

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Charity number 1129524

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

LOUGHBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 August 2025

Contents

Page Number

- 1 Declarations and Scrutiny
- 2 Independent Examiner's Report
- 3 Statement of Financial Activities 2024/25
- 4 Statement of Financial Activities 2023/24
- 5 Balance Sheet
- 6-9 Notes to the Financial Statements

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').

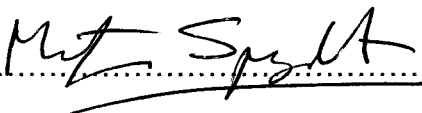
I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 ecumenical 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