known about how or when this grouping will be made, though our status as an Ecumenical Partnership (Anglican/Methodist) is assured.

An Interregnum Steering Group was immediately formed, chaired by Revd Andrew Lomax and comprising Revd Sandra Marshall, Dawn Daly (newly appointed Voluntary Lay Minister for Families), the Director of Music, Church Wardens and Methodist Stewards. The group meets regularly to review and encourage the church in its mission as well as providing continuity and security. Without a Vicar in post there had to be an immediate reduction in the number of weekly services, Sundays now containing a regular 10.30 service with an occasional Sunday evening service and a monthly midweek communion. Most notably we have been graced by a rich stream of ordained and lay people conducting services (about 15 during the year) drawn from the Circuit, neighbouring parishes and retired clergy. This variety has been much appreciated by the congregation whose attendance has not been diminished by either the pandemic or the interregnum.

Work at the primary school, in the form of 'Open the Book' assemblies was maintained through the shutdown by the innovative use of recorded material and was about to resume in the flesh to KS1 at the end of the year. This work is just one of many examples of close collaboration with Quorn Baptist Church in the mission field.

The church building is holding up well after 800 years, coming through its latest quinquennial review with little of consequence requiring to be seen to, and housing a membership in good heart.

Sileby Methodist Church reopened on 23 May at Pentecost and has had fortnightly services.

From November 2021 has had a Pastoral and Community Lay worker dedicating 10hours per week to Sileby Methodist Church Centre. The Church is now open for Sunday worship every Sunday morning and alternates between a traditional service and The Worship Lounge, a more informal, family friendly service. The regular Thursday morning coffee morning has been reinstated and a series of food related events have taken place; pancake lunch, harvest supper etc.

Other events in the building have taken place to increase the use of the building and to better connect with the local community. These include; a butterfly festival with the local primary school, a craft fair, and a regular Open Mic coffee lounge. There are plans to extend the use of the building continue into the coming year both with the local community and with other churches in the village.

Christchurch Christmas 2021/2022 Like our refurbishment we closed the church for August in the community. We lost Brownies, Guides, Running Group, have ceased groups, a ladies acting/singing group and have a coffee morning every Friday which since lockdown has become more popular than before. We have lost a the new forms any regular group the Lunch Club will recommence. While each is at the moment being set up by members and anyone who would like to join us.

Trinity 2021/2022 We at Lower Walkden Church united as at Trinity. As their gave a number with new people coming from Hong Kong a number of our members led conversational English lessons to help in their integration.

Trinity restarted early Sunday morning communion services once a month for those who appreciate a more contemplative service and has attracted a number of people who had not been coming since the church shut down.

Over the summer open garden coffee mornings were held once a month which gave a different way to enjoy meeting together.

Woodhouse Lane 2021/2022 Worship. By December 2021 weekly worship was returning to near normality following Covid restrictions, although isolation regulations were still in place. On the whole we saw members returning to face-to-face services with greater confidence because of the vaccination programme. Some practices which did not take place during the height of the pandemic ceased to place permanently. An example is that a weekly offering did not resume. Monthly Messy Church sessions took place with new members joining.

Midweek activities - Take Time went from all Zoom sessions to a mix of in person and online. This continue to alternate. Ecumenical bible studies have taken place and the parent toddler group Play and Prayer resumed in January 2021. The previous leader did not return following national lockdowns. Weekly Toddler Gym did not resume.

Community use of the premises - During the year various community groups hired the premises. On a weekly basis, two choirs and Beacon Players drama group during their rehearsal period. The church opened the second Saturday in September as a signing in point for the annual Historic Churches Walk and Strode event.

Finances - Members and friends continued to support the church financially allowing the fellowship to be viable. Rental income from user groups is an important part of this. We gave to various charities over the year. Namely the local Hospice, LOROS and the Charnwood area foodbanks.

Trustees - The group met regularly to monitor the building, finances, plan worship and activities. Safety systems were checked as usual on an annual basis and the boiler serviced. The group reviews policies regularly.

Wymeswold 2021/2022: In September 2021, we planned to restart our Mini Fish group, which meets fortnightly and is for pre-school children and their carers.
On 26th September we welcomed Rev Sandra Marshall to lead her first Holy Communion Service at Wymeswold.

In October we held our first in person Church Council Meeting since the Covid pandemic. It was good to be able to report that the building is back in use by external users such as Young Farmers and Wolds Choir in addition to the groups associated with Chapel, ie Coffee Morning, Mini Fish, and Worship.

Contact was also being made with the village school regarding the potential to restart our Experience Journey's. The school was taking a cautious and carefully planned return to activities, and were keen to re-establish our previous relationship, but felt that this might not be in the first part of the academic year.

December 2021 - We started our Christmas celebrations with a Christmas Mini-Market, raising funds for Chapel and receiving donation of food for the Local Foodbank.
We held our first in person Christingle Service since the pandemic which was led by local preacher Angela Latham. On Christmas morning we organised a local arrangement, which includes a small sketch involving the Rogerson family, which was well attended with refreshments served after the service.

In early 2022 we held our covenant service and also had a further Church Council Meeting, where we discussed the activities which were restarting.

Sunday 20th March – Rev Sandra Marshall was invited to preach at St Mary's Wymeswold as part of our ongoing ecumenical relationship for the Anglican Church in the village.
Easter 2022 - For the first time in 3 years Easter Breakfast was held, with approx. 30 attending for a "Messy Breakfast".

May 22nd 2022 – Rev Clive Watts, Anglican Priest in Charge of Barrow & Worlds Group of Churches, led worship at Chapel in celebration of Wesley Day at the Chapel Anniversary.

In June 2022 we were pleased to be able to offer Experience Pentecost to Wymeswold Church of England School. This was a two-day event with around 60 children attending chapel over the two days to learn more about Pentecost. This was delivered with help from our ecumenical friends at St Mary's, but was lead and held at Wymeswold Methodist Church. We were also able to open the building and serve cream teas as part of the Wymeswold Open Gardens Weekend.

Loughborough Chinese Methodist Congregation 2021/22:

1. Praise our Lord that the congregation in Loughborough is still growing after we moved to Trinity Methodist Church Centre. We have members from Loughborough, Leicester, Shepshed and Nottingham. Although there are two Chinese churches located in Nottingham for a long time, more than 40 new members from Nottingham join our Sunday worship even driving more than 30 to 45 minutes.
2. Our church has 30 to 40 children attending Sunday school with 3 different classes depending on the age. According to the increase of young people attending our church, we are recruiting a Youth Lay worker in Loughborough to support our youth ministry.

3. We continue streaming the worship through Facebook online every Sunday. The viewing of our worship on Facebook always reached more than hundreds with some viewers from Hong Kong, Macau and even other parts of the world.
4. I serve the Holy Communion during the pastoral visit monthly for the elder members who do not wish to attend the church in person as they are still scared of Covid.
5. We continue subscripted the Zoom service to carry out our prayer meeting and bible study every Monday evening.
6. Food collection for Foodbank monthly to support the community.
7. We welcomed the BNO Hong Kong immigrants. We have more than 120 people active in our WhatsApp Group and most of them join our Sunday worship as well.
8. We have started the Sports Fellowship for men. Every Monday evening or Sunday morning we have a football game arranged and newcomers can be built up their relationship through the gathering. It is a kind of outreach work for non-believers. Another 3 Fellowship Groups have been formed: 2 groups for members living in Loughborough and 1 group for members living in Nottingham. We have planned to form more fellowship groups to help and nourish the newcomers.
9. We welcome the University newcomers to our student fellowship in Oct 2021. The students formed a committee to serve and work with the Chinese students nearly every Friday evening in the University Chapel. Some students join our Sunday service and some of them also serve in the worship team and audio team.
10. Loughborough Grammar School – still supporting the Chinese boarders.

The **12th Church** has weekly, online services that are well-attended, not just by local people but by those in other parts of the country, and other countries.

The work of the one, local pastor (at East Leake) continued.

The Circuit Stewards have continued to meet on a regular basis to contribute to the support of the Circuit Ministry and maintain the Manses.
Work at Loughborough University is supported by one of the local pastors and a circuit steward volunteering as lay chaplains alongside the Methodist University Chaplain.

The Circuit has continued its ministry to local residential and nursing homes.
Ministry via participation in collective worship in schools has continued. Ecumenical teams in Quorn and Wymeswold take *Open the Book* to village primary schools.

Fresh expressions of church have continued to be developed throughout the circuit with individual churches considering the Mission Plan.

Brief financial review of the year.

Income trends.

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches. Assessment increases for the last few years have been modest as the Circuit attempts to reduce its General Fund to be in line with the stated Reserves Policy.

Expenditure trends.

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases.

15% of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

The of Covid-19 pandemic has significantly reduced income to all the churches in the circuit, through loss of lettings and slightly reduced Sunday offerings. To help offset this to some degree, the churches all received a 10% rebate on their assessment.

The overall result for the year was a small surplus.

Plans for 2021–2022.

A new new full-time minister, to replace the full-time minister who retired in August 2021, was appointed.

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there will be 2.4 full-time ordained staff with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with changes in the assessment paid to the district and other costs such that on average a 2% assessment increase has been requested from the circuit churches. The foregoing it is anticipated, will result in a planned deficit for the year which will reduce the General Reserve balance to a figure more in line with the Circuit's Reserve policy.

In addition to the above, the Circuit will continue to support the Chinese minister appointed in September 2018 to serve the Chinese Community in the Loughborough area. The cost of this continued to be funded in 2020/21 by a combination of the Circuit's own resources, Chinese Community resources and District and other grants.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves.

The circuit aims to hold around £24,000-£65,000 on its general account (5–10% of annual costs) and in addition hold amounts for the employment of lay pastors, manse repairs and church inspection to balance out the uneven nature of these expenditures.

Governance and Management.

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day-to-day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team.

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

Safeguarding.

Every person has a value and dignity, which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

• The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.

• The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.

• The establishing of safe, caring communities, which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.

We will respond without delay to every complaint made, which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.

We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral, to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

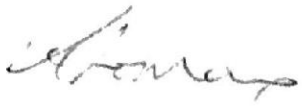
In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.
The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

SECTION F DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees
Signature



Full Name Michael Andrew Lomax
Position Chair
Date 15th March 2023

Charnwood and Mowbray Methodist Circuit

England & Wales - Charity number 1129524

Accounts

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Charity number 1129524

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 August 2021

Contents

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Loughborough Methodist Circuit **Charity No. 1129524**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer ..... Date 1/12/21

Name and address of treasurer: Rachel Thorpe, 52 Priory Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3PP.

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 25 November 2021.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Andrew Lomax Date 6/12/21

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1129524

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 3 to 9. As the Circuit'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 Circuit'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.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signature of independent examiner: .....

Name of independent examiner: Martyn Speight

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: N/A

Address: 6 Laneshaw Avenue, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 4NT

Date: 30 November 2021

Loughborough Methodist Circuit Charity No. 1129524

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2020-21
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Income from monetary investments		92	298	0	36	**426**
Assessments on Churches		141,635	0	0	0	**141,635**
Grants received		28,279	0	0	0	**28,279**
Other charitable income		7,464	0	0	9,492	**16,956**
Total income		**177,470**	**298**	**0**	**9,528**	**187,296**
Expenditure						
Salaries and associated costs	6	114,579	0	0	0	**114,579**
Property maintenance		0	0	5,975	942	**6,917**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy		0	149,738	0	0	**149,738**
District Assessment & Levy		39,251	2,726	0	0	**41,977**
Office expenses		4,093	0	0	0	**4,093**
Other outgoings		15,366	209	0	13,303	**28,878**
Total charitable expenditure		**173,289**	**152,673**	**5,975**	**14,245**	**346,182**
Gain on sale of fixed assets		**0**	**42,345**	**0**	**0**	**42,345**
Net income/(expenditure)		**4,181**	**(110,030)**	**(5,975)**	**(4,717)**	**(116,541)**
Transfers between funds		(388,780)	381,280	7,500	0	0
Net movement in funds		**(384,599)**	**271,250**	**1,525**	**(4,717)**	**(116,541)**
Total funds brought forward		1,218,270	107,008	9,460	89,005	1,423,743
Total funds carried forward		**833,671**	**378,258**	**10,985**	**84,288**	**1,307,202**

Loughborough Methodist Circuit **Charity No. 1129524**

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2019-20
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Income from monetary investments		365	1,043	0	185	**1,593**
Assessments on Churches		163,320	0	0	0	**163,320**
Grants received		27,500	0	0	0	**27,500**
Other charitable income		5,654	0	0	24,415	**30,069**
Total income		**196,839**	**1,043**	**0**	**24,600**	**222,482**
Expenditure						
Grants and donations		0	1,500	0	0	**1,500**
Salaries and associated costs	6	127,932	0	0	0	**127,932**
Property maintenance		0	0	10,494	1,895	**12,389**
Connexional assessment & model trust levy		0	3,881	0	0	**3,881**
District Assessment & Levy		38,509	0	0	0	**38,509**
Office expenses		3,616	0	0	0	**3,616**
Other outgoings		20,168	255	0	10,502	**30,925**
Total charitable expenditure		**190,225**	**5,636**	**10,494**	**12,397**	**218,752**
Net income/(expenditure)		**6,614**	**(4,593)**	**(10,494)**	**12,203**	**3,730**
Transfers between funds		5,511	(16,011)	10,500	0	0
Net movement in funds		**12,125**	**(20,604)**	**6**	**12,203**	**3,730**
Total funds brought forward		1,206,145	127,612	9,454	76,802	1,420,013
Total funds carried forward		**1,218,270**	**107,008**	**9,460**	**89,005**	**1,423,743**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Totals 2021	Totals 2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Equipment	9	792,750	0	0	0	792,750	792,750
Other properties	9	0	0	0	0	0	382,000
Total fixed assets		**792,750**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**792,750**	**1,174,750**
Current Assets							
Debtors	10	8,479	20,000	0	0	28,479	29,950
Investments with TMCP		0	358,258	0	0	358,258	87,008
Central Finance Board Deposits		52,823	0	0	26,080	78,903	108,003
Cash at Bank and in hand		16,543	0	10,985	58,208	85,736	64,495
Total current assets		**77,845**	**378,258**	**10,985**	**84,288**	**551,376**	**289,456**
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)		(36,924)	0	0	0	(36,924)	(40,463)
Total current liabilities		**(36,924)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(36,924)**	**(40,463)**
Net current assets/liabilities		**40,921**	**378,258**	**10,985**	**84,288**	**514,452**	**248,993**
Net assets		**833,671**	**378,258**	**10,985**	**84,288**	**1,307,202**	**1,423,743**
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		833,671				**833,671**	1,218,270
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			378,258			**378,258**	107,008
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	11			10,985		**10,985**	9,460
Total Unrestricted Funds						**1,222,914**	**1,334,738**
Restricted Funds	11				84,288	**84,288**	89,005
Total Funds		**833,671**	**378,258**	**10,985**	**84,288**	**1,307,202**	**1,423,743**

Signed

Rachel Thorpe
Circuit Treasurer

Loughborough Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
Year Ended 31 August 2021

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 Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for a specific purpose. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. Details of each material fund are disclosed in note 11 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 Circuit Manses and Other properties are shown at their "deemed cost", being their insurance value as at 31 August 2015, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

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.

Resources Expended

These are 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 are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Circuit Meeting being satisfied, on the basis of progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities in these accounts.

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

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 insurance values. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the Manse and Other buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

Investments

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 are amounts owed to the Circuit and are measured on the basis of their recoverable amount.

Creditors

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter 2021/22 assessment received in August 2021.

4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting. This excludes stipends.

Trustee expenses:	**2020/21**	**2019/20**
Number of Trustees	45	60
Total trustee expenses	**£0**	**£4,379**

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel and computing costs.

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2020/21	**2019/20**
	£	£
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	NIL	NIL
Other fees paid to the independent examiner or auditor	NIL	NIL

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:	**2020/21**	**2019/20**
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	89,280	99,449
Employer's National Insurance costs	7,438	7,739
Pension costs	17,861	20,744
Total staff costs	**114,579**	**127,932**

Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	3.6	4.1

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At 31 August 2021 Resolutions of the Circuit Meeting had approved Grants of £16,330 (2020: £18,550).

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

	2020/21	**2019/20**
	£	£
Balance brought forward from last year	0	0
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	2,391	2,391
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	(2,391)	(2,391)
Balance carried forward	**0**	**0**

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Manses	Other buildings	Total
Balance brought forward	792,750	382,000	1,174,750
Balance carried forward	**792,750**	**0**	**792,750**
Depreciation brought forward	0	0	0
Depreciation carried forward	**0**	**0**	**0**
Net Book Value brought forward	792,750	382,000	1,174,750
Net Book Value carried forward	**792,750**	**0**	**792,750**

Fixed Assets are included at their deemed cost at 31 August 2015, as represented by their Insurance value at that date.

10 Debtors

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Loan to Barrow-upon-Soar Methodist Church	20,000	20,000
Prepayments and accrued income	8,479	9,950
Total staff costs	**28,479**	**29,950**

The loan to Barrow-upon-Soar Methodist Church is non-interest bearing and due for repayment in greater than one year.

11 Analysis of restricted and designated funds 2020/21

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	1,644	0	0	0	1,644	For musical worship
LMCIC	82,278	9,528	(14,245)	0	77,561	For provision of accommodation to foreign students
Mission Fund	5,083	0	0	0	5,083	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**89,005**	**9,528**	**(14,245)**	**0**	**84,288**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	5,764	0	(2,464)	3,000	6,300	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	3,696	0	(3,511)	4,500	4,685	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**9,460**	**0**	**(5,975)**	**7,500**	**10,985**	
Totals	**98,465**	**9,528**	**(20,220)**	**7,500**	**95,273**	

Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2019/20

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted Funds						
AD 2000	1,776	0	(132)	0	1,644	For musical worship
LMCIC	69,943	24,600	(12,265)	0	82,278	For provision of accommodation to foreign students
Mission Fund	5,083	0	0	0	5,083	For Mission Work
Total Restricted	**76,802**	**24,600**	**(12,397)**	**0**	**89,005**	
Designated Funds						
Property Inspection Fund	4,156	0	(1,392)	3,000	5,764	For Quinquennial and other Property Inspection costs
Manse Repair Fund	5,298	0	(9,102)	7,500	3,696	For the maintenance of the Manses
Total Designated	**9,454**	**0**	**(10,494)**	**10,500**	**9,460**	
Totals	**86,256**	**24,600**	**(22,891)**	**10,500**	**98,465**	

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

The Trustees are pleased to submit their Annual Report on the activities of the Loughborough Circuit.

As a circuit of churches we aim to support each other in maintaining our places of worship as centres for community engagement and spiritual renewal. This annual report of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit reflects that aim in the diversity of outreach opportunities that we have undertaken throughout the year. Though the membership of the churches remains fairly static, it is encouraging to see that the enthusiasm and commitment of all involved in the churches continues to be a blessing in the communities they serve.

The age profile of church members tends to be mainly those over 50, which is disappointing given the level of work that is done with children and young families. However, we continue to look for ways in which we might reverse this trend, while recognising the importance of continued support and encouragement in those churches that have a particular ministry to and with the older generations.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

Charity Name

Loughborough Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity Number

1129524

Date of registration

11 May 2009

Charity's Principal Address

The Circuit Administrator
Trinity Methodist Church
Royland Road
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE11 2EH

Names of Trustees who manage the charity for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev. A Lomax	Superintendent	-	Trustee via office
Rev. M Swan	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. C Cheung	Minister	-	Trustee via office
Rev. J H Pugh	Minister	Retired July 2021	Trustee via office
Rev. D Bowler	Authorised Minister	-	Trustee via office
Deacon J Sutton	University Chaplain	-	Trustee via office
Rev. D Maw	Minister Supernumerary	Retired July 2021	Trustee via office
Mr L Longmire	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Mr T Ranson	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs C Thornborow	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Dr K Ette	Circuit steward	-	Circuit meeting
Mr S R Peach	Circuit secretary	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs R Thorpe	Circuit treasurer	-	Circuit meeting
Rev. A Lomax	Safeguarding Officer	-	Circuit meeting
Mr J Bateman	Local preachers' secretary	-	Circuit meeting
Mr G Mercy	Local preachers' representative	-	Circuit meeting
F Edum-Fotwe	World Church	-	Circuit meeting
Mr S R Peach	Action for Children	-	Circuit meeting
Mrs C Watkins	Local Pastor (East Leake)	-	Circuit meeting
Mr J Pipet	Digital lay worker (12th Church)	From August 2021	Circuit meeting
Mrs L Cutts	MHA	-	Circuit meeting
Mr A Speight		-	International House
Mrs S Webb	Senior steward	-	Barrow church council
Mr P Yates	Treasurer	-	Barrow church council
Mr B Harrison	Senior steward	-	East Leake church council
Mr R Latham	Treasurer	-	East Leake church council
Mrs A Latham	Representative	-	East Leake church council
Mrs P Hargraves	Representative	-	East Leake church council

Mr H Tyler	Representative	-	Knightthorpe church council
Mrs C Concannon	Representative	-	Knightthorpe church council
Mr D Ette	Representative	-	Knightthorpe church council
Mrs D Mee	Senior steward	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mr G Wainwright	Treasurer	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mr L Longmire	Representative	-	Mountsorrel church council
Mrs J Cheung	Representative	-	Chinese Church Council
Mr M Bird	Representative	-	Quorn church council
Mrs D Bird	Senior steward	-	Quorn church council
Mrs D Scott	Treasurer	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mr I Scott	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs L Hobson	Senior steward	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs L Cutts	Representative	-	Christchurch Shepshed church council
Mrs A Barber	Representative	-	Sileby church council
Mrs B Bowman	Representative	-	Sileby church council
Mrs J Holloway	Treasurer	-	Sileby church council
Mr A Thorpe	Senior steward	-	Trinity church council
Mr D Bristow	Representative	-	Trinity church council
Mrs R Thorpe	Treasurer	-	Trinity church council
Mr N Cox	Representative	-	Trinity church council
Mrs S Mollart	Secretary	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Mrs G Thompson	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Mr M Blatherwick	Representative	-	Woodhouse Eaves church council
Ms M Folwell	Senior steward	-	Wymeswold church council
Ms S Fossey	Treasurer	-	Wymeswold church council

Treasurer Mrs R Thorpe

Administrator Mrs Josephine Wills

Independent Examiner Mr Martyn Speight

Bankers Caf Bank Ltd
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Names of the Trustees for the Charity
The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (custodian trustee)

Type of Governing document
Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the charity is constituted
Act of Parliament

Trustee selection methods
Appointed by local churches and officers appointed by existing trustees. Ministers are automatically trustees.

Objectives, aims and organisation.

The Charity objective is to act as a resource provider for the Methodist Church within the area around Loughborough.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church.

b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church.

c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Church exists to:

- Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- Become a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- Make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives.

We confirm the trustees had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The main activities of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit are:

- Provision of worship in the Circuit's churches, open to all members of the public and seeking, through the ideas advanced by fresh expressions of church, to provide a range of different styles of worship that will mean the worship provided is relevant to new people.
- Training of those who lead worship and preach.
- Working in partnership with other agencies, e.g. Street Pastors, to show through the caring nature of members of the church the love of God to those out on the streets of

Loughborough in the evenings, and with Loughborough University, to participate in the chaplaincy for the students at the university.

- Providing staff for marriages, funerals and baptisms within the churches of the Circuit.
- Supervising and implementing the work of safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults in the life of the Circuit and its churches
- Overseeing of significant building work for the manses and churches to ensure each church's property is in an appropriate state for its use in furthering the church's aims.
- Supporting and directing the work of the ministry team.

The main achievements of the Loughborough Methodist Circuit during the year.

The online, twelfth church, which was set up in the circuit in March 2020, has continued and a digital lay worker appointed. The appointment is also to help churches in the circuit with their own digital outreach. Online worship was a blessing when churches had to once more close during the winter of the COVID-19 pandemic. When our churches reopened the twelfth church still enabled those who are unable to attend physically, but can do so online, to attend various events on Sundays and during the week. The Sunday morning online services are led in turn by ministers and lay preachers and use music groups and readers to enhance the worship.

Most churches in the circuit reopened for Easter. Where churches have had fortnightly services members were able to join congregations at other churches in the circuit when they didn't have one of their own, or the online service by the 12th Church.

Barrow upon Soar Methodist Church reopened after their refurbishment with restricted worship and within the guidelines. Some groups have also returned. Some outdoor sales and mini market have taken place. Sadly, some very dear friends and members of the church fellowship were lost and their lives were celebrated with thanksgiving and remembered fondly.

East Leake Methodist Church reopened when permitted. A service was sent out by email every week whether the church was open or not. Services are shown on Zoom and an informal time after service is appreciated, especially by those who cannot attend in person.

A Tuesday Chat for one hour on Tuesday afternoons is held on Zoom so everyone who has Zoom can join in.

Knightthorpe reopened for worship at Easter and has had regular fortnightly services each Sunday. No outside groups have used the church.

Along with many other organisations and charities **Mountsorrel** experienced a "new and different way of being" since March 2020.

Through the lockdown period(s) they were able to keep their premises open for most of the time and with having specific Risk Assessments in place many of the premises' users were able to continue their specific activities and meetings, albeit with differing structures.

there have been weekly Sunday Church Services, some of which have been Local Arrangements.

In September 2020 a Covid-19 Recovery Grant from Charnwood Borough Council was received, which enabled Mountsorrel to have the premises professionally cleaned on a regular basis. The grant has proved to be a great asset.

Sileby Methodist Church reopened on 23 May at Pentecost and has had fortnightly services.

After refurbishment of the **Shepshed** Methodist Church it has become the church in the community hosting Brownies, Guides, Slimming World, three singing groups, a junior acting/singing group and there is a coffee morning every Friday, which since lockdown became more popular than before. It is hoped that in the near future the regular group for the Lunch Club will recommence. A bible study was set up for members and anyone who would like to join.

Trinity Church Centre continued to make use of online solutions while meeting in person was difficult, with Friday evening devotions, Sunday morning services (which later transitioned to the circuit's 12th church Facebook page) and monthly socials over the winter that were opened up to people from the other churches in the circuit. In the summer there were number of open garden mornings. As the year went on when we were able to have services in the building, numbers began to steadily grow, as people felt ready to come back to church. Brigades, playgroup and other community bookings also came back when lockdowns and restrictions permitted.

Woodhouse Eaves has suffered the same predicament as most churches during the various lockdowns. However they managed to 'Zoom' on most Sundays at an earlier time in order for folk who wished to join with 12th Church to be able to do so. The earlier time is preferred and now open they are sticking with that time for the foreseeable future. *Take Time* and ecumenical Bible studies also worked brilliantly on Zoom but then moved to 'face to face'.

A lot of redecoration was done and new carpets fitted, some of the community groups and Messy Church are able to utilise the pleasant spaces.

Praise and Play has now come under the umbrella of the church and they look forward to the new opportunities this will bring.

The **Chinese** Church continues to thrive with an ever growing congregation. Loughborough Chinese Methodist Church works with the Chinese Fellowship Group at Loughborough University and helps the Chinese students to settle in from different part of the world. The Minister also connects with the Loughborough Grammar School to help the Chinese boarders and share gospel messages with them plan to share the Chinese cultures and traditions within the Circuit.

The **12th Church** has weekly, online services that are well-attended, not just by local people but by those in other parts of the country, and other countries.

The work of the one, local pastor (at East Leake) continued.

The Circuit Stewards have continued to meet on a regular basis to contribute to the support of the Circuit Ministry and maintain the Manses.

Work at Loughborough University is supported by one of the local pastors and a circuit steward volunteering as lay chaplains alongside the Methodist University Chaplain.

The Circuit has continued its ministry to local residential and nursing homes.
Ministry via participation in collective worship in schools has continued. Ecumenical teams in Quorn and Wymeswold take *Open the Book* to village primary schools.

Fresh expressions of church have continued to be developed throughout the circuit with individual churches considering the Mission Plan.

Brief financial review of the year.

Income trends.

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches. Assessment increases for the last few years have been modest as the Circuit attempts to reduce its General Fund to be in line with the stated Reserves Policy.

Expenditure trends.

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases.

15% of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

The of Covid-19 pandemic has significantly reduced income to all the churches in the circuit, through loss of lettings and slightly reduced Sunday offerings. To help offset this to some degree, the churches all received a 10% rebate on their assessment.

The overall result for the year was a small surplus.

Plans for 2021–2022.

A new new full-time minister, to replace the full-time minister who retired in August 2021, was appointed.

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there will be 2.4 full-time ordained staff with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with changes in the assessment paid to the district and other costs such that on average a 2% assessment increase has been requested from the circuit churches. The foregoing it is anticipated, will result in a planned deficit for the year which will reduce the General Reserve balance to a figure more in line with the Circuit's Reserve policy.

In addition to the above, the Circuit will continue to support the Chinese minister appointed in September 2018 to serve the Chinese Community in the Loughborough area. The cost of this continued to be funded in 2020/21 by a combination of the Circuit's own resources, Chinese Community resources and District and other grants.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves.
The circuit aims to hold around £24,000-£65,000 on its general account (5–10% of annual costs) and in addition hold amounts for the employment of lay pastors, manse repairs and church inspection to balance out the uneven nature of these expenditures.

Governance and Management.

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day-to-day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team.

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

Safeguarding.

Every person has a value and dignity, which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

• The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.

• The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.

• The establishing of safe, caring communities, which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.

We will respond without delay to every complaint made, which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.

We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral, to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.
The Loughborough Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

SECTION F DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Full Name Michael Andrew Lomax

Position Chair

Date 3rd May 2022