

CLITHEROE METHODIST CIRCUIT
Annual Report Year End 31st Aug 2025

NORTH WEST ENGLAND DISTRICT
Circuit No. 01/09

Superintendent Minister
Rev Dr Ian M Humphreys

CIRCUIT MISSION STATEMENT

“By encouraging each other to grow in faith and make new disciples of Jesus Christ, we seek to revitalise our Christian witness in the Ribble Valley”

CENTRAL AIM OF THE CIRCUIT

To manage the necessary structures and resources to enable the churches in the circuit to support one another and to maximise their efficiency and effectiveness in accordance with the Mission Statement

NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE CIRCUIT

The Circuit is the primary unit in which local churches express and experience their interconnexion in the Body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help. It is in the Circuit that presbyters, deacons and probationers are stationed and local preachers are trained and admitted and exercise their calling. The purposes of the Circuit include the effective deployment of the resources of ministry, which include people, property and finance, as they relate to the Methodist churches in the Circuit, to churches of other denominations and to participation in the life of the communities served by the Circuit, including local schools and in ecumenical work in the area.

taken from Standing Order 500 of The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

The Clitheroe Circuit of the Methodist Church is part of the newly merged North West England District. The Circuit is a small rural circuit composed of five Methodist Churches. These churches are located in the villages of Chatburn, Paythorne, Waddington and Whalley and the local market town of Clitheroe.

Each church has a Church Council which is responsible for the day-to-day management of the church and each church is represented at the Circuit Meeting which has the responsibility of overseeing the well-being of Methodism in the area and providing a link between the individual churches, the North West England District and the Methodist National Connexion.

The regular work of the circuit includes: the planning of Ministers and Local Preachers to lead worship; caring for our staff members; exercising financial prudence; accepting and undertaking our District and National responsibilities; arranging training sessions for new leaders and staff; training and re-training of officers and members with responsibilities for working with children and vulnerable adults in accordance

with the safer recruitment, safeguarding policies and procedures of the circuit and individual churches; overseeing circuit properties, compliance to GDPR and giving support to both individual churches and their members.

During the year the full-time minister Rev Kathy Flynn left the circuit and has not been replaced. Two new trustees were appointed Hylda Emsden and Cynthia Croydon. The circuit preaching plan has been supported by supernumerary ministers. Trinity Church hired a part-time community hub receptionist.

We are pleased to record that during the year under review we had no serious incidents to report.

FINANCE

All the churches and circuit are financially sound and the finances are being responsibly managed. The Finance Support Group, which has representatives from the circuit meeting and each church, the ministers and circuit stewards, oversees the circuit finances, including the procedures for completing the annual accounts and the recommendation of the annual budget for the circuit. The circuit accounts are audited annually by an independent professional examiner. The Finance Support Group also provides opportunities for the members to discuss items of interest or concern relating to the finances of each church.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Although the work of the circuit is primarily that of providing support, advice and encouragement to the churches within the circuit, it does create ideas and initiatives which are of public benefit accommodating a unique range of community activities and groups. These normally include groups such as Whalley Elevenses, Trinity Tots, Whalley Little Fishes, Waddington Waddlers, Walking Groups and pastoral care in a range of small home groups and large group settings.

At Trinity Church, their Community Hub was run by a part-time hub manager, a deputy manager and a part-time receptionist. During the year they continued the work of the hub and had 81 external users of the premises including the Foodbank, U3A, Lloyds and Barclays banks, various parts of the NHS and other agencies regularly using it as a base. Local community groups of the young and old and a range of groups concerned with addiction recovery, physical exercise, mental health and well-being. In addition, a weekly warm hub has continued offering help to our community in the midst of the cost-of-living crisis. The circuit actively encourages its churches to participate in ecumenical activities for the benefit of local people.

The Ribble Valley Foodbank is based at Trinity Community Hub and has expanded its offer of support to those in need including running an Olive Branch Café twice a week on a pay as you can afford basis and has a number of agencies which give advice and help to those struggling with various issues including health, finance and housing. Run by a team of 70 volunteers, The Foodbank supplies over 200 three-day emergency packages of food per month. All the circuit churches hold food collection points for the Foodbank.

Our churches in Clitheroe, Whalley, Waddington and Chatburn all provide hired meeting spaces for local community groups.

Regular collections for various local and national charities are held for a wide variety of appeals.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Clitheroe Methodist	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2025**

North West England	District	Circuit no	1/9
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1133020

If not a registered charity His Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Ministers:

Rev Ian Humphreys

Circuit Stewards:

Steuart Kellington
Judith Carlton
Wendy Bridgeman
Norman Pedley

Treasurer:

Steuart Kellington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2025
Clitheroe Methodist
Circuit

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1							
a2	Assessment/Share		125,450			125,450	125,450
a3	Capital receipts						
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		1,390	577		1,967	3,195
a5	Grants						
a6	Other receipts		5,814		497	6,311	8,535
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		132,654	577	497	133,728 (a8)	137,180

SECTION B							
	PAYMENTS						
b1							
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		100,049			100,049	96,238
b3	Manse Costs		14,273			14,273	38,856
b4	Administration etc		10,876	40		10,916	8,818
b5	District Assessment		28,279	118		28,397	27,758
b6	Grants & donations						
b7							
b8	Other payments		2,659		3,286	5,945	3,834
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		156,136	158	3,286	159,580 (b9)	175,504

SECTION C							
	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR						
c1		(a7-b9)	(23,482)	419	(2,789)	(25,852)	(38,324)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		64,228	12,208	15,818	92,254 (c6)	130,578
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	40,746	12,627	13,029	66,402	92,254
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	40,746	12,627	13,029	66,402 (c8)	92,254 (c6)

SECTION D					
	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS				
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	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)				

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 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						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds				(e11)	(e12)
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)					
	133,728 (a8)	159,580 (b9)	(25,852)	(c7)	92,254 (c6)	66,402 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT				92,254 (x)	66,402 (y)
	133,728	159,580	(25,852)			
	TOTAL RECEIPTS		TOTAL PAYMENTS			

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1		
f2	35,080	17,635
f3		
f4	44,966	36,139
f5	12,208	12,628
f6		
f7	92,254 (c6)	66,402 (c8)
f8	(e11)	(e12)
f9	92,254 (x)	66,402 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1		
g2	1,085,922	1,389,952
g3	26,781	51,859
g4		
g5		

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)

Name of Circuit Clitheroe No. ~~249~~ 119

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment 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 bookkeeper  Date 14/10/25

Name and address of bookkeeper.....

Tracey Spencer, Brook Farm, Longsight Road, Clayton-le-Dale, BB1 9EX

Signature of treasurer S. L. Roshon Date 12/12/26

Name and address of treasurer Bolvelore, Raynham, Clitheroe

..... Post Code BB17 4JD

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 12/2/26

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting REV IAN HUMPHREYS Date 12/Feb/26

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Clitheroe Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1133020

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Clitheroe Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 1 to 2. 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').

Name of Circuit Clitheroe No 1/9

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 

Name of independent examiner JAMES EVANS

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCA (ICAEW)

Name of firm (where appropriate) DAVID H. EVANS LTD

Address UNIT 273, MUTTON ROAD, BUSINESS PARK, MUTTON ROAD,

..... WHALLEY Post Code BB7 9ME

Date 03/12/2025

* delete or circle as appropriate