

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL METHODIST	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2023**

NOTTINGHAM AND DERBY	District	Circuit no	22/26
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134276

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 Nathan Falla (until 31.8.23)
Rev Dave Bonny (from 1 September 2023)
Rev Peter Bates (retired 31.8.23)
Rev Peter Hibberts

Circuit Stewards:

Mr Stephen Dando
Mrs Jill Meakin
Mr Andrew Trowbridge
Miss Jan Wright (appointed from 1 September 2022)
Mr Geoffrey Ayers (retired 21 February 2023)

Treasurer:

Mr Andrew Trowbridge

**NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL METHODIST CIRCUIT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
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NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL METHODIST CIRCUIT YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The trustees of the Newark and Southwell Methodist Circuit present their report for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Introduction

The Newark and Southwell Methodist Circuit covers Newark, Southwell, Collingham and surrounding villages. It is now made up of 9 Methodist churches following the decision of Elston Methodist Church to cease to meet which was accepted by Circuit Meeting in June 2022. The circuit provides staff support and leadership to the churches that make up the circuit.

As Methodists, we seek to enact the calling of the message church, as we through worship, seek to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love. We share together to help people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care as we strive to be good neighbours to people in need and to challenge injustice and we witness eagerly to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Review of the year

Circuit vision, strategy and implementation

A team of people have spent a significant amount of time over the last couple of years looking first at a vision for the Circuit and then at a strategy for implementing that vision. As a result, the Circuit now has an ambitious strategy for its future with a number of strategic intentions. This included adopting a new Mission Statement:

'In God's strength, as a family of churches in Newark and Southwell, our circuit encourages, excites and enables people to deepen their faith in Christ, to offer it to all and to work with communities for transformation.'

This statement and strategy was formally adopted at the Circuit meeting on 12 June 2023. The strategic intentions are:

- Transforming our existing Circuit Preaching Plan into one focussed on fewer, well-resourced worship hubs.
- Creating a culture of outward-facing, good news sharing invitation across the circuit.
- Developing a circuit-wide network of small groups fellowshiping and missioning in their locality.
- Releasing Preachers and Worship Leaders (and others?) to lead worship in worship opportunities and contexts best suited to their gifts.
- Creating a space for development of Preachers and Worship Leaders across the circuit.
- Developing smooth communication channels for activities, news and prayer across the circuit ensuring that folk feel united and equipped to mission across the circuit.
- Developing a sustainable online presence for communication, outreach and worship.
- Release church members and ministers from the unnecessary burdens of trusteeship to focus on our core mission.

The Circuit Leadership Team have begun its implementation which is likely to be our focus for the next 2-3 years.

Financial

The circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessments paid by the circuit churches. The ministerial staff reduced from 3 to 2 on 31 August 2023.

The total funds of the circuit fell by just over £104k in the year. The reasons for this have been:

- Financial support for two churches to enable them to employ lay family workers
- Financial support for churches engaged in mission
- Financial support for one church in developing and updating its premises
- Financial support to assist churches in meeting their assessments

Financial impact of recent events

The effects of COVID continue to have a negative impact on the life of the churches in the Circuit and recovery in most cases is slow. Congregations have reduced and, as a consequence, collections have also fallen. At the same time there have been large increases in utility charges which appear unlikely to reduce in the short term at least. Letting income has generally not recovered to pre-COVID levels and churches continue to face a challenging time financially.

God in love unites us

The Methodist Church at its conference in June 2021 agreed to allow Methodist churches to register for same sex marriages. This has been a matter for local church councils to decide.

Trustees annual report on finance and governance

Legal framework

Name of the charity: Newark and Southwell Methodist Circuit

Charity registration number: 1134276

Main communication address:

Circuit Administrator

c/o Hope Community Methodist Church, Barnby Gate, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG24 1PX

The members of the Newark and Southwell Methodist Circuit Meeting are the charities trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

A full list of the membership is shown below:

List of Trustees who were in office on 1 September 2023

Ministers in the Active Work:

1. Revd Dave Bonny (appointed 01.09.23)
(Superintendent and Chair of the meeting)
2. Revd Peter Hibberts

Circuit Stewards:

3. Stephen Dando (Senior)
4. Jill Meakin
5. Andrew Trowbridge (Finance)
6. Jan Wright

Circuit Meeting Secretary

7. Nick Fairfax

Other trustees

8. Jennifer Winington Safeguarding
9. Revd Barrie Morley
10. Rev Peter Bates
11. Jan Swinney Church & Society
12. Jenny Hardy MWIB Secretary
13. Carolyn Suter World Church
14. Ruby Beech Local preacher
15. Rachel Dalby Local preacher
16. Melanie Ward Local preacher
17. Cathy Bates

18. Sue Watson
19. Dave Watson
20. Ian Mathews
21. Jonathan Pepper
22. Mel Watson
23. Lyn Blundy
24. Carol Strowger
25. Jackie Yeomans
26. Owen Yeomans
27. Ray Atkinson
28. Colin Jackson
29. Ted Gascoyne
30. Kathryn Wood
31. Rosalyn Beasley
32. Janice Walters
33. John Walters
34. David Swift
35. Eddie Adams
36. Jean Dando
37. Liz Boneham
38. Jenny Everett
39. Kate Pike
40. Geoff Ayers

Trustees who retired in the year to 31 August 2023

Rev Nathan Falla (31.08.23)

Gill Peterson

Lucy Silver

Marcus Silver

Ian Walker

Janet Walker

Independent Examiner

The independent examiner for year ended 31st August 2023 is Mr Robert Evans

Banking arrangements

The Circuit bankers were changed during the year from HSBC to CAF (Charities Aid Foundation). The main reason for doing this was to be able to use internet banking which has proved very successful.

The Circuit also has deposits with Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

Aims and objectives

The charity's objectives are to act as a resource provider within the area around Newark and Southwell and Eastern Nottinghamshire generally for the Methodist church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and have 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 the connexion, district, circuit, local church or
- c) other organization of the Methodist Church
- d) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or
- e) ancillary to the Methodist Church
- f) Any purpose for the time being of the charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to
- g) the Methodist church

This is achieved through the following:

- i. The resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike
- ii. The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses, small groups and other events
- iii. The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved
- iv. Taking acts of collective worship in local schools
- v. Promotion of Christianity through staging of events and services

Public benefit

We confirm the trustees have regard to the charity commissioners guidance on public benefit.

Structure governance and management

The governing documents for the circuit are the Deed of Union (1932) and the 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, the Circuit Meeting and the Local Preachers Meeting.

Trustee training

A range of guidance is produced by the Methodist connexion to support the effective running of the circuit specifically the leaflet the role of the trustee in the Methodist Church which is available to all new circuit meeting members as part of their induction as trustees.

Related parties

The circuit is part of the Nottingham and Derby District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference

The circuit consists of the following churches:

Balderton, Charles Street, Collingham, Hope Community, Long Bennington, North End, North Muskham, Southwell and Sutton-on-Trent

Risk management

Major risks are identified by the circuit leadership team who take professional advice where necessary.

Income and expenditure are reviewed regularly at circuit leadership meetings and circuit meetings where annual budgets are agreed and a review of activities undertaken.

Reserves policy

In unrestricted funds and the Model Trust Fund the circuit holds between 6 and 12 months of average expenditure. The Circuit trustees intend to continue to provide financial support to churches for mission projects and also, where necessary, to provide support for churches which have difficulty in meeting their assessments. The Circuit trustees believe there are sufficient funds to secure the mid to long term ability to meet the liabilities of the Circuit. The Circuit trustees further believe that, given the current general economic outlook and the additional challenges that may give to churches to meet their assessments, the funds that the Circuit holds in reserves is not excessive.

The Circuit is committed to the employment of 3 Local Lay Pastors from 1 January 2024. That cost will be met from grants and proceeds from the sale of Elston chapel and the manse at Balderton.

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:

- a) The care and nurture and respectful ministry with all children and young people and adults.
- b) The safeguarding and protection of all children and young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
- c) Establishing of safe caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- d) We 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.
- e) We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed by co-operating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- f) We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- g) We will seek to challenge any abuse of power especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- h) We will seek to offer pastoral care and support including supervision and refer to the proper authorities any member of our church community known to have offended against a child or young person or vulnerable adult.

In all these principles will follow legislation guidance and recognised good practice.

The Newark and Southwell 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 Newark and Southwell Circuit commits itself to a vision of support advice and training for lay and ordained people that ensures people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Future developments

As part of the strategy for the future of the Circuit a decision was taken by Circuit Meeting on 21 February 2023 to recruit lay pastors to work alongside the ministerial staff. As a result, three lay pastors will be working in the Circuit from 1 January 2023 in specific locations where it was felt they

are most needed. The appointments are for a three-year term and will be funded partly by the sale of Elston chapel and the manse at Balderton. A grant from the District Advance Fund to meet part of the cost has been approved and it is intended to make applications to other bodies.

This report was approved by the Circuit Meeting of Newark and Southwell Methodist Circuit on 30 November 2023 and is signed on behalf of the trustees by:



Rev Dave Bonny
Chair of the meeting

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share	2	156,916			156,916	172,322
a3	Capital receipts						
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		3,941	633		4,574	981
a5	Grants						
a6	Other receipts	3	1,382			1,382	
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		162,239	633		162,872 (a8)	173,303

SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	4	121,111			121,111	113,504
b3	Manse Costs	5	26,571			26,571	18,725
b4	Administration etc	6	5,739		44	5,783	7,830
b5	District Assessment		50,552			50,552	47,504
b6	Grants & donations	7	51,800			51,800	13,150
b7	Other worship costs	8	3,304			3,304	3,307
b8	Other payments	9	7,616	527		8,143	4,613
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		266,693	527	44	267,264 (b9)	208,633

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(104,454)	106	(44)	(104,392)	(35,330)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		196,032	20,470	798	217,300 (c6)	252,630
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	91,578	20,576	754	112,908	217,300
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	91,578	20,576	754	112,908 (c8)	217,300 (c6)

SECTION D					
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS - NOTE 10) (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)				
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				1,990
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			3,341	3,306
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			3,341	5,296
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 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						
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)	162,872 (a8)	267,264 (b9)	(104,392)	217,300 (c6)	112,908 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	162,872	267,264	(104,392)	217,300 (x)	112,908 (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 2023

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1		
f2	32,552	12,072
f3		
f4	4,317	156
f5	180,431	100,680
f6		
f7	217,300 (c6)	112,908 (c8)
f8	(e11)	(e12)
f9	217,300 (x)	112,908 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1		
g2	843,875	1,007,591
g3		
g4	10,000	10,000
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)

NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL METHODIST CIRCUIT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 Basis of accounting

The method of accounting used is receipts and payments. Receipts and payments are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the charity during the financial year, the one exception being that assessment payments by churches in August 2023 totalling £15,744, which relate to the 2023/24 year, have been carried forward to that year. Cash includes cash equivalents, for example bank current accounts, deposits with CFB and deposits with TMCP.

	2023 £	2022 £
2 Assessments received		
Balderton	22,613	22,613
Charles Street	35,092	35,092
Collingham	20,616	20,616
Elston	774	3,096
Hope Community	17,311	28,395
Long Bennington	5,681	5,681
North End	8,225	8,225
North Muskham	7,640	8,640
Southwell	32,796	33,796
Sutton-on-Trent	6,168	6,168
	<u>156,916</u>	<u>172,322</u>
3 Other receipts		
Elston Chapel surplus funds	1,133	0
Prayer handbooks	249	0
	<u>1,382</u>	<u>0</u>
4 Stipends, NIC, Pension and other expenses		
Presbyters' stipends	84,005	80,567
Employer's NIC	8,051	7,642
Employer's pension contributions	21,731	20,840
Training	465	0
Presbyters' travel costs	4,970	2,506
Telephone and broadband	1,477	1,521
Apprentice levy	412	428
	<u>121,111</u>	<u>113,504</u>

NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL METHODIST CIRCUIT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

	2023 £	2022 £
5 Manse Costs		
Council tax	6,800	7,237
Water	1,314	1,362
Insurance	1,974	1,692
Security	18	180
Repairs and maintenance	16,465	8,254
	<u>26,571</u>	<u>18,725</u>
6 Administration		
Unrestricted Funds		
Salary	2,973	2,650
Rent of circuit office	220	880
Office telephone and broadband	484	515
Printing, postage and stationery	923	2,719
Website maintenance	568	586
Equipment	91	0
Payroll bureau charges	480	480
	<u>5,739</u>	<u>7,830</u>
Restricted Fund - LWPT sec exps	<u>44</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>5,783</u>	<u>7,830</u>
7 Grants and donations		
Model Trust Fund		
Pension Reserve Fund	0	5,000
Other general Funds		
Charles St - Warm Space	500	0
Sutton on Trent - AV equipment	1,000	0
Southwell - lighting and heating imp	1,000	0
Balderton - building project	40,000	0
Balderton - family worker	3,300	3,300
Southwell - family worker	5,000	3,300
Benevolent Fund payments	1,000	0
Balderton - sound & display system	0	1,000
Balderton - play equipment	0	550
	<u>51,800</u>	<u>13,150</u>
8 Other worship costs		
Supernumeraries preaching fees		
and travel costs	2,711	3,032
Sundry worship and resources costs	593	275
	<u>3,304</u>	<u>3,307</u>

NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL METHODIST CIRCUIT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

	2023 £	2022 £
9 Other payments		
Unrestricted Funds		
Quinquennial inspection fees	2,310	1,500
Bank charges	140	95
TMCP administration charge	460	685
Miscellaneous	694	320
Elston Chapel costs	3,726	0
Paid for Collingham - refunded 2023/24	286	0
	<u>7,616</u>	<u>2,600</u>
Model Trust Fund		
TMCP levy	473	1,807
TMCP administration charge	54	206
	<u>527</u>	<u>2,013</u>
	<u>8,143</u>	<u>4,613</u>
 10 Money received for external organisations		
Circuit charity - Afghan Welcome	100	677
Meth. Church World Mission Fund	1,956	1,499
Methodist Women in Britain	230	190
LWPT	45	0
Support of Presbyters and Deacons	295	225
Methodist Training Fund	160	50
Methodist Ministers Housing Society	145	235
Methodist Property Fund	410	430
	<u>3,341</u>	<u>3,306</u>
 11 Loan		
On 1 July 2023 the Circuit made an interest free loan to Balderton Methodist Church of £10,000 which was repaid on 29 August 2023.		

NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL METHODIST CIRCUIT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

11 FUND MOVEMENTS

	Opening balance	Transfers	Excess receipts / - payments	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General Fund	99,881	0	-95,572	4,309
Designated Funds				
Circuit mission	22,892	0	-2,500	20,392
Youth and family work	73,259	0	-6,382	66,877
	196,032	0	-104,454	91,578
Unrestricted Model Trust Fund	20,470		106	20,576
Restricted Fund - LWPT	798	0	-44	754
Total Funds	217,300	0	-104,392	112,908

12 ANALYSIS OF FUNDS BETWEEN BANK ACCOUNTS


	Unrestricted Funds			Restricted Funds	Total
	General £	Designated £	Model Trust £	£	£
Charities Aid Foundation	4,153	7,165		754	12,072
Central Finance Board	156				156
TMCP 9197 - Model Trust			20,576		20,576
TMCP 21818 - Farndon		13,227			13,227
TMCP 22098 - Holland (bequests)		66,877			66,877
	4,309	87,269	20,576	754	112,908

NEWARK AND SOUTHWELL METHODIST CIRCUIT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

	2022	2022
	£	£
13 Commitments		
The following grants, support payments and loans had been approved at Circuit Meeting but had not been expended at the balance sheet date.		
Balderton family worker	3,400	6,600
Southwell family worker	5,000	10,000
Assessment support 2023/24	9,595	0
Assessment support 2022/23	0	35,608
Balderton redevelopment project	0	40,000
Barnbygate loan to be repaid from property sale	-10,000	-10,000
	<u>7,995</u>	<u>82,208</u>

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 30.11.23

Name and address of treasurer - Mr Andrew Trowbridge.....

58 Bullpit Road, Balderton, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG24 3LY

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 30 November 2023

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting - Rev Dave Bonny - Date 30 November 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Newark and Southwell Circuit

Charity Number 1134276

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Newark and Southwell Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 6 to 12. 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.

Independent Examiner's Statement

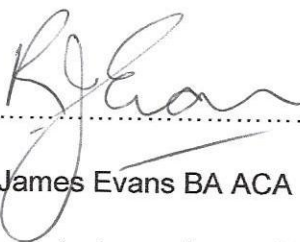
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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



Name of independent examiner - Robert James Evans BA ACA

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner - Chartered Accountant

Name of firm (where appropriate) - N/A

Address 4 Home Farm, Corkhill Lane, Normanton

Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0PR

Date 1/12/23