

# **LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT**

Charity number 1129524

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

# **LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT**

## **Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31 August 2022**

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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 ..... *RJT* ..... 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 ..... *A Lomax* .....

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 £
<b>Income</b>						
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
<b>Total income</b>		<b>187,298</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>2,831</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>191,340</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
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
<b>Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>193,979</b>	<b>148,196</b>	<b>16,450</b>	<b>2,767</b>	<b>361,392</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(6,681 )</b>	<b>(147,414 )</b>	<b>(13,619 )</b>	<b>(2,338 )</b>	<b>(170,052 )</b>
Transfers between funds		(1,925 )	(8,280 )	7,500	2,705	0
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(8,606 )</b>	<b>(155,694 )</b>	<b>(6,119 )</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>(170,052 )</b>
Total funds brought forward		833,671	378,258	10,985	84,288	1,307,202
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>825,065</b>	<b>222,564</b>	<b>4,866</b>	<b>84,655</b>	<b>1,137,150</b>

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

	Notes to the account s	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020-21 £
<b>Income</b>						
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
<b>Total income</b>		<b>177,470</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,528</b>	<b>187,296</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
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
<b>Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>173,289</b>	<b>152,673</b>	<b>5,975</b>	<b>14,245</b>	<b>346,182</b>
<b>Gain on sale of fixed assets</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>42,345</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42,345</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>4,181</b>	<b>(110,030)</b>	<b>(5,975)</b>	<b>(4,717)</b>	<b>(116,541)</b>
Transfers between funds		(388,780)	381,280	7,500	0	0
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(384,599)</b>	<b>271,250</b>	<b>1,525</b>	<b>(4,717)</b>	<b>(116,541)</b>
Total funds brought forward		1,218,270	107,008	9,460	89,005	1,423,743
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>833,671</b>	<b>378,258</b>	<b>10,985</b>	<b>84,288</b>	<b>1,307,202</b>

## 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
		£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>							
Circuit Manses	9	792,750	0	0	0	792,750	792,750
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<b>792,750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>792,750</b>	<b>792,750</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>							
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
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>69,773</b>	<b>222,564</b>	<b>4,866</b>	<b>84,655</b>	<b>381,858</b>	<b>551,376</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)		(37,458)	0	0	0	(37,458)	(36,924)
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>(37,458)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(37,458)</b>	<b>(36,924)</b>
<b>Net current assets/liabilities</b>		<b>32,315</b>	<b>222,564</b>	<b>4,866</b>	<b>84,655</b>	<b>344,400</b>	<b>514,452</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>825,065</b>	<b>222,564</b>	<b>4,866</b>	<b>84,655</b>	<b>1,137,150</b>	<b>1,307,202</b>
<b>Funds of the Circuit</b>							
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
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>						<b>1,052,495</b>	<b>1,222,914</b>
Restricted Funds	11				84,655	84,655	84,288
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>825,065</b>	<b>222,564</b>	<b>4,866</b>	<b>84,655</b>	<b>1,137,150</b>	<b>1,307,202</b>

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.

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

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
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b>130,703</b>	<b>114,579</b>

Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	4.1	3.4
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#### 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)
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## 9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Manses	Total
Balance brought forward	792,750	792,750
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>792,750</b>	<b>792,750</b>
Depreciation brought forward	0	0
<b>Depreciation carried forward</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Net Book Value brought forward	792,750	792,750
<b>Net Book Value carried forward</b>	<b>792,750</b>	<b>792,750</b>

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
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b>28,898</b>	<b>28,479</b>

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
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
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
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>84,288</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>(2,767)</b>	<b>2,705</b>	<b>84,655</b>	
<b>Designated Funds</b>						
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
<b>Total Designated</b>	<b>10,985</b>	<b>2,831</b>	<b>(16,450)</b>	<b>7,500</b>	<b>4,866</b>	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>95,273</b>	<b>3,260</b>	<b>(19,217)</b>	<b>10,205</b>	<b>89,521</b>	

*Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2020/21*

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>Purpose of the fund</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
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
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>89,005</b>	<b>9,528</b>	<b>(14,245)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>84,288</b>	
<b>Designated Funds</b>						
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
<b>Total Designated</b>	<b>9,460</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(5,975)</b>	<b>7,500</b>	<b>10,985</b>	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>98,465</b>	<b>9,528</b>	<b>(20,220)</b>	<b>7,500</b>	<b>95,273</b>	

## **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.**

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
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



[illegible][illegible]

一、關於我國經濟建設的方針。我國經濟建設的方針，是發展生產，繁榮經濟，改善民生，增加就業，發展交通，加強國防。

[illegible]

On September 21st, we were treated to a lecture on the history of the United States, and although we were not able to attend it, we were very interested in the subject. The lecture was given by a very able speaker, and we were very interested in the subject. The lecture was given by a very able speaker, and we were very interested in the subject. The lecture was given by a very able speaker, and we were very interested in the subject.

[illegible][illegible]



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 10 hours 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.

During the summer of 2021/2022 the church was not particularly busy. The church was closed for most of the summer. The last service was held on 1st June. During the summer there were some people in the church and some people in the garden. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church.

**2nd July 2021/2022** The church was closed for most of the summer. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church.

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**Worship** In September 2021 weekly worship was returning to normal following Covid restrictions. Although collection regulations were still in place the church was open for members and for those who were not members. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church.

**Midweek activities** - Take Time went from all from sessions to a mix of in person and online. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church. The church was open for a short time in the summer and some people came to the church.

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

**Finances** - Members and friends continued to support the church financially allowing the fellowship to be viable. Rental income from our 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 subscribed 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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Lomax', written in a cursive style.

Full Name Michael Andrew Lomax

Position Chair

Date 19th March 2023