

**Sherwood Methodist Church**  
(Registered charity, number 1133934)  
**Financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2024**

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**Sherwood Methodist Church  
Trustees' annual report  
for the year ended 31 August 2024**

**Full name** Sherwood Methodist Church

**Registered charity number** 1133934

**Principal address**

Sherwood Methodist Church, Devon Drive, Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 2EN

**Trustees**

Rev Richard Byass  
Helen Snowball, from 18/06/2023  
Anthony Farr  
Susan Cooper  
Josephine Williams  
Alice McGregor  
Jane Lewis  
Paul Lewis  
Robert Rattigan  
Paul Osborne

Rachel Tavener, from 04/10/2023  
Dave Maware, from 18/06/2023  
Brian Shaw  
Jane Whiting  
Julie Compton  
Jane Edwards  
Gregory White  
Robert Chandler  
Marguerite Carter

**Independent examiner**

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2 North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

**Governance and management**

The charity is operated under the rules of its Deed of Union (1932) and The Methodist Church Act (1976).

Some trustees are appointed by being approved into specific positions of office by either the General Church Meeting or the Church Council; other trustees are elected from the church membership at the General Church Meeting.

**Objectives and activities**

The purposes of the Methodist Church are the advancement of:

- The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist church;
- Any charitable purpose for the time being of any connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist church;
- Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist church;
- Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary to the Methodist church.

## **Sherwood Methodist Church**

### **Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit**

As one of the largest Christian faith congregations within the community of Sherwood, SMC provides a significant focal point in the local community for the spiritual needs and social development of local people.

By actively promoting values of inclusiveness and welcome, SMC encourages the local community and seeks to minimise conflict.

By making its building available to the wider public and local groups, SMC enables community groups to function and flourish and provides a base for community activities.

By its support for people in need, such as through the Food Bank and the Nourish Community food program, it helps reduce the impact of poverty in the neighbourhood.

Central to our existence is our offer of a wide variety of acts of public worship. These include, traditional, contemporary, reflective, all age, communion services, and worship associated with our Messy Church, at various times during the week. The main service is at 10.30am on Sunday mornings each week attracting a congregation of approximately 60-80 people.

As a Christian body we encourage and embrace diversity. This is demonstrated by the wide range of our community in terms of age (1yr-100yrs), physical ability and ethnic background (Ghanaian Fellowship) who regularly attend activities and worship at our church.

The church relies on and receives tremendous levels of voluntary support from members and friends so that its ministry and service to the community can be delivered.

A number of church members are actively involved in the meetings and work of Nottingham Citizens, a multi-faith and multi-agency group that campaigns on subjects and issues of social justice on behalf of the residents of Nottingham.

Through the provision of training to appropriate volunteers and staff, the church is able to maintain its high level of commitment to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

Events are organised to focus on specific needs and charities, operating locally or world-wide, and money raised to support their work. The church provides for a wide variety of local needs, including; Sharing Sherwood, healthy eating group, a Methodist Ghanaian Fellowship, various choirs, several health-based initiatives, an after-school education program, Guides and Scouts groups, craft groups, knit and natter (including making prayer shawls for distribution to those in pastoral need). In addition to these we have new bookings from other user groups and external organisations.



## **Sherwood Methodist Church**

### **Summary of the main achievements during the period**

The Mission plan for the church, continues to be developed and implemented. This has been based in part on the Our Calling statement of the Methodist Church and also the Methodist Way of Life material from the national denomination.

Our church continues to act as a drop-off point for collections for our local food bank. This has helped to maintain our link with the local community and also to assist those struggling with food poverty. Together with several other local churches members of our community continues to support and run a food initiative called Nourish which provided freshly cooked meals to those in the community who were struggling with isolation/food poverty. As the cost of living crisis hits many people, this remains a much needed resource within the local community.

As part of our creative outreach we have continued to improve our award winning Quiet Garden to offer a space of refuge and reflection for members of the church, user groups and local community. We have continued to use and develop our roadside notice boards to offer messages of hope for all.

As a church we continue to reach out into a community to be a visible sign of God's grace and love. We are an active part of Nottingham Citizens with members of our congregation participating in their current work plan.

Our church also has Fairtrade status and it is important that all church based groups use Fairtrade products, other users of the building are also encouraged to comply. We know from previous experience that producer groups in developing countries benefit immensely from the Fairtrade premium.

The church has maintained a place of confidence in its presence in the community and the activities offered. This has been evidenced in the range of ventures that have been supported by members and wider community both on-site and beyond over the last 12 months, which has allowed us to feel established in our worship and social action as well as in our fellowship and shared faith. We have also established a new Well-being drop in, and we have continued to refresh our understanding of being an Eco Church.

### **Public benefit statement**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'

## Sherwood Methodist Church

### **The charity's policy on reserves**

The church's policy on reserves is to aim to hold a level of uncommitted free reserves equating to six months of General Fund expenditure. These reserves are held in case of unbudgeted expenditure on repairs to property, replacement of damaged or faulty equipment, or additional investment in church activities and initiatives. Reserves are also required in case of a short term shortfall in income. The policy is reviewed annually.

### **Financial risks**

Reduction in income due to members leaving or having reduced circumstances, or an increase in outgoings which are most likely to be due to unexpected repairs to buildings or equipment

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed   
Rev. Richard Byass, Trustee

Date 12/2/25

**Sherwood Methodist Church**  
**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Sherwood Methodist Church (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

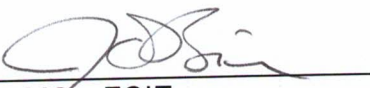
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those 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.

Signed  Date 20/2/25  
John O'Brien MSc, FCIE  
Employee of Community Accounting Plus



**Sherwood Methodist Church**  
**Receipts & payments account**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2024**

2023				2024
Total		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Funds		Funds	Funds	Funds
£	Note	£	£	£
	<b>Receipts</b>			
82455	Grants & donations	2 65851	50	65901
5000	Gifts & legacies	-	-	-
4865	Fundraising & events	10	-	10
17692	Lettings	18653	-	18653
291	Coffee bar	456	-	456
3914	Bank interest	6633	-	6633
5154	Sundry income	2656	-	2656
<u>119371</u>	<b>Total receipts</b>	<u>94259</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>94309</u>
	<b>Payments</b>			
8885	Cleaner's wages	14346	-	14346
1738	Cleaning materials	1905	-	1905
7195	Donations	6847	-	6847
520	Encounter groups	440	-	440
1201	Equipment, repairs & renewals	1858	-	1858
4169	Events & fundraising	-	-	-
371	Hospitality & coffee bar	406	-	406
726	Independent examination	726	-	726
2997	Insurance	3071	-	3071
996	Licences & music, worship resources	903	-	903
-	Messy & junior church activities	108	-	108
38769	Nottingham North East Circuit Contribution	53688	-	53688
8434	Premises maintenance & improvements	6263	-	6263
487	Publicity	427	-	427
2216	Stationery/photocopying/IT	2227	-	2227
660	Sundry expenditure	350	-	350
-	Training	230	-	230
12496	Utilities	11758	-	11758
-	Benevolence fund expenditure	-	40	40
<u>91860</u>	<b>Total payments</b>	<u>105553</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>105593</u>
27511	<b>Net receipts/(payments)</b>	(11294)	10	(11284)
115199	Cash funds at start of this period	137450	5260	142710
<u>142710</u>	<b>Cash funds at end of this period</b>	<u>126156</u>	<u>5270</u>	<u>131426</u>

**Sherwood Methodist Church  
Statement of assets and liabilities  
at 31 August 2024**

2023		Note	2024
£			£
142710	<b>Cash assets</b>		131426
<u>142710</u>	Bank accounts		<u>131426</u>
	<b>Other monetary assets</b>		
10840	Debtors & prepayments	4	9177
<u>10840</u>			<u>9177</u>
	<b>Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>		
	Land & buildings at insured value, £2,350,000		
	Chairs purchased January 2019, cost £534		
	Storage units purchased September 2020, cost £1,300		
	<b>Liabilities</b>		
(5495)	Creditors	5	(5139)
<u>(5495)</u>			<u>(5139)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed   
Brian Shaw, Trustee

Dated 12<sup>th</sup> FEB / 25



**Sherwood Methodist Church**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2024**

**1. Receipts & payments accounts**

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

**2. Grants & donations**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Gift aid	12434	-	12434
Sundry grants & donations	53417	50	53467
	<u>65851</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>65901</u>

**3. Funds analysis**

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	(Payments) £	Closing balance £
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Benevolence fund	205	50	(40)	215
Church weekend	(26)	-	-	(26)
Family worker	4401	-	-	4401
Ladies Fellowship	680	-	-	680
	<u>5260</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>(40)</u>	<u>5270</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	45861	88971	(105440)	29392
Gifts & legacies	91589	5288	(113)	96764
	<u>137450</u>	<u>94259</u>	<u>(105553)</u>	<u>126156</u>

The Benevolence Fund is for the purpose of holding funds given or designated to be used for the benefit of people in financial need.

The Church weekend fund is for the purpose of holding funds paid for attending the church weekend away.

The Family worker fund is for the purpose of holding funds designated to support the family worker.

The Ladies Fellowship fund is for the purpose of holding funds raised by members of the Church Ladies Fellowship to be spent on events and other items for their meetings.

## Sherwood Methodist Church

### 4. Debtors & prepayments

	£
Grants & donations - Gift Aid	5471
Sundry income	634
Insurance	1843
Licences & music, worship resources	437
Premises maintenance & improvements	765
Utilities	27
	<u>9177</u>

### 5. Creditors

	£
Independent examination	726
Utilities	784
Charity Donations	3369
Premises maintenance	81
Cleaning materials	179
	<u>5139</u>

### 6. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

### 7. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in this period.

### 8. Glossary of terms

**Creditors:** These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

**Debtors:** These are amounts owed to the charity, but not received in the accounting period.

**Prepayments:** These are services that the charity has paid for in advance, but not used during the accounting period.

**Restricted funds:** These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.