



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

**Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From** 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 **To** 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022

**Charity name:** The Fens Methodist Circuit

**Charity registration number:** 1133790

**Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The purpose of the Methodist Church is and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of the Union the advancement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards of discipline in 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> <p>These objectives are interpreted at Circuit levels through the 'Circuit Mission Statement and Policy' document (available on request).</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The Circuit produces a quarterly plan to ensure that regular acts of worship take place in each of the ten Circuit Churches. These are open to all without charge.</p> <p>All the Circuit churches serve their local community through their availability for baptisms, marriages and funerals.</p> <p>The properties are variously used by community organisations. Some properties were specifically built to serve both as a worship and as a community centre. The trustees encourage all Circuit churches to use their buildings, where suitable, for the benefit of the community.</p> <p>Where appropriate, grants are made available to promote this community engagement. Examples of such are: Parent and Toddler Group, community</p>

		lunches, a daily coffee bar, women's fellowship, youth groups, uniformed organisations, professional advice services. These are open to all, irrespective of Church allegiance. We seek to address the spiritual needs of those in residential care.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

### Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The Circuit continues the process of each church undertaking a mission and vision review. September 2021 continued with a settled team consisting of a Hospitality Lay Pastor to support the Superintendent and Stipendiary Minister, in addition to a part-time Administrator and Coffee Bar Manager for Trinity Coffee Bar.</p> <p>The Circuit's recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic has been steady. One society has elected to become a class of one of the larger churches.</p> <p>Staffing levels have remained consistent and preparations for the superintendent minister's stationing are being made.</p> <p>The Hospitality Lay Pastor interacted across the churches, with congregations and local communities, to encourage working towards the principles of the Social Gospel and the Methodist Church doctrine that:</p> <p>All need to be saved All can be saved All can know they are saved All can be saved to the uttermost.</p> <p>The churches have updated and will continue to monitor their Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults procedure training and DBS checks.</p> <p>We have three redundant buildings, one of which remains on the market (Tydd St Giles). Worship has ceased at Terrington St John and decisions are still to be made about the future use of St Andrews Outwell.</p>

### Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The Circuit accounts are available for inspection. The Circuit Advance Fund is used to subsidise the Connexional assessment, to provide grants towards
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		<p>the cost of major repairs and to cover any shortfall in the assessments from local churches.</p> <p>Tydd St Giles Chapel is now redundant; a survey has been conducted, and the surveyor has suggested a sale by auction.</p> <p>On the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021, the Fens Circuit held total cash funds of £446,567 and on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022, had a closing balance of £354,294.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	It is necessary to hold sufficient working capital to facilitate the payment of Connexional and District assessments, business expenses and the services of a part-time Circuit Administrator and Lay Employees.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£106,629
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

### Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Act of Parliament
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Appointed by local churches and existing trustees. Ministers are automatically trustees.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The Fens Methodist Circuit is part of the East Anglia Methodist District. It has 9 churches that were served by the Superintendent Minister and 1 Stipendiary Minister.
Other		Statistical returns for 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021 showed a membership of 167. The Methodist/URC Local Ecumenical Partnership Church in March had an additional 7 URC members.

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Fens Methodist Circuit
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Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1133790
Charity's principal address	The Fens Circuit Office, Trinity Methodist Church, 17 Church Terrace, Wisbech, PE13 1BL

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	<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>
1	Adam Stevenson	Superintendent Minister		
2	Deborah Caulk	Stipendiary Minister		
3	Nicola Warden	Lay Pastor		
4	Susan Askew	Circuit Steward		
5	Roger Dack	Circuit Steward		
6	Susan Dack	Circuit Steward		
7	Timothy Dewdney	Circuit Steward		
8	Mary Jane Hurst	Circuit Steward		
9	Linda Vincent	Circuit Steward		
10	Eileen Sattin			
11	Sylvia Ringham			
12	Rosemary Marchant			
13	Evelyn Hamps			
14	Elaine Thornton			
15	Christine Horn			
16	Mavis Ashcroft			
17	David Thompson			
18	Joyce Dobson			
19	Anne Emmerson			
20	Roy Askew			
21	Eric Cross			
22	Christopher Coates			
23	Joy Coates			
24	Veronica Nelson			
25	Nannette Rose			
26	Elaine Knight			
27	Trevor Vincent			
28	Robin Vincent			
29	Diana Burling			
30	Janice Powers			
31	David Fairbrother			
32	Patricia Tuthill			
33	Gwendoline Dewdney			
34	Mary Gibbs			
35	Joy Smalley			
36	Joan Thompson			
37	Wendy Chandler			



Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

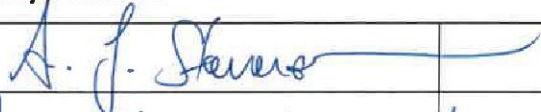
#### Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

#### Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	ADAM JAMES STEVENAGE	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair.	

Date 31st May 2023.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH  
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

<b>FENS</b>	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 AUGUST 2022**

EAST ANGLIA	District	Circuit no	14/22
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**Registered Charity - Charity Registration number**

1133790

If not a registered charity **Her 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

**Ministers:**

Revd Adam J Stevenson (Superintendent) Revd Deborah Caulk	
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**Circuit Stewards:**

Sue Askew Sue Dack Roger Dack Linda Vincent Jane Hurst Tim Dewdney Karren Tibbs	
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**Treasurer:**

Rachael Atkins	
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ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	TOTALS 2021 22	TOTALS 2020-21
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		117,404	0	0	117,404	131,007
a3	Capital receipts		0	0	0	0	
a4	Bank and CFB interest and investment income		781	971	0	1,751	3,134
a5	Grants		0	0	0	0	
a6	Other receipts		70,756	0	0	70,756	193,206
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		188,941	971	0	189,912 (a8)	327,347

SECTION B			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	TOTALS 2021 22	TOTALS 2020-21
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		129,135	0	0	129,135	125,033
b3	Manse Costs		5,062	0	0	5,062	14,218
b4	Administration etc		6,659	1,184	0	7,842	6,250
b5	District Assessment		25,025	0	0	25,025	23,954
b6	Grants & donations		0	0	0	0	1,780
b7			0	0	0	0	
b8	Other payments		11,393	103,726	0	115,119	178,926
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		177,274	104,910	0	282,184 (b9)	350,161

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	11,667	-103,940	0	-92,273	-22,813
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		19,746	382,777	46	402,569 (c8)	425,383
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	-28,674	382,922	46	354,294	402,569
c4	Transfers and adjustments		0	0	0	0 (c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	-28,674	382,922	46	354,294 (c8)	402,569

SECTION D						
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS						
(these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)					TOTALS 2021 22	TOTALS 2020-21
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				0	0
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				1,350	588
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				1,350	588
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)				0	0



## 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 2022 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	Circuit Youth & Ed	0	30	-30	0	370	340
e2							
e3				0			0
e4				0			0
e5				0			0
e6				0			0
e7				0			0
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0	30	-30	0	370 (e11)	340 (e12)
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	189,912	282,184	-92,273	0	446,567 (e11)	354,294 (e8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	189,912	282,214	-92,303	0	446,937 (e11)	354,634 (y)

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

TOTAL RECEIPTS

TOTAL PAYMENTS

## SECTION F

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

## CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022

f1	Cash in hand
f2	Bank Current Account
f3	Bank Deposit Account
f4	Central Finance Board
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
f6	Other funds
f7	SUB TOTAL
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT

01-Sep-21	31-Aug-22
OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
0	0
14,493	26,959
0	0
16,739	15,304
415,335	312,031
0	0
446,567	354,294 (c8)
370	340 (e12)
446,937	354,634 (y)

## SECTION G

## OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

g1	Investments (include Endowments)
g2	Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)
g3	Other Assets
g4	Loans - show amount outstanding at year end
g5	Other Liabilities

At 01-Sep-21	At 31-Aug-22
4,298	4,028
697,883	697,883
0	0
0	0
0	0


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

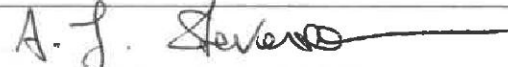
I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer	
DATE	17 / 9 / 2022

Name and address of treasurer  
Rachael Atkins  
20 Gosmoor Lane, Elm, Wisbech Cambs PE14 0AJ

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 will be presented to the Circuit meeting held on **December 7 2022**

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	
Name of the Chair of the meeting	REVD ADAM J STEVENSON.
DATE	7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2022.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the  
FENS CIRCUIT**

**Charity Number 1133790**

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the FENS Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages attached.

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 **FENS No 14/22**

**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 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	
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Name of independent examiner	Jan Wheeler
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Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner	Bank Manager.
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Name of firm (where appropriate) Barclays Bank

Address 91-92 High St

Kings Lynn Post Code PE30 1BL

Date 29 Oct 22



## THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

<b>FENS</b>	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 AUGUST 2022**

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Treasurer:

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TOTAL PAYMENTS

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0	0


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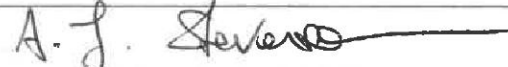
I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer	
DATE	17 / 9 / 2022

Name and address of treasurer  
Rachael Atkins  
20 Gosmoor Lane, Elm, Wisbech Cambs PE14 0AJ

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 will be presented to the Circuit meeting held on **December 7 2022**

Signature of the Chair of the meeting	
Name of the Chair of the meeting	REVD ADAM J STEVENSON.
DATE	7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2022.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the  
FENS CIRCUIT**

Charity Number 1133790

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the FENS Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages attached.

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 **FENS** No **14/22**

**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 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	
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Name of independent examiner	Jan Wheeler
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Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner	Bank Manager.
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Name of firm (where appropriate) Barclays Bank

Address 91-92 High St

Kings Lynn Post Code PE30 1BL

Date 29 Oct 22

