

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2023

### A. Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name	Wrexham Methodist Circuit
Registered Charity Number	1132841
Principal Address	Wrexham Methodist Church, Regent Street, Wrexham. LL11 1RY

### B. Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)
How is the charity constituted	Act of Parliament
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by local churches and existing trustees: Ministers are automatically trustees.
Structure	Part of the Wales Synod; accountable to the Methodist Conference

### C. Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	<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 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>
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects	<p>The circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure regular acts of worship take place at each of the 8 Methodist churches and chapels in its geographical area. These acts of worship are open to all.</p> <p>The circuit supports the Open the Book initiative and teams serve several local schools around the circuit. The circuit also runs and supports two successful after-school drop-ins in Llangollen and at the 'Tin Can' (the old Rhosnesni chapel), the latter being undertaken in partnership with the Church Army. A parent and toddler group is run in Wrexham. Some of our churches run successful Community Coffee Mornings which are a much-valued meeting place for people from the wider community. Most of our churches make their church halls available to their local communities as a resource. Many churches collect for the local foodbank. A variety of other charities are supported by the efforts of individual churches. Also during the year volunteers from the circuit have worked as prison and university chaplains, pastoral visitors, hospital volunteers, volunteer drivers, and as helpers in the town's Foodbank. We confirm that the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.</p>

#### D. Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The circuit exists to resource and support its churches in their mission to the communities in which they are situated. Worship takes place in all of the churches on a Sunday, usually in the morning but one church has afternoon worship. There are also occasional evening services. In addition we continue to offer online worship via Zoom each week. A weekly newsletter and worship sheet are distributed by email (by post to those who have no access to email). This keeps members informed of news and developments.

Following the decision of the Methodist Conference in 2021 to allow individual churches to apply to conduct same-sex marriages (with the consent of the local Church Council), Wrexham (Regent Street), Gresford and Caergwrle Methodist Churches are now registered for same-sex marriages.

The Circuit Meeting made the decision to reduce the number of full time ministers to one and a presbyter who would also be the Superintendent Minister was appointed for a five year period from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023. Two new lay pastoral workers along with Supernumerary Ministers working under a letter of understanding provide additional pastoral support in the Circuit.

Wrexham Methodist Church's site in Regent Street, Wrexham, needs a considerable amount of work done to bring it up to a suitable standard for on-going mission and ministry. The Church Council began a series of conversations to investigate options around both the existing building and the alternative of moving to a different building.


The sale process for the redundant chapel at Brymbo was initiated.

A group of young people from the after school drop in at Llangollen went to 3Generate, the Methodist Church's annual children and young people's gathering at the NEC in Birmingham as part of a large group from across Wales Synod Cymru. They were accompanied by the Circuit children and young people's worker and a number of volunteers from the Circuit.

Gresford and Wrexham Methodist Churches achieved the Bronze level Eco Church award from ARocha and both churches are deepening their environmental work from a Christian perspective and are also providing a lead on this work across the Circuit in other churches.

<b>E. Financial Review</b>	
Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves.	The Reserves Policy for the Wrexham Methodist Circuit is to hold a sum equivalent to 50% of a normal year's expenditure – i.e. approximately £70,000. This is deemed sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of <i>major expenditure on manses and/or to be able to continue, in the short term, the funding of planned activities in the event of the closure of a large church or an inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.</i>
Details of any funds materially in deficit	None
Overview of the accounts	<p>In the 2022/23 accounts:</p> <p>73% of the Circuit's income was provided by the local churches, and an additional 6% came in the form of grant support from the Wales Synod Cymru of the Methodist Church with the rental income making up the majority of the remainder.</p> <p>52% of the Circuit's expenditure was on ministerial stipends, lay worker salaries and related costs, and a further 20% was our contribution to the Synod, of which part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church. Manses accounted for a further 17% of costs.</p>

<b>F. Further Information</b>	None
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<b>G. Declaration</b>
<p>This report is submitted on behalf of the trustees by:</p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Reverend James Eaton-Challinor, Superintendent Minister, Wrexham Methodist Circuit</p>

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		86,690			86,690	120,895
a3	Capital receipts						
a4	Bank and CFB interest and investment income		1,587	1,540	141	3,268	741
a5	Grants		9,000			9,000	19,000
a6	Other receipts		22,929			22,929	16,605
a7	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>130,206</b>	<b>1,540</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>131,887 (a8)</b>	<b>157,241</b>

SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		72,140			72,140	105,938
b3	Manse Costs		23,734			23,734	14,912
b4	Administration etc		3,934	140	20	4,094	5,149
b5	District Assessment		26,354	1,229		27,583	28,867
b6	Grants & donations						
b7	revaluation adjustments				98	98	465
b8	Other payments		11,407			11,407	2,528
b9	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>137,569</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>139,056 (b9)</b>	<b>157,859</b>

SECTION C							
c1	<b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>	(a7-b9)	(7,363)	171	23	(7,169)	(618)

c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		55,544	49,171	6,931	111,645 (c5)	112,263
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c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	48,181	49,342	6,954	104,478	111,845
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c4	Transfers and adjustments		6,954		(6,954)	(c7)	
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c5	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	(c3+c4)	<b>55,135</b>	<b>49,342</b>		<b>104,478 (c8)</b>	<b>111,845 (c6)</b>
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SECTION D							
<b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b>							
d	(these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)						
d1	Balance brought forward from last year						
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations						
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations						
d4	<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)</b>						

**SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING****SECTION E** Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this form

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1					1,465	1,465
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					1,465 (e11)	1,465 (e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	131,987 (a9)	130,888 (a9)	(7,160)	(e7)	111,845 (e8)	104,478 (e8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	131,987	130,888	(7,160)		113,110 (e)	105,941 (f)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>				

**SECTION F****STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	14,727	5,121
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	40,817	50,013
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	49,170	49,342
f6 Other funds	6,931	
f7 SUB TOTAL	111,645 (e8)	104,478 (e8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	1,465 (e11)	1,465 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	113,110 (e)	105,941 (f)

**SECTION G****OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	1 September 2022	31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re insurance value)	1,361,147	1,425,074
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loans - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

## Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of treasurer .....



Date ..... 18/11/2023

Name and address of treasurer ..... Mrs S Haywood

41 Wynnstay Lane, Marford Wrexham

LL12 8LH

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on ..... 05/06/2024

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



Name of the Chair of the meeting .... James Eaton Challinor

05/06/2024

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

..... WREXHAM ..... Circuit

Charity Number .....

1132841

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the .... Wrexham Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages ... to .... 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.

\* delete or circle as appropriate

**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 (other than that disclosed below\*) 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.

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.

I have/have not\* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner .....

*RAFogg*

Name of independent examiner ..... Richard A Fogg

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ..... A.C.A.

Name of firm (where appropriate) .....

Address ..... 98 Erddig Road, Wrexham

..... Post Code ..... LL13 7DR

Date ..... 31/05/2024

\* delete or circle as appropriate

Form reviewed

May-23