



# THE METHODIST CHURCH

BRISTOL & SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE CIRCUIT

Circuit No. 7 / 2

## SOUTH BRISTOL METHODIST CHURCH

### REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number - 1131502

#### Minister:

Rev'd Sally Spencer

#### Church Stewards:

Mr Robert Bennett

Mrs Sue Gilchrist

Mr Robert Wallace ( to 17 Apr 24)

Mrs Aroona Smith ( from 18 April 2024)

Mrs Ann Rees

Mrs Susan Rooke

Mr Adrian Westlake

#### Treasurer:

Mr Richards Hills

#### Bankers

HSBC Bank plc

#### Investment Bankers

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

#### Accounts Examiner

Mr H G Nash FCA



# SOUTH BRISTOL METHODIST CHURCH

1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

Section A		Reference and Administration Details	
Name of Charity	South Bristol Methodist Church		
Registered Charity Number	1131502		
Charity's Principal Address	Knowle Methodist Church		
	Redcatch Road		
	Bristol		
Post Code	BS4 2EP		

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee
			South Bristol Methodist Church Council
Mrs Jean Abbott			
Mr Robert Bennett			
Miss Julia Blackmore			
Mrs Frances Bullas	Secretary		
Mrs Mercy Cavicchioni			
Mrs Sue Gilchrist			
Mr Richard Hills	Treasurer		
Miss Mary Hudson			
Rev Prof Teddy Kalongo			
Ms Edna Kissi		from 17 April 2024	
Mrs Janice Lee			
Mrs Janet MacGregor			
Mrs Ruth Price			
Mr Derek Rees			
Mr Clive Rooke			
Mrs Susan Rooke			
Mr John Seward	Contact Person to 17 April 2024		
Mrs Aroona Smith			
Revd Sally Spencer	Chairperson		
Mr Kevin Richard Soulsby	Contact Person	from 17 April 2024	
Mr Adrian Westlake			
Miss Kavita Bhalerao		to 17 April 2024	
Mrs Valerie Davey		to 17 April 2024	
Mrs Ann Rees		to 17 April 2024	
Mrs Robert Wallace		to 17 April 2024	

Section B Structure, Governance and Management	
<b>Governing Document</b>	South Bristol Methodist Church uses an approved governing document issued by the Methodist Conference (as detailed below) and have not altered or changed the objects clause of this document.
<b>Wording of Governing Document</b>	<p>The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church:</li> <li>(b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church:</li> <li>(c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church:</li> <li>(d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.</li> </ul>
<b>Trustee Selection Method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Each of the three congregations that make up South Bristol Methodist Church shall appoint annually three members of their congregation to sit on Church Council plus the two congregational stewards who sit on the leadership team. All will be trustees of the church.</li> <li>(b) Such persons, if any, as the Church Council judges it appropriate to appoint from among those employed by the Council, or by the Circuit Meeting in work in the local church will be trustees of the church.</li> <li>(c) The Superintendent Minister and the one listed ministerial staff of the Bristol &amp; South Gloucestershire Methodist circuit will be a trustee of the church</li> <li>(d) Other trustees for the time being members of church council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The Church treasurer</li> <li>· The Church MWiB representative</li> <li>· The Church Council Secretary</li> <li>· Circuit stewards as appointed by the circuit stewards meeting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Note:- Each trustee MUST be a member of the Methodist Church</p>
<b>South Bristol Methodist Church Structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) South Bristol Methodist Church is made up of the congregations of Bedminster, Knowle and St.Peter's churches.</li> <li>(b) There are three worship centres within SBMC.</li> <li>(c) There will be an annual meeting of the whole church which will be open to all and will be an opportunity to discuss the whole life of the church.</li> <li>(d) Each congregation will hold quarterly, an open meeting to which everyone is welcome and which will discuss any issues the members of the meeting raise. The calling of these meetings and the voting at them will be in accordance with the constitution, practice, and discipline of the Methodist Church.</li> <li>(e) The guidelines for the working of South Bristol Methodist Church is aligned to the constitution, practice, and discipline of the Methodist Church and can only be amended with the trustees voting 75% in favour of any amendment.</li> </ul>

Section C		Objectives and Activities
<b>Activities</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.</li> <li>(b) The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.</li> <li>(c) Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.</li> <li>(d) Taking religious assemblies in schools.</li> <li>(e) Promoting the whole mission of the church and aiding social cohesion through activities for older people, parents and toddlers, and other specific needs groups.</li> <li>(f) Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas financially and with prayer.</li> </ul>

<b>Contribution made by Church Members and friends of SBMC</b>	<p>The trustees would like to acknowledge the work carried out in all of its congregations in leading worship, providing pastoral care and maintaining the premises, especially during the cost of living increases.</p> <p>Generous giving by congregation members has continued in all three worship centres and in these difficult times the trustees are also grateful for all the work carried out by congregation members in their communities.</p>
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Section D		Achievements and Performance
<b>Summary of the main achievements of SBMC</b>		<p>As part of God's church in South Bristol, our aim is to grow in the spiritual depth of our faith, in the difference we can make to the communities around us, and in the numbers of people who can discover and grow in the love of God in our congregations. This year there have been various signs of growth in our church community</p> <p>We have grown in spiritual depth, through regular worship and Bible study and for some, by holding on to faith through illness and other difficulties in life. Bedminster and Knowle congregations experienced the <i>People's Passion</i> on Palm Sunday. Weekly worship continues to equip people to practise their faith in daily life, and small group discussions have taken place on prayer. SBMC supports monthly services in local care homes, where we can provide a message of hope.</p> <p>We have grown in our impact on the community through continuing Welcome Spaces at St Peter's and Knowle, and links with Monica Wills House in Bedminster. We now host the Citizen's Advice Centre at Knowle, and are happy to welcome the Food Club and the Repair Cafe to Bedminster following the closure of the URC in West Street, while the Food Club continues at St Peter's. We have worked with schools in Broomhill and to support Nativity and Easter trails in Knowle for families and young people. Knowle and St Peter's congregations carried out community audits this year to inform future work.</p>

Section D (Continued)	Achievements and Performance
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Section E	Financial Review
SBMC Policy on Reserves	The policy is to maintain a general reserve equivalent to three months routine expenditure
Any Funds in Deficit	There are no funds in deficit

# SOUTH BRISTOL METHODIST CHURCH

## ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Note</b>				
Offerings and Tax recovered		66,823		<b>66,823</b>	<b>69,570</b>
Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		2,961		<b>2,961</b>	<b>1,908</b>
Lettings		77,662		<b>77,662</b>	<b>97,358</b>
Fund Raising Activities		9,640		<b>9,640</b>	<b>5,574</b>
Donations and Bequests		7,899		<b>7,899</b>	<b>8,586</b>
Grant for Warm Space		1,525	4,475	<b>6,000</b>	<b>5,690</b>
Other Grants		2,881		<b>2,881</b>	<b>0</b>
Mission work funding from the sale of premises			41,500	<b>41,500</b>	<b>0</b>
Other receipts		710		<b>710</b>	<b>275</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>170,101</b>	<b>45,975</b>	<b>216,076 (a7)</b>	<b>188,961</b>

<b>SECTION B</b>					
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Circuit Assessment or Share		84,313		<b>84,313</b>	<b>80,356</b>
Donations		1,351		<b>1,351</b>	<b>1,367</b>
Repairs and Maintenance		18,541		<b>18,541</b>	<b>21,792</b>
Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		34,095		<b>34,095</b>	<b>33,525</b>
Other payments		23,161	703	<b>23,864</b>	<b>32,883</b>
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>161,461</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>162,164 (b9)</b>	<b>169,923</b>

<b>SECTION C</b>					
<b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>		8,640	45,272	<b>53,912</b>	19,038
Total funds brought forward from last year		122,817	2,420	<b>125,237 (c6)</b>	<b>106,199</b>
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>131,457</b>	<b>47,692</b>	<b>179,149</b>	<b>125,237</b>
Transfers and adjustments					<b>(c7)</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>		<b>131,457</b>	<b>47,692</b>	<b>179,149 (c8)</b>	<b>125,237</b>

<b>SECTION D</b>					
<b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b>					
<b>(these amounts are not included in total receipts/payments figures above)</b>				<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Balance brought forward from last year				0	0
Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				834	1,968
Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				834	1,968
<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

# SOUTH BRISTOL METHODIST CHURCH

## SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH

### SECTION E

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
Bedminster	592	810	(218)		456	238
Knowle	467	907	(440)		1,176	736
St Peters, Brislington	483	454	29		113	142
Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	1,542	2,171	(629)		1,745 (e11)	1,116
Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	216,076 (a7)	162,164 (b9)	53,912	(c7)	125,237 (c6)	179,149
<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS</b>	<b>217,618</b>	<b>164,335</b>	<b>53,283</b>		<b>126,982 (x)</b>	<b>180,265</b>
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>				

### SECTION F

#### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
Cash in hand		
Bank Current Account	69,471	120,457
Bank Deposit Account		
Central Finance Board	55,766	58,692
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
Other funds		
<b>SUB TOTAL - Church accounts</b>	<b>125,237 (c6)</b>	<b>179,149</b>
Total funds held by Internal Organisations	<b>1,745 (e11)</b>	<b>1,116</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>	<b>126,982 (x)</b>	<b>180,265</b>

### SECTION G

#### OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2024
Investments (include Endowments)	1,225	1,325
Land & Buildings (Insurance value)	16,573,649	10,044,303
Other Assets	0	0
Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	0	0
Other Liabilities	0	0

## DECLARATIONS

### Treasurer

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

Signature of Treasurer

*R Hills*

Date

11/10/2024

Name

Richard Hills

Address

16 Norton Road, Knowle, Bristol, BS4 2JG

### Presentation to the South Bristol Methodist Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Report and Accounts will be presented for approval by the Church Council on 11th February 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

*S Spencer*

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev'd Sally Spencer

Date

15/10/2024

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

**SOUTH BRISTOL METHODIST CHURCH**

### This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024

#### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met;
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature

*H G Nash*

Hilary Gordon Nash, FCA  
75 Manor Road  
Keynsham  
Bristol, BS31 1RE

Date

17/11/2024



Section F	Other Information
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Not Applicable

Section G	Declaration
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The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees report above  
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signatures

*Sally Spencer*

*F.M. Bullas*

Full Names

Revd Sally Spencer

Mrs Frances Bullas

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair etc)

Chairperson

Secretary

Date

19

Jan

2025

19

January

2025