

NORTH CUMBRIA METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31st AUGUST 2022

Introduction

The Trustees are pleased to present the Annual Report of the Trustees of the North Cumbria Methodist Circuit (hereinafter referred to as "The Circuit") for the year ended 31st August 2022.

September 2021 saw the beginning of the new combined North Cumbria Methodist Circuit combining the Wigton and North Cumbria Circuits following approval by trustees of both Circuits and with the support of the District Policy Group, District Synod and Methodist Conference.

An Inauguration service for the Reverend Tokunbo Asogbon and his family was held at Wigton Road Church. The Circuit Mission Action Plan for 2021/2022 was adopted. Mission and Ministry in the North Cumbria Circuit is about:

1. Growing together as a new Circuit.
2. Supporting churches to grow whilst coming out of Pandemic restrictions
3. Exploring new models of church both as Hubs and in response to point 2.

A new logo for the Circuit was adopted.

Staffing

Staffing levels remain the same with 3 presbyters based in Wigton, Carlisle and Brampton and a Deacon in Carlisle working across the circuit as a Mission Enabler. The two Superintendents will continue in the role of Co-Superintendents.

The Leadership Team comprises of the presbyters, the Deacon and 7 circuit stewards taken from the two merged circuits.

Work towards forming 3 Mission Hubs across the circuits continues. Cornerstones is a well established Hub comprising of churches: Aspatria, Abbeytown, Caldbeck, Silloth, Wigton.

The new Hubs will be:

City Hub -comprising of churches: Newtown, Tithe Barn, Wigton Road, Upperby.

Solway Hub -comprising of churches: Dalston, Monkhill, Thursby, Thurstonfield

Border Hub comprising of churches: Brampton, Gilsland, Longtown, Wetheral.

The Administrator's hours were increased from 16 to 20 hours.

A lay Children and Family worker's contract ended August 2022. Recruitment procedures were followed and interviews were held but no appointment was made.

On- line and Zoom services and meetings continued throughout this time as did Bible Studies, Lent meetings, Prayer Workshops, fellowship groups and training programmes.

Aims and organisation

The Governing Document of the Charity is the Deed of Union of the Methodist Church 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976. The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union, the advancement of:

- a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church

There are 18 places of worship in the area covered by the Circuit and they are all open to anyone who may wish to visit them without any charge. The Circuit continues with a quarterly preaching plan to ensure that

regular acts of worship take place at all the churches and chapels in its geographical area and that the following activities take place to further the objectives set out above:-

- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
- Provision of chaplaincy services where appropriate.

Fewer Local Preachers are available to preach as some have moved away and some have given up. This made it difficult to fill the quarterly Plan.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Brief financial review of the year

The main source of income in this and every year is the assessment paid by the churches within the Circuit area. In the year to 31st August 2022, the assessments totalled £180,550 (2021 £112,520.00) The Circuit also received grant funding of £32,000.00 from the Connexion in respect of the employment of our Mission Enabler. Transfers from Wigton Circuit £24,403.88

The main expenditure relates to the stipends of presbyters and the salaries of lay employees, together with related employment costs, including the provision of manses to presbyters and the reimbursement of travelling and other costs, totalling £203,193.38 (2021 £131,436.17)) Other costs include the contributions to the District £45,990.00 (2021 £37,500.00)

Stipends have increased annually in line with conference approved percentages and lay employees are paid, in accordance with Methodist Standing Orders, no less than the hourly rates set by the Living Wage Foundation.

At 31 August 2022 the net current, unrestricted, assets of the Circuit were £ 300,878 , compared with total expenditure for the year of £296,766.

Plans for the 2021/22 Circuit finances for the coming year have been prepared on the basis of our current staffing figure, with anticipated cost of living stipend and pay increases combined with an increase in the assessments paid to the District and Connexion. Levels of assessments requested from the churches in the Circuit have been discussed as all churches lost revenue from donations and lettings during the time they were unable to open and falling numbers attending church since the Pandemic. Consequently some churches were unable to meet the level of assessments requested by the Circuit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the Circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD). Day to day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team (comprising the presbyters and Circuit Stewards) and the Local Preachers meeting.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Circuit, including the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church'.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Cumbria District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference. 15 Churches are linked to the Circuit and are listed in Appendix B to this Report.

Risk Management

Major risks, both physical and financial, are identified and recorded and professional advice taken as required. There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

1. The care and nurture, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults.
2. The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
3. The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
4. The Circuit will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
5. The Circuit will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
6. The Circuit will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
7. The Circuit will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
8. The Circuit will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
9. In all these principles the Circuit will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches. The Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Safeguarding courses were run to bring up to date training throughout the Circuit following the break in courses during COVID.

The Circuit Safeguarding Policy was renewed, accepted and signed and distributed to all churches.

Advanced training was available on line.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold approximately two quarter's average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of the failure of churches to meet their quarterly assessment liabilities in full.

Legal and Administrative

The Circuit's financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022 have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE) applicable in the UK (effective from 1st January 2015) – the Charities SORP – in replacement for the SORP's 2005 version specified in its related 2008 Regulations and in accordance with the "true and fair override" provision contained therein.

Full Name of Charity: North Cumbria Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1134232

Date of registration 2014

Main communication address Brae Lees, Kirkandrews-On-Eden, Carlisle, CA5 6DU

The members of the Circuit meeting are the Managing Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

A full list of Trustees is shown in Appendix A to this Report
A full list of properties owned by the Circuit is shown in Appendix B

Circuit Ministers and officers

Active Circuit Ministers Rev David Newlove
 Rev Phil Jackson
 Rev Tokunbo Asogbon
 Deacon Mark Attwood

Circuit Stewards Mr Harold Bowron
 Mrs Kathleen Bowron
 Mrs Margaret Ferriby
 Mr Selby
 Mrs Rita Yeowart
 Mr George Denholm
 Mr Alan Fearon

Administrator Miss Vicky Logan

Mr Harold Bowron acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the Circuit during the year.

Independent examiner Mr Malcolm Uppard, 1 Green Lane, Houghton, Carlisle. CA3 0NT.

Investment Bankers Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
 Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Bankers H.S.B.C. 29 English Street, Carlisle. CA3 8JX.

Signed on behalf of the Circuit by

David Newlove

.....(signed)

Harold Bowron

.....(signed)

Rev David Newlove
Superintendent Minister

Harold Bowron
Circuit Treasurer

NORTH CUMBRIA METHODIST CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS

Period ending 31 August 2022

Receipts

Opening Balance 16,639.70

Assessments		
Brampton	38,000.00	
Cornerstone	56,200.00	
Dalston	13,300.00	
Gilsland	3,000.00	
Longtown	2,500.00	
Monkhill	4,000.00	
Newtown	2,800.00	
Thursby	3,000.00	
Thurstonfield	6,000.00	
Tithebarn	4,000.00	
Upperby	7,500.00	
Wetheral	8,000.00	
Wigton Road	32,250.00	
Total	180,550.00	180,550.00

Rents	9,200.00	
Chairman's Benevolence Fund	210.00	
Donations	1,110.00	
Miscellaneous	728.58	
Telephones	35.61	
Christmas Cards	51.00	
Christmas lunch	105.00	
Refund of fees selling Silloth Church	2,415.00	
Gift Aid	1,694.90	
Bank Interest	90.90	15,640.99

Circuit Project 1,625.62

Solway 1,395.08

Transfers from Wigton Circuit 29,403.88

Transfer from TMCP 35,000.00

Grant for Dcn M. Attwood 32,000.00

TOTAL 312,255.27

H.J. Bowron `31 August 2022

Payments

Stipends, NI & Superannuation	160,812.89	
Ministers' Travel	5,083.10	
Ministers expenses	822.83	
District Assessment & Levy	45,990.00	
Local & Visiting Preachers	1,456.37	
Telephone & broadband	3,808.56	
Postage	297.01	
Photo, Printing & Stationery	1,196.68	
Copyright & Performing Rights	6,616.52	
Circuit Administrator	9,199.48	
Quinquennial & electrical surveys	2,280.00	
Chrestos	288.00	
Valuation of Silloth Church	600.00	
Bank charges	66.40	
Christmas Lunch	20.00	
Chairman's Benevolence Fund	210.00	
Layworker redundancy payment	1,799.07	
Brampton & Wigton Rd new technology	6,075.75	
Miscellaneous	2,560.72	249,183.38

Circuit Project

Solway 2,028.01

Manse Expenses:	Utilities	Repairs	Total	
Grange Drive	4,001.87	570.00	4,571.87	
Manor Gardens	3,609.36	6,435.92	10,045.28	
Charlton Way	3,121.48	454.07	3,575.55	
Etterby Street	599.02	394.00	993.02	
Wigton	3,368.48	339.20	3,707.68	
Manse insurance tax	162.01		162.01	
	14,862.22	8,193.19	23,055.41	23,055.41

Closing Balance 37,988.47

Christmas Lunch Account

Brought forward	625.60
Interest	0.27
Sub total	625.87
Tithe Barn coffee morning	85.00
Total	540.87

Reserves	
CMTF	258,726.66
Shawbrook Bank	33,016.27

Solway	
Income	
Lettings	531.65
Donations	672.43
Collections	191.00
Total	1,395.08

Expenditure	
Insurance	316.54
Pat testing	70.00
Water	161.80
Electricity	729.07
Fire extinguishers	21.60
Tree felling	200.00
Bookcase	55.00
Windows	474.00

Total 2,028.01

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

North Cumbria	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2022**

Cumbria	District	Circuit no	09 01
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134232

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 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. David Newlove
Rev. Philip Jackson
Rev. Tokunbo Asogbon
Dcn. Mark Attwood

Circuit Stewards:

Alan Fearon
Margaret Ferriby
Rita Yeowart
Selby Harrison
Kathleen Bowron

Treasurer:

Harold John Bowron

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		180,550		180,550	112,525
a3	Capital receipts			74,614	74,614	11,818
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		111	1,625	1,736	1,576
a5	Grants		32,000		32,000	21,853
a6	Other receipts		50,739	65,245	117,819	31,752
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		263,399	141,484	406,719 (a8)	179,524

SECTION B		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		166,798		166,798	111,984
b3	Manse Costs		23,055		23,055	19,389
b4	Administration etc		30,520	684	31,204	18,864
b5	District Assessment		45,990	11,102	57,092	49,193
b6	Grants & donations		1,799		1,799	10,683
b7	Property Levy			10,923	10,923	2,363
b8	Other payments		5,894	210	6,104	10,899
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		274,057	22,709	296,976 (b9)	223,376

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(10,657)	118,774	1,626	109,743	(43,852)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		50,302	150,459		200,760 (c6)	244,612
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	39,645	269,233	1,626	310,503	200,760
c4	Transfers and adjustments		35,000	(35,000)		(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	74,645	234,233	1,626	310,503 (c8)	200,760 (c6)

SECTION D		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (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				1,626	2,384
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations					2,384
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)				1,626	

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						
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)	406,719 (a8)	296,976 (b9)	109,743	(c7)	200,760 (c6)	310,503 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	406,719	296,976	109,743		200,760 (x)	310,503 (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**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	7,353	16,304
f3 Bank Deposit Account	646	541
f4 Central Finance Board	9,287	26,410
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	150,458	234,233
f6 Other funds	33,016	33,016
f7 SUB TOTAL	200,760 (c6)	310,503 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	200,760 (x)	310,503 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	24,373	24,023
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,370,603	1,482,844
g3 Other Assets	3,524	
g4 Loan(s) - 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)

Name of Circuit NORTH CUMBRIA No.....

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 H. Bowron Date..... 23rd October 2022
Name and address of treasurer Harold John Bowron

Braelees, Kirkandrews on Eden, Carlisle. CA5 6DU

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 9th November 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting D. Newlove
Name of the Chair of the meeting DAVID NEWLOVE Date 9th November 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... **North Cumbria circuit**

Charity Number .. **1134232**

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the NORTH CUMBRIA Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 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

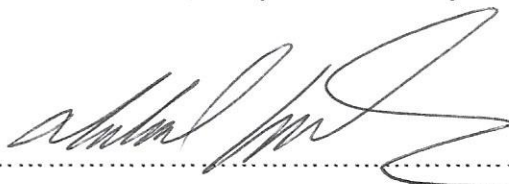
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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

Name of independent examiner **Malcolm Uppard**Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner **F.C.A.**

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address **1 Green Lane, Houghton**..... **Carlisle****CA3 0NT**

Date

3rd Nov. 2022

* delete or circle as appropriate