

HACKNEY METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales · Charity number 1134389

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-02-18

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Dalston Methodist Church
11-13 Richmond Road
London
E8 3HY

Phone 07736 972202

Email handsnmethodist@gmail.com

Website www.hackneymethodist.org

Activities

Objects: 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 THE 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.

Activities: Christian faith-based activities in accordance with the Methodist doctrine.Regular worship takes place in 6 church buildings, as well as on Zoom.The Listening Place offers a safe, warm space at the Stoke Newington Churches.A Lunch Club operates from Clapton Park primarily for elderly people from the Caribbean.The charity supports a Youth Club and Foodbank at Clapton Park.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Hackney

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£320,556	£320,554	-	-
2024-08-31	£306,663	£345,409	-	-
2023-08-31	£302,704	£272,992	-	-
2022-08-31	£3,995,921	£252,433	£4,869,309	4
2021-08-31	£226,788	£233,364	-	-
2020-08-31	£266,210	£269,815	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Aminata Gborie		2022-09-01
Anita Anobaah Sackey		2024-09-01
Cecilia Eze		2023-03-14
Charlotte MORGAN		2013-09-01
Clord Dyer		2012-09-01
EUNICE Cordelia WHYTE		2016-09-01
Ebun Esther Abebi ADEKUNLE		2012-09-01
Edris Lucinda Russell		2023-12-12
Eric Olayinka Ayoola		2022-09-20
Ernell Diana WATSON		2012-09-01
George Minter		2024-06-25
Gloria Amarteifio		2020-03-04
Joe Offei		2024-09-01
Koby Hagan		2024-09-01
Kwaku Oppong Anyemedu		2013-09-01
LAURA DYER		2012-09-01
Lucinda Ansah		2013-09-01
MACKENZIE Carty Macdonald GREER		
Margaret Greer		2024-09-10
Oluyinka Oludare		2024-09-01
Rev JOHN PAMHARE SAKUTOMBO		
Rev Yangsun Yi		2024-09-01
Rita Kusiwaah Dapaah		2022-09-01
SUSAN Jane MILLMAN		2020-03-04
Tamba Gborie		2022-09-01
VALENTINE BAXTER		2012-07-25

Accounts

2025

The Methodist Church - Hackney and Stoke
Newington Circuit
(London District – Circuit No 35/10)
Charity Registration Number 1134389
Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	Page
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS	3
TRUSTEES’ REPORT	4–8
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES’ RESPONSIBILITIES	9
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT	10-12
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	13-14
BALANCE SHEET	15
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	16-25

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Reference and Administrative Details

Names and addresses

The address of the registered office for the Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit for the purposes of the Methodist Church Act 1976 and any other legislation is:

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11-13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY
Tel: 07736 972202
Web: www.hackneymethodist.org

Custodian Trustees:
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
The Hive
47 Level Street
Manchester M1 1FN

Senior Management Team:
Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva (October 2020-August 2025)
Rev Yangsun Yi (September 2024 – present)
Revd Dr Jonathan Dean (September 2025 – present)
Rev Rupert Weekes (October 2025 – present)

Investment Managers:
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
25 Tavistock Place
London WC1H 9SF

Trustees for the Methodist Connexional Funds (registered)
Oldham Street
Manchester M1 1JQ

Bankers:
CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
ME19 4JQ

HSBC PLC (for Lunch Club)
1-3 Bishopsgate
London
EC2N 3AQ

Independent Auditor:
Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
Suite D, The Business Centre
Faringdon Avenue
Romford, Essex RM3 8EN

Solicitors:
Anthony Collins Solicitors
134 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2ES

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2025

The Trustees present their report and the examined accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2019) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and accounts of the Circuit.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Circuit's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective from 1 January 2019).

Governance

The governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference, which meets annually. The authority under which the Conference acts is given by the Methodist Church Act 1976.

We are governed by the Methodist Churches Constitutional Practice and Discipline and all Charity Law of the United Kingdom.

The Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church. 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 the 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 or 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. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives as set out above.

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is part of the London District of the Methodist Church, and is a registered charity, number 1134389.

Full Name of Charity: Hackney Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1134389

Date of Registration: 18 February 2010

Main Communication Address: The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11-13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

Trustees

The full list of Trustees who served during the year and up to date of signature of the accounts were as follows:

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva (resigned 31/08/25)	Aminata Gborie
Rev Dr Jongikaya Zihle (resigned 31/08/25)	Margaret Greer (from 10/09/24; resigned 09/06/26)
Rev John Pamhare Sakutombo	Tamba Gborie
Rev Yangsun Yi (from 01/09/24)	Mathilda Small-Byam (resigned 05/06/25)
Mackenzie Carty Macdonald Greer	George Minter
Edris Lucinda Russell	Eunice Cordelia Whyte
Cecilia Eze	Catherine Hogan (resigned 11/02/25)
Ebun Esther Abebi Adekunle	Clord Dyer
Alexander Amarteifio (resigned 10/12/24)	Laura Dyer
Gloria Amarteifio	Mary Elvira Campbell (resigned 28/04/26)
Lucinda Ansah	Rita Kusiwaah Dapaah
Kwaku Oppong Anyemedu	Susan Jane Millman
Eric Olayinka Ayoola	Charlotte Morgan
Mandy Noreen Baafi (resigned 10/06/25)	Ernell Diana Watson
Valentine Baxter	Oluyinka Oludare (from 01/09/24)
Rita Donyina-Ameyaw (resigned 10/09/24)	Anita Sackey (from 01/09/24)
Koby Hagan (from 01/09/24)	Rev Dr Jonathan Dean (from 01/09/25)
Joe Offei (from 01/09/24)	Rev Rupert Weekes (from 14/10/25)
Suezanne Awotwi (from 04/12/25)	

Method to recruit new Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit. The constitution for the Circuit Meeting was agreed at the Circuit Meeting on 15th March 2022. Most of the members of Circuit Meeting are trustees due to the role they play within the church or circuit (for which they are nominated or volunteer). Further, each Church Council nominates church representatives to the Circuit Meeting at their Annual Church Meeting.

Objective and purpose

The calling of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. This is expressed through Worship, Learning and Caring, Evangelism, and Service. The Circuit is committed to use its resources in a clearly focussed and intentional way to ensure an effective response to the needs of our congregations and the wider community.

Activities

Christian faith-based activities in accordance with the Methodist doctrine. Regular worship takes place in 6 church buildings, as well as on Zoom (until May 2025). A Circuit Contemporary Song Service has been led on the second Sunday evening of the month at Stoke Newington High Street which is attended by a good number from the circuit churches and friends and family of church members. The Listening Place offers a safe, warm space at Stoke Newington Churches. A Lunch Club operates from Clapton Park, primarily for elderly people with Afro-Caribbean heritage. The charity supports a Youth Club and Food bank at Clapton Park.

Organisational Structure

The Circuit includes responsibility for the Methodist Churches at Dalston, Clapton (Clapton Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Downs Road and Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park), Mare Street and Stoke Newington (Stoke Newington Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Green Lanes and Stoke Newington High Street). The Circuit has responsibility for the finance and property of Clapton Park Methodist Church.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

Internal Organisations

The Circuit includes 1 internal organisation: the Chatsworth Road Lunch Club project. This has its own management committee chaired by Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva, under the umbrella of the Circuit Meeting. The Chatsworth Road Lunch Club has its own HSBC account. In addition, the property and finance of Clapton Park Methodist Church has been the responsibility of the Circuit since 1st September 2021.

Staff

The Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Managing Trustees is Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva. He has pastoral charge of 2 Churches in the Circuit (on 4 sites). Rev Yangsun Yi came to the Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit as a Minister in September 2024 and has pastoral charge of 2 Churches in the Circuit.

Helen Cornick is employed as a part-time (30 hours per week) Circuit Administrator and PA to the Superintendent. Abena Adofo is a full-time Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker. The Listening Place in Stoke Newington has a number of regular and visiting guests and is served by regular volunteers. Velma Bramble is the part-time Co-ordinator of the Chats Lunch Club. The Circuit uses Methodist Stipends for payroll, and has had some accounting support from Clay, Ratnage, Strevens and Hills.

Achievements and Performance

A regular pattern of worship is happening in churches and there has also been a weekly service broadcast on Zoom until May 2025. There has been a monthly evening Contemporary Song Service at Stoke Newington High Street. There have been groups meeting for prayer, Bible Study, social activities and mission outreach during the year. The Circuit have also been involved with activities taking place through Churches Together in Hackney, Citizens UK, and Community Champions.

The Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker has been helping with the coordination of The Listening Place which has included a table-top sale and also a Coffee and Cake morning for Macmillan Cancer Care. Support has also been given to the Chats Lunch Club, and with the Youth Group at Hackney Mare Street and the monthly Contemporary Song Service. The role of the Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker became redundant in August 2025.

7 of the young people from Hackney Mare Street and 3 leaders took part in '3 Generate' in October 2024. This was a weekend for children and young people of the Methodist Church, held at the NEC in Birmingham. The weekend was part-funded from the Church, the Circuit and the London Methodist District.

There are 4 active and 3 inactive Local Preachers in the Circuit, and 2 members have a 'note to preach'. In addition there is a Minister in other appointment who takes some services and there are visiting preachers from other circuits and denominations. Circuit Stewards are Sue Millman, Kwaku Anyemedu, Eric Ayoola, Eunice Whyte and Margaret Greer.

The circuit have continued to explore how it might work more closely across the churches into the future – particularly since Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva will be moving to another circuit, and the Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit did not receive a minister through the Methodist stationing process.

Property

All of the churches rent out rooms using the standard Methodist License. The Richmond Road manse was let out to a minister from another circuit, although experienced a major water leak in January, making it necessary to repair/renovate the property. Chatsworth Road also has tenants in a flat.

Investments

The investment of surplus funds is operated via the Central Finance Board (CFB) of the Methodist Church. CFB aims to provide high quality investment service seeking above average returns for long term investors, whilst ensuring that the securities held by all its funds are in line with the ethical policy of the Methodist Church. The Circuit has its funds in a deposit account with CFB. The Restricted Fund which is mainly funds from sales of properties is managed by Trustees for Methodist Purposes (TMCP). These funds are also invested with CFB.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

Public Benefit Requirement

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission in compliance with its duties under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

This guidance sets out two key principles:

1. The organisation must have an identifiable benefit.
2. The benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Church exists to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

The Trustees consider that for these reasons the charity meets these public benefit requirements.

Financial Review

Circuit ministry is funded through the assessment contributions from churches. This was supplemented by rent received from the Circuit property in Richmond Road (a manse), and rental money from Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park. and a grant of £20,000 (2024: £25,000) towards the cost of the Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker received in September 2024. A grant was also received towards the costs of having a Warm Space at Clapton Park.

The various properties are funded from their income on a day-to-day basis.

The value of the Circuit funds (including land and buildings) as at 31 August 2025 was £4,860,614 which is an increase of £10 from previous year.

Trustees' Interests

Active Ministers who are Trustees of the Circuit are paid a stipend and are given a manse for the Minister and their family to live in. The Council Tax is paid for by the Circuit and also an official telephone line with broadband facilities to enable them to carry out their service as a Minister. These arrangements are practiced throughout the Methodist Connexion.

Payments were made to Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva (£1000) in respect of a leaving gift, to Rev John Sakutombo (£450) as preaching fees (practiced throughout the Connexion) and to Rev Yangsun Yi (£600) in respect of relocation expenses (practiced throughout the Connexion).

Risk Management

The Circuit will review its risk policies and is preparing a Risk Register highlighting the various risks facing the Circuit, the impact and the likelihood of them happening. The main headings under which these risks have been categorised are:

- Trustees' Responsibilities
- Membership and Mission
- Resources, People and Property
- Financial
- Legal

These risks are reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

Reserves Policy

The primary purposes of the Circuit are:

- (i) to support the presbyteral ministers in their responsibilities to preach, offer a sacramental ministry and provide pastoral care to the congregations of the four Methodist Churches on six sites, and to the wider community within the borough of Hackney and Stoke Newington.
- (ii) to support the work of the lay employees, Circuit officers and Church members in their various responsibilities in relation to the Circuit's overall mission.

The reserves policy in connection with this purpose is to maintain sufficient funds to ensure the payment of stipends, other allowances, manse costs and contributions to the District assessment for its ministers for six months.

The unrestricted funds, excluding properties, of £194,462 are held for the purpose of the Circuit.

Plans for the Future

A regular pattern of worship is happening in churches. Since the congregations are smaller than in previous years, the circuit has been looking at its membership numbers and making them more realistic. The Circuit has continued a monthly evening Contemporary Song Service: 'Here I am to Worship' at Stoke Newington High Street, hoping that it will continue to grow in numbers and encourage more younger members to worship. From September, the London Methodist District Co-Chair, the Rev'd Dr Jonathan Dean will be the Acting Superintendent of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit after Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva has moved to another circuit, and the Circuit will seek a part-time active supernumerary minister to offer some pastoral work and preaching, particularly in the Clapton and Stoke Newington Churches. The Circuit will continue to explore further where God is leading, particularly regarding mission and resources.

It is expected that The Listening Place and the Chats Lunch Club will both continue and provide outreach opportunities for members of the local communities. It is hoped that further ecumenical outreach will happen in liaison with the new Churches Together in Hackney group.

Disclosure of Information to Auditors

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit have appointed Clay, Ratnage and Co as the auditors for the third year.

Approved by the Trustees on 30/6/2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev'd Dr Jonathan Dean

Rev Dr Jonathan Dean
(Acting) Superintendent Minister

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities for the year ended 31 August 2025

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts, and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church, the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and other relevant regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of frauds and other irregularities.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington****Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Hackney Methodist Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2025, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our approach was as follows:

- Obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the charity.
- Obtained an understanding of how the charity is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making enquiries to the trustees.
- The susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement caused by fraud or other irregularities were assessed with the following procedures:
 - Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls which trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud.
 - Understanding how those charged with governance considered the potential for override of controls and management biases.
 - Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington (continued)

Potential fraud risks that had been identified throughout the planning and commencement of the audit were communicated to the audit team.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
Suite D, The Business Centre
Faringdon Avenue
Romford
Essex RM3 8EN

Date: 30/6/2026

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Income and Endowments from:					
Circuit assessment	3	163,500	-	163,500	163,500
Legacies		-	-	-	-
Grants and donations received	4	566	23,385	23,951	26,296
Investment income and interest	5	7,835	-	7,835	10,771
Rental income		66,423	-	66,423	49,298
Capital Receipt		-	-	-	-
Other income	6	28,048	10,000	38,048	42,394
Internal organisations	10	-	20,799	20,799	14,404
Total income		266,372	54,184	320,556	306,663
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Stipends and staff costs:					
Ministry	7	138,561	30,000	168,561	111,429
Internal organisations	10	-	-	-	-
District assessment		41,656	-	41,656	44,568
Telephone, travel and administration	8	6,669	-	6,669	4,711
Maintenance on manses	9	39,461	-	39,461	128,944
District advance fund		1,224	-	1,224	1,202
Other expenditure	11	39,347	1,385	40,732	40,733
Internal organisations	10	-	20,251	20,251	13,322
Grants and donations	12	-	2,000	2,000	500
Total expenditure		266,918	53,636	320,554	345,409
Unrealised gain on revaluation of investments		8	-	8	329
Net movement in funds before transfers		(538)	548	10	(38,417)
Transfers between funds		(4,646)	4,646	-	-
Funds balances at 1 September 2024		4,856,021	4,583	4,860,604	4,899,021
Funds balances at 31 August 2025		4,850,837	9,777	4,860,614	4,860,604

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024
Comparative Year Information

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Year Total £
Income and Endowments from:				
Circuit assessment	3	163,500	-	163,500
Legacies		-	-	-
Grants and donations received	4	1,296	25,000	26,296
Investment income and interest	5	10,771	-	10,771
Rental income		49,298	-	49,298
Capital Receipt		-	-	-
Other income	6	32,342	10,052	42,394
Internal organisations	10	-	14,404	14,404
Total income		257,207	49,456	306,663
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities:				
Stipends and staff costs:				
Ministry	7	76,429	35,000	111,429
Internal organisations	10	-	-	-
District assessment		44,568	-	44,568
Telephone, travel and administration	8	4,711	-	4,711
Maintenance on manses	9	128,944	-	128,944
District advance fund		1,202	-	1,202
Other expenditure	11	39,680	1,053	40,733
Internal organisations	10	-	13,322	13,322
Grants and donations	12	-	500	500
Total expenditure		295,534	49,875	345,409
Unrealised gain on revaluation of investments		329	-	329
Net movement in funds		(37,998)	(419)	(38,417)
Funds balances at 1 September 2023		4,894,019	5,002	4,899,021
Funds balances at 31 August 2024		4,856,021	4,583	4,860,604

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Balance Sheet as at 31.08.25

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	14	4,656,375	-	4,656,375	4,656,375
Investments	14a	4,586	-	4,586	4,578
		4,660,961	-	4,660,961	4,660,953
Current Assets					
Debtors	16	37,022	10,000	47,022	13,192
T.M.C.P. Interest funds		48,954	550	49,504	48,541
Central Finance Board Deposits		106,377	4,096	110,473	120,862
Cash at bank and in hand		13,387	(7,412)	5,975	42,901
Fund held by internal Organisations		-	5,619	5,619	3,460
		205,740	12,853	218,593	228,956
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(15,864)	(3,076)	(18,940)	(29,305)
Net Current Assets		189,876	9,777	199,653	199,651
Net Assets		4,850,837	9,777	4,860,614	4,860,604
Accumulated funds					
Unrestricted funds		4,850,837		4,850,837	4,856,021
Restricted funds		-	9,777	9,777	4,583
Total Funds	19	4,850,837	9,777	4,860,614	4,860,604

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on

30/6/2026

and signed on their behalf by:

Revd Dr Jonathan Dean

.....

Revd Dr Jonathan Dean

Acting Superintendent Minister

Rev Yangsun Yi

.....

Rev Yangsun Yi

Trustee

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies

a) Circuit information

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is an unincorporated Charity in England and Wales. The main address is given on page 4 of these accounts.

b) Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019)'. The Circuit is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Circuit has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The accounts have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Circuit.

The accounts of the Circuit have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies are set out below.

c) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Circuit has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

d) Funds

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are held for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors and grantors. The aim and use of the major restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

e) Income recognition

Church assessment

The Church assessment is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Benevolence

Benevolence funds have been historically contributed by the four Churches from their general funds and are accounted for on a receipts basis in accordance with Standing Order 527 of the Constitution of the Methodist Church.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Grants and donations received

Grants from third parties are included when the relevant conditions for the grant have been met.

Voluntary income comprises donations and contributions and is accounted for when entitlement has been confirmed, the amount can be measured and receipt is probable.

Rental income

Rental income from investment properties is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Other income

Other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Lunch Club

Lunch Club is the project of the Circuit. The income is either derived from voluntary grants or by way of charitable activities.

Investment income and interest

Interest on deposits and investments is accounted on a receivable basis.

f) Expenditure recognition

Expenses

All expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. Any ensuing liabilities are recognised as soon as a legal or constructive obligation arises.

District assessment

The District assessment is accounted for on an accruals basis.

g) Tangible fixed assets

Properties are stated at cost or in the case of donated assets at the valuation at the date that the assets are gifted to the Circuit. The Trustees consider that the lives of the properties are so long and their residual values so high based on prices prevailing at the time of acquisition that the annual depreciation charge and accumulated depreciation is not material. Accordingly, no depreciation is provided on freehold properties used for charitable activities. Any material impairment in the value of such properties, following an annual review, would be chargeable to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Assets having an initial cost of £1,000 or less are written off on acquisition. Fixtures and fittings, office and computer equipment having an initial cost greater than £1,000 are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life are as follows:

- Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 10% - 20% on a straight line basis
- Office equipment: 20% on a straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year.

h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Financial instruments

The Circuit has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Circuit's balance sheet when the Circuit becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include other debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including other payables are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

j) Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Circuit is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

k) Retirement benefits

Stipendiary Circuit Ministers are eligible to join the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). The MMPS is a funded defined benefit scheme maintained by The Methodist Church of Great Britain. As the Circuit is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme, the Circuit has taken the advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 102, Retirement Benefits, and has accounted its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs for the scheme represent the contribution payable by the Circuit in the year. The contribution rates are set each year by the Methodist Conference.

Access to a stakeholder pension scheme is provided to all eligible lay employees and the Circuit contributes an amount equal to 6% of the employee's gross salary into this scheme.

Three employees are contributing to the scheme.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Circuit's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

3 . Circuit assessment

	2025	2024
	£	£
Clapton /Clapton Park Methodist Church	24,000	24,000
Dalston Methodist Church	21,500	21,500
Mare Street Methodist Church	24,000	24,000
Stoke Newington (Green Lanes and High Street) Methodist Church	94,000	94,000
	<u>163,500</u>	<u>163,500</u>

4 . Grants and donation received

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
London District Methodist Church	-	23,385	23,385	25,000
Others	566	-	566	1,296
	<u>566</u>	<u>23,385</u>	<u>23,951</u>	<u>26,296</u>

5 . Investment income and interest

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Interest from Bank	5,422	-	5,422	8,148
Interest & dividend from Trust	2,413	-	2,413	2,623
	<u>7,835</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,835</u>	<u>10,771</u>

6 . Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Management fees	-	-	-	6,293
Methodist Women in Britain	-	-	-	52
Letting (hire)	25,025	-	25,025	23,527
Other income	3,455	10,000	13,455	12,522
	<u>28,480</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>38,480</u>	<u>42,394</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

7 . Stipends and staff costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
<u>Ministry and staff</u>				
Stipends	65,556	-	65,556	28,562
Salaries	42,861	30,000	72,861	65,898
Employer's National Insurance	14,034	-	14,034	5,064
Pension costs	16,110	-	16,110	11,905
	<u>138,561</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>168,561</u>	<u>111,429</u>

The average monthly number of staff employed during the year was 3 (2024: 3).
There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more.

7a. Trustees' emoluments

One or more Trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from their employment with the Circuit. Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking their employment roles under their contracts of employment and not in respect of their services as Trustees. No Trustee received expenses in their role as Trustee.

		2025 £	2024 £
Revd Paulo Bessa Da Silva	- Stipend and allowance	34,329	32,138
	- Pension contribution	6,204	7,812
Revd Yangsun Yi	- Stipend and allowance	31,227	-
	- Pension contribution	6,204	-
		<u>77,964</u>	<u>39,950</u>

7b. Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel of the Circuit comprise of the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 3. The total amount of the employee benefits (including employer pension contributions received by the key management personnel for their services to the Circuit was £77,964 (2024: £39,950).

7c. Pension costs

The total pension cost for the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £16,110 (2024: £11,905). There were no outstanding or prepaid pension contribution at 31 August 2025.

8 . Telephone, travel and administration

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Travel	917	-	917	623
Printing	229	-	229	-
Stationery and postage	491	-	491	581
Telephone, internet and website	4,797	-	4,797	3,315
Bank charges	62	-	62	45
Investment management fees	173	-	173	147
	<u>6,669</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,669</u>	<u>4,711</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

9. Maintenance on manses

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Building repairs and maintenance	29,476	-	29,476	120,568
Fire and security systems	559	-	559	945
Manse Council tax	5,835	-	5,835	3,822
Insurance	3,591	-	3,591	3,609
	<u>39,461</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,461</u>	<u>128,944</u>

10. Internal organisations

The Hackney and Stoke Newington has a lunch club project and the income and expenditure was as follows:

	Total Restricted Funds £
Income and Endowments from:	
Grants received *	8,494
Donation Received	-
Activities for generating funds	6,130
Charitable activities	4,807
Other Income (membership)	1,368
Total Income	<u>20,799</u>
Expenditure	
Charitable activities	20,251
Staff costs	-
Support costs	-
Total expenditure	<u>20,251</u>
Net movement in funds	548
Funds balances at 1 September 2024	3,460
Funds balances at 31 August 2025	<u><u>4,008</u></u>

Notable grants were received during the year from the following organisations:

* London Borough of Hackney Fund (£8,494) provided funding for the lunch club project.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

11. Other expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Tower Hamlets Methodist Circuit fees	-	-	-	5,616
Cleaning and waste removal	6,235	-	6,235	5,048
Training, conference and workshops	243	-	243	191
Ministry costs	4,677	-	4,677	6,485
Professional fees	9,215	-	9,215	7,617
Subscription	1,158	-	1,158	1,113
Church Insurance and Utilities	10,167	1,000	11,167	12,133
Minister relocation cost	4,341	-	4,341	-
Office equipment	-	-	-	1,329
Other expenses	3,311	385	3,696	1,201
	39,347	1,385	40,732	40,733

12. Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Others	-	2,000	2,000	500
	-	2,000	2,000	500

13. Auditors' remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the Circuit's auditors for accounts preparation and audit	7,800	7,410

14. Tangible assets

	Freehold Land & Buildings
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2024	4,656,375
At 31 August 2025	4,656,375

The carrying value of freehold land and building comprises of:

	2025 £	2024 £
Manse	963,477	963,477
Church building	3,692,898	3,692,898
	4,656,375	4,656,375

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

14a. Investments

	2025 £
Valuation at 1 September 2024	4,578
Disposals	-
Unrealised gain/(loss)	8
Valuation at 31 August 2025	4,586
Investments held by Central Finance Board	
At 31 August 2025	4,586

	2025 £	2024 £
15 . Financial Instruments		
Carrying amount of financial assets	41,046	10,278
Debit instruments measured at amortised cost		
Carrying amount of financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	12,940	8,785

16 . Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Other debtors	47,022	13,192

17 . Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred assesment income	6,000	20,520
Other creditors-Lunch club petty cash to be reimbursed	1,076	-
Grant payable - Warm Space	2,000	-
Accruals	9,864	8,785
	18,940	29,305

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

18 . Restricted funds

	Balance as at 01.09.24 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers between funds £	Balance as at 31.08.25 £
Funds					
i. Warm space	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
ii. Methodist Women in Britain	1,123	-	-	-	1,123
iii. Internal Organisations	3,460	20,799	(20,251)	-	4,008
iv. Clapton Park Church-Legacy	-	-	-	4,000	4,000
v. Clapton Park Church-Music fees	-	-	-	96	96
vi. TMCP-14262 re various bequests	-	-	-	550	550
vii. Pastoral Worker grant	-	30,000	(30,000)	-	-
viii. 3 Generate Youth Weekend	-	385	(385)	-	-
	4,583	54,184	(53,636)	4,646	9,777

i. **Warm Space** – the fund for supporting communities through rising costs in winter, by bringing people together into warm space.

ii. **Methodist Women in Britain fund** - This fund is a self-financing and volunteer run within the Methodist Church in Britain.

iii. **Internal Organisations fund** - This fund is for the lunch club project operated within the Circuit.

iv. **Clapton Park Church-Legacy** – This fund relates to monies received by way of a legacy for the benefit of Clapton Park Church.

v. **Clapton Park Church-Music Fees** – This fund represents monies received for the provision of music lessons.

vi. **TMCP -14262**- This fund represents various bequests received for the benefit of Clapton Park Church.

vii. **Pastoral worker grant** – for appointment of circuit pastoral and community outreach worker.

viii. **3 Generate Youth Weekend** – fund for annual youth assembly

19 . Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £
Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	4,660,961	-	4,660,961
Net current assets	189,876	9,777	199,653
	4,850,837	9,777	4,860,614

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

20. Related party transactions

The Circuit is part of The London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference, the ultimate controlling body. Related parties also include Ministers, other Circuit and Churches, Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (“TMCP”).

Details of the transactions occurring during the year were as follows:

The London District of Methodist Church (TLDMC)

During the year, the Circuit received grants of £23,000 (2024: £25,000) from TLDMC. The Circuit also paid assessment of £41,656 (2024: £44,568) to TLDMC.

Stoke Newington Methodist Church (SNMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £94,000 (2024: £94,000) from SNMC. The Circuit is due to receive £10,000 from SNMC to pay towards the salary of the Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker, at 31 August 2025 this £10,000 is included in other debtors. At 31 August 2025, £26,460 is due from SNMC for outstanding assessment. Also, during the year, a grant of £2,000 was awarded to SNMC from the Warm Space Fund. This amount was owed to SNMC at 31 August 2025 and is included in creditors.

Dalston Methodist Church (DMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £21,500 (2024: £21,500) from DMC.

Hackney Mare Street Methodist Church (HMSMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £24,000 (2024: £24,000) from HMSMC.

Clapton Methodist Church (CMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £24,000 (2024: £24,000) from CMC.

Methodist Church in Tower Hamlets (MCTH)

During the year, the Circuit paid management and administration fees of £Nil (2024: £5,616) to MCTH for services provided by MCTH Circuit’s finance Officer. Rental income of £17,375 (2024: £26,103) received from MCTH for the manse at 15 Richmond Road, and £934 (2024: £875) received from MCTH for reimbursement of council tax and water costs.

Accounts

2024

The Methodist Church - Hackney and Stoke
Newington Circuit
(London District – Circuit No 35/10)
Charity Registration Number 1134389
Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	Page
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS	3
TRUSTEES’ REPORT	4–8
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES’ RESPONSIBILITIES	9
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT	10-12
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	13-14
BALANCE SHEET	15
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	16-25

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Reference and Administrative Details

Names and addresses

The address of the registered office for the Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit for the purposes of the Methodist Church Act 1976 and any other legislation is:

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11-13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY
Tel: 07736 972202
Web: www.hackneymethodist.org

Custodian Trustees:

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester M1 1JQ

Senior Management Team:

Rev Paulo Bessa Da Silva

Investment Managers:

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
25 Tavistock Place
London WC1H 9SF

Trustees for the Methodist Connexional Funds (registered)
Oldham Street
Manchester M1 1JQ

Bankers:

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
ME19 4JQ

HSBC PLC (for Lunch Club)
1-3 Bishopsgate
London
EC2N 3AQ

Independent Auditor:

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
Suite D, The Business Centre
Faringdon Avenue
Romford, Essex RM3 8EN

Solicitors:

Anthony Collins Solicitors
134 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2ES

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees present their report and the examined accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2019) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and accounts of the Circuit.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Circuit's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective from 1 January 2019).

Governance

The governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference, which meets annually. The authority under which the Conference acts is given by the Methodist Church Act 1976.

We are governed by the Methodist Churches Constitutional Practice and Discipline and all Charity Law of the United Kingdom.

The Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church. 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 the 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 or 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. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives as set out above.

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is part of the London District of the Methodist Church, and is a registered charity, number 1134389.

Full Name of Charity: Hackney Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1134389

Date of Registration: 18 February 2010

Main Communication Address: The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11-13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Trustees

The full list of Trustees who served during the year and up to date of signature of the accounts were as follows:

Trustees who joined during 23/24 are shown with an asterix (*) and those who left during the year with (**). Trustees who have joined during 2024/25 are denoted with three asterisks (***).

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva	Kwabena Okyere Darko**
Rev Dr Jongikaya Zihle	Aminata Gborie
Rev John Pamhare Sakutombo	Margaret Greer***
Rev Yangsun Yi***	Tamba Gborie
Mackenzie Carty Macdonald Greer	Mathilda Small-Byam
Edris Lucinda Russell*	George Minter*
Cecilia Eze	Eunice Cordelia Whyte
Ebun Esther Abebi Adekunle	Catherine Hogan
Afua Adofo**	Rudolph Homer**
Alexander Amarteifio	Clord Dyer
Gloria Amarteifio	Laura Dyer
Amanda Ansah**	Mary Elvira Campbell
Lucinda Ansah	Rachael Icilda Lynch**
Kwaku Oppong Anyemedu	Rita Kusiwaah Dapaah
Eric Olayinka Ayoola	Alexandra Weekes-Aggrey**
Mandy Noreen Baafi	Susan Jane Millman
Janette Baxter**	Charlotte Morgan
Valentine Baxter	Cora Woolcock**
Rita Donyina-Ameyaw	Ernell Diana Watson
Joyce Ampofo Borley**	Oluyinka Oludare***
Koby Hagan***	Anita Sackey***
Joe Offei***	

Method to recruit new Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit. The constitution for the Circuit Meeting was agreed at the Circuit Meeting on 15th March 2022. Most of the members of Circuit Meeting are trustees due to the role they play within the church or circuit (for which they are nominated or volunteer). Further, each Church Council nominates church representatives to the Circuit Meeting at their Annual Church Meeting.

Objective and purpose

The calling of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. This is expressed through Worship, Learning and Caring, Evangelism, and Service. The Circuit is committed to use its resources in a clearly focussed and intentional way to ensure an effective response to the needs of our congregations and the wider community.

Activities

Christian faith-based activities in accordance with the Methodist doctrine. Regular worship takes place in 6 church buildings, as well as on Zoom. The Listening Place offers a safe, warm space at Stoke Newington Churches. A Lunch Club operates from Clapton Park primarily for elderly people from the Caribbean. The charity supports a Youth Club and Food bank at Clapton Park.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Organisational Structure

The Circuit includes responsibility for the Methodist Churches at Dalston, Clapton (Clapton Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Downs Road and Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park), Mare Street and Stoke Newington (Stoke Newington Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Green Lanes and Stoke Newington High Street). The Circuit has responsibility for the finance and property of Clapton Park Methodist Church.

Internal Organisations

The Circuit includes two internal organisations: the Chatsworth Road Lunch Club project and a Methodist Women in Britain group (which has not met since Easter 2023). The Chatsworth Road Lunch Club project has its own management committee, chaired by Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva, under the umbrella of the Circuit Meeting. The Chatsworth Road Lunch Club has its own HSBC account. Methodist Women in Britain have no separate bank nor cash accounts. All income raised and spent in connection with this group is recorded by the Circuit and transacted through the Circuit bank account.

In addition, the property and finance of Clapton Park Methodist Church is the responsibility of the Circuit since 1st September 2021.

Staff

The Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Managing Trustees is Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva. He has pastoral charge of the 4 Churches in the Circuit.

Helen Cornick is employed as a part-time (30 hours per week) Circuit Administrator and PA to the Superintendent. Abena Adofo was appointed as a full-time Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker from September 2023. Velma Bramble is the part-time Co-ordinator of the Chats Lunch Club. The Circuit 'buys in' payroll and finance support from the Methodist Church in Tower Hamlets.

Achievements and Performance

A regular pattern of worship is happening in churches and there is also a weekly service broadcast via Zoom. Congregations are smaller than before the pandemic, reflecting the experience of many churches across the country. There continues to be a Circuit link with Hackney Citizens, particularly through the work of the Minister and the Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker. The Listening Place in Stoke Newington is flourishing and at the end of the year a new Churches Together in Hackney group was started.

The Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker has been helping with the coordination of both The Listening Place and the Chats Lunch Club, and also providing some support at the Youth Group at Hackney Mare Street which invited young people from other churches to attend.

There are 5 active and 3 inactive Local Preachers in the Circuit, and 2 members who have a 'note to preach'. In addition there is a Minister in other appointment who takes some services, and we have some visiting preachers from other circuits and denominations. Circuit Stewards are Sue Millman, Kwaku Anyemedu, Catherine Hogan, Eric Ayoola and Eunice Whyte.

There was a successful Circuit Vision Day in June led by Rev Stephen Poxon where, within the context of Bible Study, around 40 members from the circuit explored how resources might be shared across the churches. These are conversations that will continue into the coming years.

A full programme of Christian education, social activity and mission outreach work continued throughout the year with some activities continuing online. The Listening Place at Stoke Newington High Street and Green Lanes offers drop-in and signposting for vulnerable people.

Property

Dalston Church and Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park rent out many rooms using the standard Methodist License. After much renovation work, the Richmond Road Manse has been let out to a minister from the Methodist Church in Tower Hamlets Circuit. Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park also have tenants in a flat.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Investments

The investment of surplus funds is operated via the Central Finance Board (CFB) of the Methodist Church. CFB aims to provide high quality investment service seeking above average returns for long term investors, whilst ensuring that the securities held by all its funds are in line with the ethical policy of the Methodist Church. The Circuit has its funds in a deposit account with CFB. The Restricted Fund which is mainly funds from sales of properties is managed by Trustees for Methodist Purposes (TMCP). These funds are also invested with CFB.

Public Benefit Requirement

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission in compliance with its duties under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

This guidance sets out two key principles:

1. The organisation must have an identifiable benefit.
2. The benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Church exists to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

The Trustees consider that for these reasons the charity meets these public benefit requirements.

Financial Review

Circuit ministry is funded through the assessment contributions from churches. This was supplemented by rent received from the Circuit property in Richmond Road (a manse), and rental money from Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park. and a grant of £25,000 towards the cost of the Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker received in October 2023.

The various properties are funded from their income on a day-to-day basis.

The value of the Circuit funds (including land and buildings) as at 31 August 2024 was £4,860,604 which is a decrease of £38,417 from previous year.

Trustees' Interests

The Minister who is a Trustee of the Circuit is paid a stipend and is given a manse for the Minister and his family to live. The Council Tax is paid for by the Circuit and also an official telephone line with broadband facilities to enable him to carry out his service as a Minister. These arrangements are practiced throughout the Connexion.

Payments were made to Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva (£220) in respect of funeral fees paid to the circuit, to Rev John Sakutombo (£420 + £50 Accruals) as preaching fees (practiced throughout the Connexion) and to Mrs Eunice Whyte (£30) in respect of stewarding duties.

Risk Management

The Circuit will review its risk policies and is preparing a Risk Register highlighting the various risks facing the Circuit, the impact and the likelihood of them happening. The main headings under which these risks have been categorised are:

- Trustees' Responsibilities
- Membership and Mission
- Resources, People and Property
- Financial
- Legal

These risks are reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Reserves Policy

The primary purposes of the Circuit are:

- (i) to support the presbyteral ministers in their responsibilities to preach, offer a sacramental ministry and provide pastoral care to the congregations of the four Methodist Churches on six sites, and to the wider community within the borough of Hackney and Stoke Newington.
- (ii) to support the work of the lay employees, Circuit officers and Church members in their various responsibilities in relation to the Circuit's overall mission.

The reserves policy in connection with this purpose is to maintain sufficient funds to ensure the payment of stipends, other allowances, manse costs and contributions to the District assessment for its ministers for six months.

The unrestricted funds, excluding Manses, of £199,646 are held for the purpose of the Circuit.

Plans for the Future

A regular pattern of worship is happening in churches and there is also a weekly service broadcast via Zoom. Since the congregations are smaller than in previous years, the circuit is looking at its membership numbers and making them more realistic. The Circuit has started, and will continue a monthly evening Contemporary Song Service: 'Here I am to Worship' at Stoke Newington High Street, hoping that it will grow in numbers and encourage more younger members to worship. There continues to be a Circuit link with Hackney Citizens and during this year a service was held at Mare Street with contributions from Hackney Citizens. The Listening Place in Stoke Newington is flourishing and at the end of the year a new Churches Together in Hackney group was started.

Disclosure of Information to Auditors

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit have appointed Clay, Ratnage and Co as the auditors for the second year.

Approved by the Trustees on 30/6/2025

and signed on their behalf by:

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa da Silva

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva
Superintendent Minister

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities for the year ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts, and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church, the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and other relevant regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of frauds and other irregularities.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington****Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Hackney Methodist Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our approach was as follows:

- Obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the charity.
- Obtained an understanding of how the charity is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making enquiries to the trustees.
- The susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement caused by fraud or other irregularities were assessed with the following procedures:
 - Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls which trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud.
 - Understanding how those charged with governance considered the potential for override of controls and management biases.
 - Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington (continued)

Potential fraud risks that had been identified throughout the planning and commencement of the audit were communicated to the audit team.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Clay Ratnage Strevens + Hills

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
Suite D, The Business Centre
Faringdon Avenue
Romford
Essex RM3 8EN

Date: 30/6/2025

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Income and Endowments from:					
Circuit assessment	3	163,500	-	163,500	161,000
Legacies		-	-	-	-
Grants and donations received	4	1,296	25,000	26,296	14,254
Investment income and interest	5	10,771	-	10,771	6,193
Rental income		49,298	-	49,298	51,515
Capital Receipt		-	-	-	-
Other income	6	32,342	10,052	42,394	53,122
Internal organisations	10	-	14,404	14,404	16,620
Total income		257,207	49,456	306,663	302,704
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Stipends and staff costs:					
Ministry	7	76,429	35,000	111,429	113,883
Internal organisations	10	-	-	-	-
District assessment		44,568	-	44,568	43,268
Telephone, travel and administration	8	4,711	-	4,711	7,838
Maintenance on manses	9	128,944	-	128,944	33,893
District advance fund		1,202	-	1,202	1,173
Other expenditure	11	39,680	1,053	40,733	49,953
Internal organisations	10	-	13,322	13,322	16,955
Grants and donations	12	-	500	500	6,029
Total expenditure		295,534	49,875	345,409	272,992
Unrealised gain on revaluation of investments		329	-	329	-
Net movement in funds		(37,998)	(419)	(38,417)	29,712
Funds balances at 1 September 2023		4,894,019	5,002	4,899,021	4,869,309
Funds balances at 31 August 2024		4,856,021	4,583	4,860,604	4,899,021

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024

Comparative year information

Year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	year Total £
Income and Endowments from:				
Circuit assessment	3	161,000	-	161,000
Legacies		-	-	-
Grants and donations received	4	2,254	12,000	14,254
Investment income and interest	5	6,193	-	6,193
Rental income		51,515	-	51,515
Capital Receipt		-	-	-
Other income	6	52,706	416	53,122
Internal organisations		-	16,620	16,620
Total income		273,668	29,036	302,704
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities:				
Stipends and staff costs:				
Ministry	7	103,883	10,000	113,883
Internal organisations		-	-	-
District assessment		43,268	-	43,268
Telephone, travel & administration	8	7,838	-	7,838
Maintenance on manses	9	33,893	-	33,893
District advance fund		1,173	-	1,173
Other expenditure	11	48,328	1,625	49,953
Internal organisations		-	16,955	16,955
Grants and donations	12	5,129	900	6,029
Total expenditure		243,512	29,480	272,992
Net movement in funds		30,156	(444)	29,712
Funds balances at 1 September 2022		4,863,863	5,446	4,869,309
Funds balances at 31 August 2023		4,894,019	5,002	4,899,021

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Balance Sheet as at 31.08.24

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	14	4,656,375	-	4,656,375	4,656,375
Investments	14a	4,578	-	4,578	-
		<u>4,660,953</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,660,953</u>	<u>4,656,375</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors	16	13,192	-	13,192	30,828
T.M.C.P. Interest funds		48,541	-	48,541	46,901
Central Finance Board Deposits		120,862	-	120,862	154,132
Cash at bank and in hand		41,778	1,123	42,901	24,986
Fund held by internal Organisations		-	3,460	3,460	2,378
		<u>224,373</u>	<u>4,583</u>	<u>228,956</u>	<u>259,225</u>
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(29,305)	-	(29,305)	(16,579)
Net Current Assets		<u>195,068</u>	<u>4,583</u>	<u>199,651</u>	<u>242,646</u>
Net Assets		<u>4,856,021</u>	<u>4,583</u>	<u>4,860,604</u>	<u>4,899,021</u>
Accumulated funds					
Unrestricted funds		4,856,021	-	4,856,021	4,894,019
Restricted funds		-	4,583	4,583	5,002
Total Funds	19	<u>4,856,021</u>	<u>4,583</u>	<u>4,860,604</u>	<u>4,899,021</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 30/6/2025

and signed on their behalf by:

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa da Silva

Susan Millman

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva
Chair of Circuit Meeting

Susan Millman
Circuit Steward

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024

1. Accounting policies

a) Circuit information

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is an unincorporated Charity in England and Wales. The main address is given on page 4 of these accounts.

b) Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019)'. The Circuit is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Circuit has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The accounts have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Circuit.

The accounts of the Circuit have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies are set out below.

c) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Circuit has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

d) Funds

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are held for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors and grantors. The aim and use of the major restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

e) Income recognition

Church assessment

The Church assessment is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Benevolence

Benevolence funds have been historically contributed by the four Churches from their general funds and are accounted for on a receipts basis in accordance with Standing Order 527 of the Constitution of the Methodist Church.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Grants and donations received

Grants from third parties are included when the relevant conditions for the grant have been met.

Voluntary income comprises donations and contributions and is accounted for when entitlement has been confirmed, the amount can be measured and receipt is probable.

Rental income

Rental income from investment properties is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Other income

Other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Lunch Club

Lunch Club is the project of the Circuit. The income is either derived from voluntary grants or by way of charitable activities.

Investment income and interest

Interest on deposits and investments is accounted on a receivable basis.

f) Expenditure recognition

Expenses

All expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. Any ensuing liabilities are recognised as soon as a legal or constructive obligation arises.

District assessment

The District assessment is accounted for on an accruals basis.

g) Tangible fixed assets

Properties are stated at cost or in the case of donated assets at the valuation at the date that the assets are gifted to the Circuit. The Trustees consider that the lives of the properties are so long and their residual values so high based on prices prevailing at the time of acquisition that the annual depreciation charge and accumulated depreciation is not material. Accordingly, no depreciation is provided on freehold properties used for charitable activities. Any material impairment in the value of such properties, following an annual review, would be chargeable to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Assets having an initial cost of £1,000 or less are written off on acquisition. Fixtures and fittings, office and computer equipment having an initial cost greater than £1,000 are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life are as follows:

- Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 10% - 20% on a straight line basis
- Office equipment: 20% on a straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year.

h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Financial instruments

The Circuit has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Circuit's balance sheet when the Circuit becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include other debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including other payables are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

j) Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Circuit is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

k) Retirement benefits

Stipendiary Circuit Ministers are eligible to join the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). The MMPS is a funded defined benefit scheme maintained by The Methodist Church of Great Britain. As the Circuit is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme, the Circuit has taken the advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 102, Retirement Benefits, and has accounted its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs for the scheme represent the contribution payable by the Circuit in the year. The contribution rates are set each year by the Methodist Conference.

Access to a stakeholder pension scheme is provided to all eligible lay employees and the Circuit contributes an amount equal to 6% of the employee's gross salary into this scheme.

Three employees are contributing to the scheme.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Circuit's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

3. Circuit assessment

	2024	2023
	£	£
Clapton /Clapton Park Methodist Church	24,000	23,376
Dalston Methodist Church	21,500	20,968
Mare Street Methodist Church	24,000	23,376
Stoke Newington (Green Lanes and High Street) Methodist Church	94,000	93,280
	<u>163,500</u>	<u>161,000</u>

4. Grants and donation received

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
London District Methodist Church	-	25,000	25,000	12,000
Hackney Giving	-	-	-	-
Others	1,296	-	1,296	2,254
	<u>1,296</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>26,296</u>	<u>14,254</u>

The circuit is due to receive further grant from District Advance Fund of £20,000 in 2024-25, and £15,000 in 2025-26 towards the circuit pastoral and community outreach worker.

5. Investment income and interest

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Interest from Bank	8,148	-	8,148	4,729
Interest & dividend from Trust	2,623	-	2,623	1,464
	<u>10,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,771</u>	<u>6,193</u>

6. Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Management fees	6,293	-	6,293	20,131
Methodist Women in Britain	-	52	52	416
West London Mission Circuit	-	-	-	8,366
Letting (hire)	23,527	-	23,527	23,467
Other income	2,522	10,000	12,522	742
	<u>32,342</u>	<u>10,052</u>	<u>42,394</u>	<u>53,122</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

7. Stipends and staff costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<u>Ministry and staff</u>				
Stipends	28,562	-	28,562	54,850
Salaries	30,898	35,000	65,898	37,997
Employer's National Insurance	5,064	-	5,064	5,248
Pension costs	11,905	-	11,905	15,788
	<u>76,429</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>111,429</u>	<u>113,883</u>

The average monthly number of staff employed during the year was 3 (2023: 2).

There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more.

7a. Trustees' emoluments

One or more Trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from their employment with the Circuit. Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking their employment roles under their contracts of employment and not in respect of their services as Trustees.

	2024 £	2023 £
Rev Andrew Letby	-	33,968
Revd Paulo Bessa Da Silva	28,562	34,813
	<u>28,562</u>	<u>68,781</u>

7b. Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel of the Circuit comprise of the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 3. The total amount of the employee benefits (including employer pension contributions received by the key management personnel for their services to the Circuit was £39,554 (2023: 74,029).

7c. Pension costs

The total pension cost for the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £11,905 (2023: £15,788). There were no outstanding or prepaid pension contribution at 31 August 2024.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

8. Telephone, travel and administration	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Travel	623	-	623	2,460
Printing	-	-	-	247
Stationery and postage	581	-	581	516
Telephone, internet and website	3,315	-	3,315	4,406
Bank charges	45	-	45	76
Investment management fees	147	-	147	133
	<u>4,711</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,711</u>	<u>7,838</u>

9. Maintenance on manses	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Building repairs and maintenance	120,568	-	120,568	25,897
Fire and security systems	945	-	945	520
Manse Council tax	3,822	-	3,822	4,683
Insurance	3,609	-	3,609	2,793
Utilities, telephone and other services	-	-	-	-
	<u>128,944</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>128,944</u>	<u>33,893</u>

10. Internal organisations

The Hackney and Stoke Newington has a lunch club project and the income and expenditure was as follows:

	Total Restricted Funds
	£
Income and Endowments from:	
Grants received *	7,881
Donation Received	150
Activities for generating funds	4,839
Charitable activities	1,534
Other Income	-
Total Income	<u>14,404</u>
Expenditure	
Charitable activities	13,322
Staff costs	-
Support costs	-
Total expenditure	<u>13,322</u>
Net movement in funds	1,082
Funds balances at 1 September 2023	<u>2,378</u>
Funds balances at 31 August 2024	<u><u>3,460</u></u>

Notable grants were received during the year from the following organisations:

* London Borough of Hackney Fund (£7,881) provided funding for the lunch club project.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

11. Other expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Tower Hamlets Methodist Circuit fees	5,616	-	5,616	5,761
Cleaning and waste removal	5,048	-	5,048	4,772
MWiB expenses	-	-	-	525
Training, conference and workshops	191	-	191	623
Ministry costs	6,485	-	6,485	5,335
Professional fees	7,617	-	7,617	11,812
Letting agent fees	-	-	-	7,328
Redundancy pay	-	-	-	5,388
Subscription	1,113	-	1,113	2,300
Apprenticeship Levy	-	-	-	274
Church Insurance and Utilities	11,080	1,053	12,133	4,164
Office equipment	1,329	-	1,329	-
Other expenses	1,201	-	1,201	1,671
	<u>39,680</u>	<u>1,053</u>	<u>40,733</u>	<u>49,953</u>

12. Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Stoke Newington Methodist Church	-	-	-	5,123
Others	-	500	500	906
	<u>-</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>6,029</u>

13. Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the Circuit's auditors for accounts preparation and audit	<u>7,410</u>	<u>5,100</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

14 . Tangible assets

	Freehold Land & Buildings
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2023	4,656,375
At 31 August 2024	<u>4,656,375</u>

The carrying value of freehold land and building comprises of:

	2024 £	2023 £
Manses	963,477	963,477
Church building	<u>3,692,898</u>	<u>3,692,898</u>
	<u>4,656,375</u>	<u>4,656,375</u>

14a. Investments

	2024 £
Valuation at 1 September 2023	4,249
Disposals	-
Unrealised gain/(loss)	329
Valuation at 31 August 2024	<u>4,578</u>
Investments held by Central Finance Board	
At 31 August 2024	<u>4,578</u>

	2024 £	2023 £
--	-----------	-----------

15 . Financial Instruments

Carrying amount of financial assets	<u>10,278</u>	<u>30,615</u>
Debit instruments measured at amortised cost		

Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
measured at amortised cost	<u>8,785</u>	<u>16,167</u>

16 . Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	<u>13,192</u>	<u>30,828</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	-	412
Other Creditors	20,520	5,844
Accruals	8,785	10,323
	<u>29,305</u>	<u>16,579</u>

18. Restricted funds

	Balance as at 01.09.23	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers between funds	Balance as at 31.08.24
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds					
i. The Listening Place grant	1,553	-	(1,553)	-	-
ii. Methodist Women in Britain	1,071	52	-	-	1,123
iii. Internal Organisations	2,378	14,404	(13,322)	-	3,460
iv. Warm Space grant	-	-	-	-	-
v. Administrator grant	-	-	-	-	-
vi. Pastoral Worker grant	-	35,000	(35,000)	-	-
	<u>5,002</u>	<u>49,456</u>	<u>(49,875)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,583</u>

i. Listening place fund - The Listening Place is run twice a week at Stoke Newington Methodist Church and is part of the church's outreach work, encouraging involvement with the disadvantaged within the community.

ii. Methodist Women in Britain fund - This fund is a self-financing and volunteer run within the Methodist Church in Britain.

iii. Internal Organisations fund - This fund is for the lunch club project operated within the Circuit.

iv. Warm Space – the fund for supporting communities through rising costs in winter, by bringing people together into warm space.

v. Administrator grant- to pay administrator salary.

vi. Pastoral worker grant – for appointment of circuit pastoral and community outreach worker.

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	4,660,953	-	4,660,953
Net current assets	195,068	4,583	199,651
	<u>4,856,021</u>	<u>4,583</u>	<u>4,860,604</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

20. Related party transactions

The Circuit is part of The London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference, the ultimate controlling body. Related parties also include Ministers, other Circuit and Churches, Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (“TMCP”).

Details of the transactions occurring during the year were as follows:

The London District of Methodist Church (TLDMC)

During the year, the Circuit received grants of £25,000 (2023: £12,000) from TLDMC. The Circuit also paid assessment of £44,568 (2023: £43,268) to TLDMC.

Stoke Newington Methodist Church (SNMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £94,000 (2023: £93,280) from SNMC. The Circuit received £10,000 from SNMC to pay towards salary of the Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker. As at 31 August 2024, SNMC paid £20,520 assessment in advance to the Circuit.

Dalston Methodist Church (DMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £21,500 (2023: £20,968) from DMC. At 31 August 2024, £5,269 is due from DMC for outstanding assessment and £411 is due for expenses paid on behalf of DMC.

Hackney Mare Street Methodist Church (HMSMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £24,000 (2023: £23,376) from HMSMC.

Clapton Methodist Church (CMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £24,000 (2023: £23,376) from CMC.

Methodist Church in Tower Hamlets (MCTH)

During the year, the Circuit paid management and administration fees of £5,616 (2023: £5,761) to MCTH for services provided by MCTH Circuit’s finance Officer. Rental income of £26,103 received from MCTH for the manse at 15 Richmond Road, and £875 received from MCTH for reimbursement of council tax and water costs.

Accounts

2023

The Methodist Church - Hackney and Stoke
Newington Circuit
(London District – Circuit No 35/10)
Charity Registration Number 1134389
Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	Page
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS	3
TRUSTEES’ REPORT	4–8
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES’ RESPONSIBILITIES	9
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT	10-12
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	13-14
BALANCE SHEET	15
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	16-26

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Reference and Administrative Details

Names and addresses

The address of the registered office for the Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit for the purposes of the Methodist Church Act 1976 and any other legislation is:

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11-13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY
Tel: 07736 972202
Web: www.hackneymethodist.org

Custodian Trustees:

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester M1 1JQ

Senior Management Team:

Rev Andrew Letby (Until 31 August 2023)
Rev Paulo Bessa Da Silva

Investment Managers:

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London EC2A 4PE

Trustees for the Methodist Connexional Funds (registered)
9 Bonhill Street
London EC2A 4PE

Bankers:

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
ME19 4JQ

HSBC PLC (for Lunch Club)
1-3 Bishopsgate
London
EC2N 3AQ

Independent Auditor:

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
Suite D, The Business Centre
Faringdon Avenue
Romford, Essex RM3 8EN

Solicitors:

Anthony Collins Solicitors
134 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2ES

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees present their report and the examined accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2019) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and accounts of the Circuit.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Circuit's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective from 1 January 2019).

Governance

The governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference, which meets annually. The authority under which the Conference acts is given by the Methodist Church Act 1976.

We are governed by the Methodist Churches Constitutional Practice and Discipline and all Charity Law of the United Kingdom.

The Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church. 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 the 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 or 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. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives as set out above.

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is part of the London District of the Methodist Church, and is a registered charity, number 1134389.

Full Name of Charity: Hackney Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1134389

Date of Registration: 18 February 2010

Main Communication Address: The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11-13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Trustees

The full list of Trustees who served during the year and up to date of signature of the accounts were as follows:

Trustees who joined during 22/23 are shown with an asterix (*) and those who left during the year with (**). Trustees who have joined during 2023/24 are denoted with three asterisks (***)

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva	Kwabena Okyere Darko*
Rev Dr Jongikaya Zihle	Aminata Gborie*
Rev John Pamhare Sakutombo	Tamba Gborie*
Rev Andrew Letby**	Mackenzie Carty Macdonald Greer
Edris Luncinda Russell ***	Eunice Cordelia Whyte
Ebun Esther Abebi Adekunle	Catherine Hogan
Afua Adofo*	Rudolph Homer
Alexander Amarteifio	Clord Dyer
Gloria Amarteifio	Laura Dyer
Amanda Ansah*	Mary Elvira Campbell
Lucinda Ansah	Rachael Icilda Lynch
Kwaku Oppong Anyemedu	Rita Kusiwaah Dapaah*
Eric Olayinka Ayoola*	Alexandra Weekes-Aggrey*
Mandy Noreen Baafi	Susan Jane Millman
Janette Baxter*	Charlotte Morgan
Valentine Baxter	Cora Woolcock
Rita Donyina-Ameyaw*	Ernell Diana Watson
Joyce Ampofo Borley	Mathilda Small-Byam

Method to recruit new Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit. The constitution for the Circuit Meeting was agreed at the Circuit Meeting on 15th March 2022. Most of the members of Circuit Meeting are trustees due to the role they play within the church or circuit (for which they are nominated or volunteer). Further, each Church Council nominates church representatives to the Circuit Meeting at their Annual Church Meeting.

Objective and purpose

The calling of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. This is expressed through Worship, Learning and Caring, Evangelism, and Service. The Circuit is committed to use its resources in a clearly focussed and intentional way to ensure an effective response to the needs of our congregations and the wider community.

Activities

Christian faith-based activities in accordance with the Methodist doctrine. Regular worship takes place in 6 church buildings, as well as on Zoom. The Listening Place offers a safe, warm space at Stoke Newington Churches. A Lunch Club operates from Clapton Park primarily for elderly people from the Caribbean. The charity supports a Youth Club and Food bank at Clapton Park.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Organisational structure

The Circuit includes responsibility for the Methodist Churches at Dalston, Clapton (Clapton Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Downs Road and Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park), Hackney Mare Street and Stoke Newington (Stoke Newington Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Green Lanes and Stoke Newington High Street). The Circuit has responsibility for the finance and property of Clapton Park Methodist Church.

Internal Organisations

The Circuit includes two internal organisations: the Chatsworth Road Lunch Club project and a Methodist Women in Britain group (which has not met since Easter 2023). The Chatsworth Road Lunch Club project has its own management committee, chaired by Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva, under the umbrella of the Circuit Meeting. The Chatsworth Road Lunch Club has its own HSBC account. Methodist Women in Britain have no separate bank nor cash accounts. All income raised and spent in connection with this group is recorded by the Circuit and transacted through the Circuit bank account.

In addition, the property and finance of Clapton Park Methodist Church has been the responsibility of the Circuit since 1st September 2021.

Staff

The Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Managing Trustees is Rev Andrew Letby. Rev Dr Paulo Bessa da Silva is also stationed to the Circuit. Together they have pastoral charge of the 4 Churches in the Circuit.

Helen Cornick is employed as a part-time (30 hours per week) Circuit Administrator and PA to the Superintendent. Velma Bramble is employed part-time as the Administrator/Co-ordinator of the Lunch Club project at Clapton Park. The Circuit have appointed a new Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker to begin in September 2023. The Circuit 'buys in' payroll and finance support from the Methodist Church in Tower Hamlets.

Achievements and performance

There are 6 active and 2 inactive Local Preachers in the Circuit, and 2 members were given a 'note to preach'. In addition there is a Minister in other appointment who takes some services, and we have some visiting preachers from other circuits and denominations. Circuit Stewards were Sue Millman, Kwaku Anyemedu, Catherine Hogan, Eric Ayoola and Eunice Whyte.

A full programme of Christian education, social activity and mission outreach work continued throughout the year with some activities continuing online. The Listening Place at Stoke Newington High Street and Green Lanes offers drop-in and signposting for vulnerable people.

Property

Clapton Park (Chatsworth Road), Dalston Church, Hackney Mare Street and Stoke Newington (Green Lanes and High Street) rent out rooms using the standard Methodist License. The manse in Richmond Road was let out on a managed tenancy through Courtney's Estate Agents until 19th June 2023. Clapton Park also have tenants in a flat.

From October 2022, there is no longer a fulltime operations manager at Stoke Newington (High Street and Green Lanes) Churches.

Investments

The investment of surplus funds is operated via the Central Finance Board (CFB) of the Methodist Church. CFB aims to provide high quality investment service seeking above average returns for long term investors, whilst ensuring that the securities held by all its funds are in line with the ethical policy of the Methodist Church. The Circuit has its funds in a deposit account with CFB. The Restricted Fund which is mainly funds from sales of properties is managed by Trustees for Methodist Purposes (TMCP). These funds are also invested with CFB.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Public Benefit Requirement

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission in compliance with its duties under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

This guidance sets out two key principles:

1. The organisation must have an identifiable benefit.
2. The benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Church exists to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

The Trustees consider that for these reasons the charity meets these public benefit requirements.

Financial Review

Circuit ministry is funded through the assessment contributions from churches. This is supplemented by rent received from the Circuit property in Richmond Road (a manse), and rental money from Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park. and a grant of £10,000 towards the cost of the Circuit Administrator received in September 2022.

The various properties are funded from their income on a day-to-day basis.

The value of the Circuit funds (including land and buildings) as at 31 August 2023 was £4,899,021 which is an increase of £29,712 from previous year.

A minister stationed in another Circuit resides in Hackney and Stoke Newington Manse. Deacon Belinda Letby is a minister in the West London Mission Circuit. The West London Mission Circuit make payments to the Circuit for rent and in respect of Council Tax, telephone and broadband. The amount received in the year was £8,366.

Trustees' interests

The Ministers who are Trustees of the Circuit are paid a stipend and are given a manse for the Ministers and their family to live. The Council Tax is paid for by the Circuit and also an official telephone line with broadband facilities to enable them to carry out their service as Ministers. These arrangements are practiced throughout the Connexion.

Payments were made to Mrs Eunice Whyte (total £95) in respect of stewarding duties, Rev John Sakutombo received £325 as preaching fees (practiced throughout the Connexion), Rev John Richey received a leaving gift of £350 and Rev Andrew Letby received a leaving gift of £600.

Risk Management

The Circuit has reviewed its risk policies and is preparing a Risk Register highlighting the various risks facing the Circuit, the impact and the likelihood of them happening. The main headings under which these risks have been categorised are:

- Trustees' Responsibilities
- Membership and Mission
- Resources, People and Property
- Financial
- Legal

These risks are reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Reserves Policy

The primary purposes of the Circuit are:

- (i) to support the presbyteral ministers in their responsibilities to preach, offer a sacramental ministry and provide pastoral care to the congregations of the six Methodist Churches and to the wider community within the borough of Hackney and Stoke Newington.
- (ii) to support the work of the lay employees, Circuit officers and Church members in their various responsibilities in relation to the Circuit's overall mission.

The reserves policy in connection with this purpose is to maintain sufficient funds to ensure the payment of stipends, other allowances, manse costs and contributions to the District assessment for two ministers for six months.

The unrestricted funds, excluding freehold land and buildings, of £237,644 are held for the purpose of the Circuit.

Plans for the future

A regular pattern of worship is happening in churches and there is also a weekly service broadcast via Zoom. Congregations are smaller than before the pandemic, reflecting the experience of many churches across the country. There continues to be a Circuit link with Hackney Citizens and during this year a service was held at Mare Street with contributions from Hackney Citizens. The Listening Place in Stoke Newington is flourishing and at the end of the year a new Churches Together in Hackney group was started.

The superintendent minister left the Circuit in July 2023 and was not replaced, so from September 2023, Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva will be the superintendent minister, and will be the only minister in the Circuit receiving a stipend. A new Circuit Pastoral and Community Outreach Worker has been appointed to start in September 2023. The Circuit are hopeful that this role will increase its effectiveness of mission within the community.

Disclosure of information to auditors

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information

Auditors

The Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit have appointed new auditors, Clay Ratnage and Co, following a consultation of the Circuit Leadership Team.

Approved by the Trustees on 25 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa da Silva

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva
Superintendent Minister

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities for the year ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts, and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church, the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and other relevant regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of frauds and other irregularities.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington****Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Hackney Methodist Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our approach was as follows:

- Obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the charity.
- Obtained an understanding of how the charity is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making enquiries to the trustees.
- The susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement caused by fraud or other irregularities were assessed with the following procedures:
 - Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls which trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud.
 - Understanding how those charged with governance considered the potential for override of controls and management biases.
 - Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington (continued)

Potential fraud risks that had been identified throughout the planning and commencement of the audit were communicated to the audit team.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Clay Ratnage Strevens + Hills

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
Suite D, The Business Centre
Faringdon Avenue
Romford
Essex RM3 8EN

Date: 28/6/2024

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Income and Endowments from:					
Circuit assessment	3	161,000	-	161,000	128,594
Legacies		-	-	-	4,000
Grants and donations received	4	2,254	12,000	14,254	15,976
Investment income and interest	5	6,193	-	6,193	697
Rental income		51,515	-	51,515	54,208
Capital Receipt		-	-	-	3,692,898
Other income	6	52,706	416	53,122	78,581
Internal organisations	10	-	16,620	16,620	20,967
Total income		273,668	29,036	302,704	3,995,921
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Stipends and staff costs:					
Ministry	7	103,883	10,000	113,883	126,933
Internal organisations	10	-	-	-	6,924
District assessment		43,268	-	43,268	43,824
Telephone, travel and administration	8	7,838	-	7,838	5,781
Maintenance on manses	9	33,893	-	33,893	10,458
District advance fund		1,173	-	1,173	1,168
Other expenditure	11	48,328	1,625	49,953	41,930
Internal organisations	10	-	16,955	16,955	14,305
Grants and donations	12	5,129	900	6,029	1,110
Total expenditure		243,512	29,480	272,992	252,433
Net movement in funds		30,156	(444)	29,712	3,743,488
Funds balances at 1 September 2022		4,863,863	5,446	4,869,309	1,125,821
Funds balances at 31 August 2023		4,894,019	5,002	4,899,021	4,869,309

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2023

Comparative year information

Year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Income and Endowments from:				
Circuit assessment	3	128,594	-	128,594
Legacies		4,000	-	4,000
Grants and donations received	4	1,474	14,502	15,976
Investment income and interest	5	697	-	697
Rental income		54,208	-	54,208
Capital Receipt		3,692,898	-	3,692,898
Other income	6	78,519	62	78,581
Internal organisations		-	20,967	20,967
Total income		3,960,390	35,531	3,995,921
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities:				
Stipends and staff costs:				
Ministry	7	114,933	12,000	126,933
Internal organisations		-	6,924	6,924
District assessment		43,824	-	43,824
Telephone, travel & administration	8	5,281	500	5,781
Maintenance on manses	9	10,458	-	10,458
District advance fund		1,168	-	1,168
Other expenditure	11	41,481	449	41,930
Internal organisations		-	14,305	14,305
Grants and donations	12	1,110	-	1,110
Total expenditure		218,255	34,178	252,433
Net movement in funds		3,742,135	1,353	3,743,488
Funds balances at 1 September 2021		1,121,728	4,093	1,125,821
Funds balances at 31 August 2022		4,863,863	5,446	4,869,309

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	14	4,656,375	-	4,656,375	4,656,375
		<u>4,656,375</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,656,375</u>	<u>4,656,375</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors	16	30,828	-	30,828	2,906
T.M.C.P. Interest funds		46,901	-	46,901	46,738
Central Finance Board Deposits		154,132	-	154,132	124,259
Cash at bank and in hand		22,362	2,624	24,986	59,373
Fund held by internal Organisations		-	2,378	2,378	2,713
		<u>254,223</u>	<u>5,002</u>	<u>259,225</u>	<u>235,989</u>
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(16,579)	-	(16,579)	(23,055)
Net Current Assets		<u>237,644</u>	<u>5,002</u>	<u>242,646</u>	<u>212,934</u>
Net Assets		<u>4,894,019</u>	<u>5,002</u>	<u>4,899,021</u>	<u>4,869,309</u>
Accumulated funds					
Unrestricted funds		4,894,019	-	4,894,019	4,863,863
Restricted funds		-	5,002	5,002	5,446
Total Funds	19	<u>4,894,019</u>	<u>5,002</u>	<u>4,899,021</u>	<u>4,869,309</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 25 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa da Silva

Susan Millman

.....
Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva
Chair of Circuit Meeting

.....
Susan Millman
Circuit Steward

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Accounting policies

a) Circuit information

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is an unincorporated Charity in England and Wales. The main address is given on page 4 of these accounts.

b) Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019)'. The Circuit is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Circuit has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The accounts have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Circuit.

The accounts of the Circuit have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies are set out below.

c) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Circuit has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

d) Funds

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are held for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors and grantors. The aim and use of the major restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

e) Income recognition

Church assessment

The Church assessment is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Benevolence

Benevolence funds have been historically contributed by the four Churches from their general funds and are accounted for on a receipts basis in accordance with Standing Order 527 of the Constitution of the Methodist Church.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Grants and donations received

Grants from third parties are included when the relevant conditions for the grant have been met.

Voluntary income comprises donations and contributions and is accounted for when entitlement has been confirmed, the amount can be measured and receipt is probable.

Rental income

Rental income from investment properties is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Other income

Other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Lunch Club

Lunch Club is the project of the Circuit. The income is either derived from voluntary grants or by way of charitable activities.

Investment income and interest

Interest on deposits and investments is accounted on a receivable basis.

f) Expenditure recognition

Expenses

All expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. Any ensuing liabilities are recognised as soon as a legal or constructive obligation arises.

District assessment

The District assessment is accounted for on an accruals basis.

g) Tangible fixed assets

Properties are stated at cost or in the case of donated assets at the valuation at the date that the assets are gifted to the Circuit. The Trustees consider that the lives of the properties are so long and their residual values so high based on prices prevailing at the time of acquisition that the annual depreciation charge and accumulated depreciation is not material. Accordingly, no depreciation is provided on freehold properties used for charitable activities. Any material impairment in the value of such properties, following an annual review, would be chargeable to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Assets having an initial cost of £1,000 or less are written off on acquisition. Fixtures and fittings, office and computer equipment having an initial cost greater than £1,000 are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life are as follows:

- Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 10% - 20% on a straight line basis
- Office equipment: 20% on a straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year.

h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Financial instruments

The Circuit has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Circuit's balance sheet when the Circuit becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include other debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including other payables are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

j) Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Circuit is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

k) Retirement benefits

Stipendiary Circuit Ministers are eligible to join the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). The MMPS is a funded defined benefit scheme maintained by The Methodist Church of Great Britain. As the Circuit is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme, the Circuit has taken the advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 102, Retirement Benefits, and has accounted its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs for the scheme represent the contribution payable by the Circuit in the year. The contribution rates are set each year by the Methodist Conference.

Access to a stakeholder pension scheme is provided to all eligible lay employees and the Circuit contributes an amount equal to 6% of the employee's gross salary into this scheme.

Three employees are contributing to the scheme.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Circuit's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

3. Circuit assessment

	2023 £	2022 £
Clapton Methodist Church	23,376	27,900
Clapton Park Methodist Church	-	4,844
Dalston Methodist Church	20,968	23,400
Green Lane / Stoke Newington Methodist Church	93,280	49,500
Mare Street Methodist Church	23,376	22,950
	<u>161,000</u>	<u>128,594</u>

4. Grants and donation received

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
London District Methodist Church	-	12,000	12,000	6,000
Hackney Giving	-	-	-	8,502
Others	2,254	-	2,254	1,474
	<u>2,254</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>14,254</u>	<u>15,976</u>

5. Investment income and interest

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Interest from Bank	4,729	-	4,729	504
Interest from Trust	1,464	-	1,464	193
	<u>6,193</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,193</u>	<u>697</u>

6. Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Management fees	20,131	-	20,131	24,991
Methodist Women in Britain	-	416	416	62
West London Mission Circuit	8,366	-	8,366	24,533
Clapton Park HSBC balance	-	-	-	5,746
Letting (hire)	23,467	-	23,467	20,275
Other income	742	-	742	2,974
	<u>52,706</u>	<u>416</u>	<u>53,122</u>	<u>78,581</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)****7. Stipends and staff costs**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<u>Ministry and staff</u>				
Stipends	54,850	-	54,850	54,766
Salaries	27,997	10,000	37,997	49,857
Employer's National Insurance	5,248	-	5,248	5,892
Pension costs	15,788	-	15,788	16,418
	103,883	10,000	113,883	126,933

The average monthly number of staff employed during the year was 2 (2022: 4).

There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more.

During the year redundancy costs totalling £5,388 were paid out. At the year end this amount is recoverable from Stoke Newington Methodist Church and has been included in Other Debtors.

7a. Trustees' emoluments

One or more Trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from their employment with the Circuit. Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking their employment roles under their contracts of employment and not in respect of their services as Trustees.

	2023 £	2022 £
Rev Andrew Letby	33,968	35,650
Revd Paulo Bessa Da Silva	34,813	33,058
Rev John Richey	-	8,600
	68,781	77,308

7b. Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel of the Circuit comprise of the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 3. The total amount of the employee benefits (including employer pension contributions received by the key management personnel for their services to the Circuit was £74,029 (2022: 82,586).

7c. Pension costs

The total pension cost for the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £15,788 (2022: £16,418). There were no outstanding or prepaid pension contributions at 31 August 2023.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

8 . Telephone, travel and administration	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Travel	2,460	-	2,460	175
Printing	247	-	247	402
Stationery and postage	516	-	516	1,181
Telephone ,internet and website	4,406	-	4,406	3,848
Bank charges	76	-	76	94
Investment management fees	133	-	133	81
	7,838	-	7,838	5,781

9 . Maintenance on manses	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Building repairs and maintenance	25,897	-	25,897	4,515
Fire and security systems	520	-	520	284
Manse Council tax	4,683	-	4,683	3,946
Insurance	2,793	-	2,793	2,775
Utilities, telephone and other services	-	-	-	(1,062)
	33,893	-	33,893	10,458

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**10. Internal organisations**

The Hackney and Stoke Newington has a lunch club project and the income and expenditure was as follows:

	Total Restricted Funds £
Income and Endowments from:	
Grants received *	7,841
Donation Received	1,855
Activities for generating funds	1,485
Charitable activities	5,439
Other Income	-
Total Income	16,620
Expenditure	
Charitable activities	16,299
Staff costs	-
Support costs	656
Total expenditure	16,955
Net movement in funds	(335)
Funds balances at 1 September 2022	2,713
Funds balances at 31 August 2023	2,378

Notable grants were received during the year from the following organisations:

- * London Borough of Hackney Fund (£7,841) provided funding for the lunch club Project.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

11. Other expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Tower Hamlets Methodist Circuit fees	5,761	-	5,761	6,420
Cleaning and waste removal	4,772	-	4,772	8,505
MWiB expenses	-	525	525	-
Training, conference and workshops	623	-	623	675
Ministry costs	5,335	-	5,335	4,436
Professional fees	11,812	-	11,812	17,530
Letting agent fees	7,328	-	7,328	-
Redundancy pay	5,388	-	5,388	-
Subscription	2,300	-	2,300	-
Apprenticeship Levy	274	-	274	274
Church Insurance and Utilities	3,264	900	4,164	-
Other expenses	1,471	200	1,671	4,090
	48,328	1,625	49,953	41,930

12. Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
All We Can	-	-	-	145
Stoke Newington Methodist Church	4,223	900	5,123	-
Others	906	-	906	965
	5,129	900	6,029	1,110

13. Auditors' remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the Circuit's auditors for audit of the annual accounts	5,100	8,400

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 . Tangible assets

	Freehold Land & Buildings
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2022	4,656,375
At 31 August 2023	4,656,375

The carrying value of freehold land and building comprises of:

	2023 £	2022 £
Manses	963,477	963,477
Church building	3,692,898	3,692,898
	4,656,375	4,656,375

	2023 £	2022 £
--	-----------	-----------

15 . Financial Instruments

Carrying amount of financial assets	30,615	2,906
Debit instruments measured at amortised cost		

Carrying amount of financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	16,167	23,055
--	--------	--------

16 . Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	30,828	2,906

17 . Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security	412	-
Other Creditors	5,844	13,487
Accruals	10,323	9,568
	16,579	23,055

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

18 . Restricted funds

	Balance as at 01.09.22 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers between funds £	Balance as at 31.08.23 £
Funds					
i. Listening group grant	1,553	900	(900)	-	1,553
ii. Methodist Women in Britain	1,180	416	(525)	-	1,071
iii. Internal Organisations.	2,713	16,620	(16,955)	-	2,378
iv. Warm space.	-	1,100	(1,100)	-	-
v. Administrator grant	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
	5,446	29,036	(29,480)	-	5,002

i. Listening group fund - The Listening Place is run twice a week at Stoke Newington Methodist Church and is part of the church's outreach work, encouraging involvement with the disadvantaged within the community.

ii. Methodist Women in Britain fund - This fund is a self-financing and volunteer run within the Methodist Church in Britain.

iii. Internal Organisations fund - This fund is for the lunch club project operated within the Circuit.

iv. Warm Space – the fund for supporting communities through rising costs in winter, by bringing people together into warm space.

v. Administrator grant- to pay administrator salary.

19 . Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	4,656,375	-	4,656,375
Net current assets	237,644	5,002	242,646
	4,894,019	5,002	4,899,021

20. Related party transactions

The Circuit is part of The London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference, the ultimate controlling body. Related parties also include Ministers, other Circuit and Churches, Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP").

Details of the transactions occurring during the year were as follows:

The London District of Methodist Church (TLDMC)

During the year, the Circuit received grants of £12,000 (2022: £6,000) from TLDMC. The Circuit also paid assessment of £43,268 (2022: £43,824) to TLDMC. Rev Jongikaya Zihle, Trustee of the Hackney Methodist Circuit (HMC) is also a Trustee of TLDMC.

West London Mission Methodist Circuit (WLMM)

During the year, the Circuit received rent and contribution to costs re Council Tax / Telephone of £8,366 (2022: £24,533) from WLMM. Deacon Belinda Letby, the wife of Revd Andrew Letby, was a Trustee and minister of WLMM, residing in a manse of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit. Rev Jongikaya Zihle, Trustee of the Hackney Methodist Circuit (HMC) is also a Trustee of WLMM.

Stoke Newington Methodist Church (SNMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £93,280 (2022: £49,500) from SNMC. The Circuit was also due to receive management and administration fees of £20,131 (2022: £24,991) from SNMC for services provided by the Circuit's members of staff. As at 31 August 2023, SNMC owed an amount of £20,131 to the Circuit. The following Trustees of the Hackney Methodist Circuit (HMC) were also Trustees of SNMC: Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva, Rev Andrew Letby, Eric Ayoola, Catherine Hogan, Clord Dyer, Mary Elvira Campbell, Laura Dyer, Ebun Esther Abebi Adekunle, Alexandra Weekes-Aggrey and Cora Woolcock.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Dalston Methodist Church (DMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £20,968 (2022: £23,400) from DMC.

The following Trustees of the Hackney Methodist Circuit (HMC) were also Trustees of DMC: Rev Andrew Letby, Susan Millman, Gloria Amarteifio, Vida Koranteng, Janette Baxter, Alexander Amarteifio, Valentine Baxter, Lucinda Ansah, Amanda Ansah and Rachael Icilda Lynch.

Hackney Mare Street Methodist Church (HMSMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £23,376 (2022: £22,950) from HMSMC.

The following Trustees of the Hackney Methodist Circuit (HMC) were also Trustees of HMSMC: Rev Andrew Letby, Kwaku Anyemedu, Mandy Baafi, Eunice Whyte, Afua Adofo, Joyce Borley, Kobby Darko, Rita Dapaah, Rita Donyina-Ameyaw and Ernell Watson.

Clapton Methodist Church (CMC)

During the year, the Circuit received assessment of £23,376 (2022: £27,900) from CMC.

The following Trustees of the Hackney Methodist Circuit (HMC) were also Trustees of CMC: Rev Dr Paulo Bessa Da Silva, Rev Andrew Letby, Susan Millman, Catherine Hogan, Eunice Whyte, Kwaku Anyemedu, Thomas Daley, Charlotte Morgan, Tamba Gborie, Aminata Gborie, Mackenzie Greer, Rudolph Homer and Mathilda Small-Byam.

Methodist Church in Tower Hamlets (MCTH)

During the year, the Circuit paid management and administration fees of £5,761 (2022: £6,420) to MCTH for services provided by MCTH Circuit's finance Officer. Rev Jongikaya Zihle, Trustee of the Hackney Methodist Circuit (HMC) is also a Trustee of MCTH.

Accounts

2022

The Methodist Church - Hackney and Stoke
Newington Circuit
(London District – Circuit No 35/10)
Charity Registration Number 1134389
Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	Page
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS	3
TRUSTEES' REPORT	4-8
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES	9
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT	10-12
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	13-14
BALANCE SHEET	15
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	16-24

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Reference and Administrative Details

Names and addresses

The address of the registered office for the Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit for the purposes of the Methodist Church Act 1976 and any other legislation is:

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11-13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY
Tel: 07736 972202
Web: www.hackneymethodist.org.uk

Custodian Trustees:

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester M1 1JQ

Senior Management Team:

Rev Andrew Letby
Rev Paulo Bessa Da Silva

Investment Managers:

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London EC2A 4PE

Trustees for the Methodist Connexional Funds (registered)
9 Bonhill Street
London EC2A 4PE

Bankers:

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
ME19 4JQ

HSBC PLC (for Lunch Club)
283 Mare Street
Hackney
London
E8 1PT

Independent Auditor:

Citroen Wells
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
Devonshire House
1 Devonshire Street
London W1W 5DR

Solicitors:

Lovell Son and Pitfield
9 Gray's Inn Square
Gray's Inn
London WC1R 5JT

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2022

The Trustees present their report and the examined accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and accounts of the Circuit.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Circuit's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective from 1 January 2019).

Governance

The governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference, which meets annually. The authority under which the Conference acts is given by the Methodist Church Act 1976.

We are governed by the Methodist Churches Constitutional Practice and Discipline and all Charity Law of the United Kingdom.

The Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church. 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 the 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 or 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. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives as set out above.

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is part of the London District of the Methodist Church, and is a registered charity, number 1134389.

Full Name of Charity: Hackney Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1134389

Date of Registration: 18 February 2010

Main Communication Address: The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11-13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

Trustees

The full list of Trustees who served during the year and up to date of signature of the accounts were as follows:

Trustees who joined during 21/22 are shown with an asterix (*) and those who left during the year with (**). Trustees who have joined during 2022/23 are denoted with three asterisks (***).

Rev Andrew Letby	Eric Frempong**
Rev Paulo Bessa Da Silva	Aminata Gborie***
Rev John Richey**	Tamba Gborie***
Rev John Pamhare Sakutombo	Mackenzie Greer
Rev Jongikaya Zihle*	Rolan Hagan**
Esther Adekunle	Catherine Hogan
Afua Adofo***	Rudolph Homer
Alexander Amarteifio	Allins Horne**
Gloria Amarteifio	Anthony Jumpah**
Amanda Ansah***	Vida Koranteng***
Lucinda Ansah	Rachael Icilda Lynch
Kwaku Anyemedu	Vera Mawu**
Eric Ayoola***	Faginetta Beatrice McLean**
Mandy Baafi	Susan Millman
Janette Baxter***	Charlotte Morgan
Valentine Baxter	Tettey Kojo Nartey**
Vanessa Baxter**	Jacob Ogunleye**
Joyce Borley	Vicky Ryan**
Mary Campbell	Mathilda Small-Byam
Thomas Daley	Ernell Watson
Rita Dapaah***	Alexandra Weekes-Aggrey***
Kobby Darko***	Eunice Whyte
Rita Donyina-Ameyaw***	Merlin Williams**
Clord Dyer	Cora Woolcock
Laura Dyer	

Method to recruit new Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit. The constitution for the Circuit Meeting was agreed at the Circuit Meeting on 15th March 2022. Most of the members of Circuit Meeting are trustees due to the role they play within the church or circuit (for which they are nominated or volunteer). Further, each Church Council nominates church representatives to the Circuit Meeting at their Annual Church Meeting.

Objective and purpose

The calling of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. This is expressed through Worship, Learning and Caring, Evangelism, and Service. The Circuit is committed to use its resources in a clearly focussed and intentional way to ensure an effective response to the needs of our congregations and the wider community.

Activities

Christian faith-based activities in accordance with the Methodist doctrine. Regular worship takes place in 6 church buildings, as well as on Zoom. The Listening Place offers a safe, warm space at Stoke Newington Churches. A Lunch Club operates from Clapton Park primarily for elderly people from the Caribbean. The charity supports a Youth Club and Food bank at Clapton Park.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

Organisational structure

The Circuit includes responsibility for the Methodist Churches at Dalston, Clapton (Clapton Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Downs Road and Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park), Mare Street and Stoke Newington (Stoke Newington Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Green Lanes and Stoke Newington High Street). In September 2021, the members of Clapton Park Methodist Church became a class of Clapton Methodist Church. The Circuit has responsibility for the finance and property of Clapton Park Methodist Church.

Internal Organisations

The Circuit includes two internal organisations: the Chatsworth Road Lunch Club project and a Methodist Women in Britain group. The Chatsworth Road Lunch Club project has its own management committee, chaired by Rev John Richey, under the umbrella of the Circuit Meeting. The Chatsworth Road Lunch Club has its own HSBC account. Methodist Women in Britain have no separate bank nor cash accounts. All income raised and spent in connection with this group is recorded by the Circuit and transacted through the Circuit bank account.

In addition, the property and finance of Clapton Park Methodist Church has become the responsibility of the Circuit since 1st September 2021.

Staff

The Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Managing Trustees is Rev Andrew Letby. Rev Paulo Bessa da Silva is also stationed to the Circuit. In addition, the Circuit employs a supernumerary minister, Rev John Richey, for 2 days per week to assist with pastoral and preaching duties. He finished working in the circuit in August 2022. Together they have pastoral charge of the 4 Churches in the Circuit.

Helen Cornick is employed as a part-time (30 hours per week) Circuit Administrator and PA to the Superintendent. The Circuit 'buys in' payroll and finance support from the Methodist Church in Tower Hamlets.

Achievements and performance

There are 6 active and 2 inactive Local Preachers in the Circuit. Circuit Stewards were Valentine Baxter, Sue Millman Kwaku Anyemedu and Catherine Hogan.

A full programme of Christian education, social activity and mission outreach work continued throughout the year with some activities continuing online.

Property

Dalston Church and Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park rent out many rooms using the standard Methodist License. The Richmond Road Manse is let out on a managed tenancy through Courtney's Estate Agents until 6th December 2022. Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park also have tenants in a flat.

At Stoke Newington High Street and Green Lanes Churches a full time premises manager has oversight of both sites, and the Listening Place Project offers drop-in and signposting for vulnerable people.

Investments

The investment of surplus funds is operated via the Central Finance Board (CFB) of the Methodist Church. CFB aims to provide high quality investment service seeking above average returns for long term investors, whilst ensuring that the securities held by all its funds are in line with the ethical policy of the Methodist Church. The Circuit has its funds in a deposit account with CFB. The Restricted Fund which is mainly funds from sales of properties is managed by Trustees for Methodist Purposes (TMCP). These funds are also invested with CFB.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

Public Benefit Requirement

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission in compliance with its duties under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

This guidance sets out two key principles:

1. The organisation must have an identifiable benefit.
2. The benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Church exists to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

The Trustees consider that for these reasons the charity meets these public benefit requirements.

Financial Review

Circuit ministry is funded through the assessment contributions from churches. This was supplemented by rent received from the Circuit property in Richmond Road (a manse), and rental money from Chatsworth Road, Clapton Park. and a grant of £12,000 towards the cost of the Circuit Administrator received in July 2021.

The various properties are funded from their income on a day-to-day basis.

The value of the Circuit funds (including land and buildings) as at 31 August 2022 was £4,869,309 which is an increase of £3,743,488 from previous year. This increase includes the value of the Clapton Park Methodist Church of £3,692,898 that was transferred to the Circuit in the year.

A minister stationed in another Circuit resides in Hackney and Stoke Newington Manse. Deacon Belinda Letby is a minister in the West London Mission Circuit. The West London Mission Circuit make payments to the Circuit for rent and in respect of Council Tax, telephone and broadband. The amount received in the year was £24,533.

Trustees' interests

The Ministers who are Trustees of the Circuit are paid a stipend and are given a manse for the Ministers and their family to live. The Council Tax is paid for by the Circuit and also an official telephone line with broadband facilities to enable them to carry out their service as Ministers. These arrangements are practiced throughout the Connexion.

Two payments were made to Mrs Eunice Whyte (total £40) in respect of stewarding duties, and Rev John Richey received a salary based on the Methodist minister's stipend of £8,600.

Risk Management

The Circuit has reviewed its risk policies and is preparing a Risk Register highlighting the various risks facing the Circuit, the impact and the likelihood of them happening. The main headings under which these risks have been categorised are:

- Trustees' Responsibilities
- Membership and Mission
- Resources, People and Property
- Financial
- Legal

These risks are reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

Reserves Policy

The primary purposes of the Circuit are:

- (i) to support the presbyteral ministers in their responsibilities to preach, offer a sacramental ministry and provide pastoral care to the congregations of the six Methodist Churches and to the wider community within the borough of Hackney and Stoke Newington.
- (ii) to support the work of the lay employees, Circuit officers and Church members in their various responsibilities in relation to the Circuit's overall mission.

The reserves policy in connection with this purpose is to maintain sufficient funds to ensure the payment of stipends, other allowances, manse costs and contributions to the District assessment for two ministers for six months.

The unrestricted funds, excluding Manses, of £207,488 are held for the purpose of the Circuit.

Plans for the future

A regular pattern of in-person worship has now been re-established, though a weekly service is also broadcast via Zoom. Congregations are smaller than before the pandemic, reflecting the experience of many churches across the country. The Circuit link with Hackney Citizens continues to develop, the work of the Listening Place in Stoke Newington is flourishing and ecumenical links are being rekindled.

As we look ahead, changes in staffing both lay and ordained are envisaged. Notably the superintendent minister will leave the Circuit in the summer of 2023. A direct replacement is unlikely, so planning has begun in order to ensure that the Circuit continues to function well.

Disclosure of information to auditors

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Citroen Wells, are willing to continue in office, and will be re-appointed at the Trustees' Meeting.

27/6/2023

Approved by the Trustees on..... and signed on their behalf by:



Rev Andrew Letby
Superintendent Minister

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities for the year ended 31 August 2022

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts, and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church, the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and other relevant regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of frauds and other irregularities.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington (the 'Circuit') for the year ended 31 August 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Circuit's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the Circuit in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the accounts, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Circuit's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the accounts themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the accounts is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Circuit's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Circuit and determined that the most significant are those that relate to the reporting framework being the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the charity's governing document, and the Charities Act 2011 and the relevant legislation in the United Kingdom including employment, environmental and health and safety regulations.
- We understood how the Circuit is complying with those frameworks by making enquiries of management and seeking representations from those charged with governance. We corroborated our understanding by reviewing supporting documentation including board meeting minutes and correspondence with regulatory bodies.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington (continued)

- We assessed the susceptibility of the Circuit's accounts to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by considering the risk of management override of internal control and by designating revenue recognition as a fraud risk. We performed journal entry testing by specific risk criteria, with a focus on journals indicating large or unusual transactions based on our understanding of the business. We tested completeness of income through substantive tests performed, analytical review procedures and cut off tests on the revenue recognised.
- Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures involved enquiries of management and those charged with governance, review of legal and professional expenses and review of Trustees' meeting minutes.
- The Circuit is a regulated entity under the supervision of the Charities Commission. As such, the Senior Statutory Auditor considered the experience and expertise of the engagement team to ensure that the team had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the accounts is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Circuit's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Circuit's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Circuit and the Circuit's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions, we have formed.

Citroen Wells

**Citroen Wells
Chartered Accountants &
Statutory Auditor**

29/6/2023

.....

Devonshire House
1 Devonshire Street
London
W1W 5DR

Citroen Wells is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Circuit by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income and Endowments from:					
Circuit assessment	3	128,594	-	128,594	134,525
Legacies		4,000	-	4,000	-
Grants and donations received	4	1,474	14,502	15,976	21,644
Investment income and interest	5	697	-	697	285
Rental income		54,208	-	54,208	33,800
Capital Receipt		3,692,898	-	3,692,898	-
Other income	6	78,519	62	78,581	26,324
Internal organisations	10	-	20,967	20,967	10,210
Total income		3,960,390	35,531	3,995,921	226,788
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Stipends and staff costs:					
Ministry	7	114,933	12,000	126,933	117,691
Internal organisations	10	-	6,924	6,924	6,880
District assessment		43,824	-	43,824	43,824
Telephone, travel and administration	8	5,281	500	5,781	6,494
Maintenance on manses	9	10,458	-	10,458	24,914
District advance fund		1,168	-	1,168	708
Other expenditure	11	41,481	449	41,930	26,205
Internal organisations	10	-	14,305	14,305	5,890
Grants and donations	12	1,110	-	1,110	758
Total expenditure		218,255	34,178	252,433	233,364
Net movement in funds		3,742,135	1,353	3,743,488	(6,576)
Funds balances at 1 September 2021		1,121,728	4,093	1,125,821	1,132,397
Funds balances at 31 August 2022		4,863,863	5,446	4,869,309	1,125,821

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2022

Comparative year information

Year ended 31 August 2021	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Income and Endowments from:				
Circuit assessment	3	134,525	-	134,525
Grants and donations received	4	-	21,644	21,644
Investment income and interest	5	285	-	285
Rental income		33,800	-	33,800
Other income	6	25,878	446	26,324
Internal organisations	10	-	10,210	10,210
Total income		194,488	32,300	226,788
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities:				
Stipends and staff costs:				
Ministry	7	96,047	21,644	117,691
Internal organisations	10	-	6,880	6,880
District assessment		43,824	-	43,824
Telephone, travel & administration	8	6,494	-	6,494
Maintenance on manses	9	24,914	-	24,914
District advance fund		708	-	708
Other expenditure	11	26,205	-	26,205
Internal organisations	10	-	5,890	5,890
Grants and donations	12	508	250	758
Total expenditure		198,700	34,664	233,364
Net movement in funds		(4,212)	(2,364)	(6,576)
Transfers between funds		(922)	922	-
Net movement in funds		(5,134)	(1,442)	(6,576)
Funds balances at 1 September 2020		1,126,862	5,535	1,132,397
Funds balances at 31 August 2021		1,121,728	4,093	1,125,821

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	14	4,656,375	-	4,656,375	963,477
		4,656,375	-	4,656,375	963,477
Current Assets					
Debtors	16	2,906	-	2,906	8,723
T.M.C.P. Interest funds		46,738	-	46,738	28,334
Central Finance Board Deposits		124,259	-	124,259	113,937
Cash at bank and in hand		56,640	2,733	59,373	48,376
Fund held by internal Organisations		-	2,713	2,713	2,975
		230,543	5,446	235,989	202,345
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(23,055)	-	(23,055)	(40,001)
Net Current Assets		207,488	5,446	212,934	162,344
Net Assets		4,863,863	5,446	4,869,309	1,125,821
Accumulated funds					
Unrestricted funds		4,863,863	-	4,863,863	1,121,728
Restricted funds		-	5,446	5,446	4,093
Total Funds		4,863,863	5,446	4,869,309	1,125,821

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 27/6/2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Andrew Letby

 Rev Andrew Letby
 Chair of Circuit

Sue Millman

 Susan Millman
 Circuit Steward

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022

1. Accounting policies

a) Circuit information

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is an unincorporated Charity in England and Wales. The main address is given on page 4 of these accounts.

b) Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019)'. The Circuit is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Circuit has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The accounts have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Circuit.

The accounts of the Circuit have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies are set out below.

c) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Circuit has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable

d) Funds

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are held for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors and grantors. The aim and use of the major restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

e) Income recognition

Church assessment

The Church assessment is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Benevolence

Benevolence funds have been historically contributed by the four Churches from their general funds and are accounted for on a receipts basis in accordance with Standing Order 527 of the Constitution of the Methodist Church.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Grants and donations received

Grants from third parties are included when the relevant conditions for the grant have been met.

Voluntary income comprises donations and contributions and is accounted for when entitlement has been confirmed, the amount can be measured and receipt is probable.

Rental income

Rental income from investment properties is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Other income

Other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Lunch Club

Lunch Club is the project of the Circuit. The income is either derived from voluntary grants or by way of charitable activities.

Investment income and interest

Interest on deposits and investments is accounted on a receivable basis.

f) **Expenditure recognition**

Expenses

All expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. Any ensuing liabilities are recognised as soon as a legal or constructive obligation arises.

District assessment

The District assessment is accounted for on an accruals basis.

g) **Tangible fixed assets**

Properties are stated at cost or in the case of donated assets at the valuation at the date that the assets are gifted to the Circuit. The Trustees consider that the lives of the properties are so long and their residual values so high based on prices prevailing at the time of acquisition that the annual depreciation charge and accumulated depreciation is not material. Accordingly, no depreciation is provided on freehold properties used for charitable activities. Any material impairment in the value of such properties, following an annual review, would be chargeable to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Assets having an initial cost of £1,000 or less are written off on acquisition. Fixtures and fittings, office and computer equipment having an initial cost greater than £1,000 are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life are as follows:

- Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 10% - 20% on a straight line basis
- Office equipment: 20% on a straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year.

h) **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Financial instruments

The Circuit has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Circuit's balance sheet when the Circuit becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include other debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including other payables are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

j) Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Circuit is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

k) Retirement benefits

Stipendiary Circuit Ministers are eligible to join the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). The MMPS is a funded defined benefit scheme maintained by The Methodist Church of Great Britain. As the Circuit is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme, the Circuit has taken the advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 102, Retirement Benefits, and has accounted its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs for the scheme represent the contribution payable by the Circuit in the year. The contribution rates are set each year by the Methodist Conference.

Access to a stakeholder pension scheme is provided to all eligible lay employees and the Circuit contributes an amount equal to 6% of the employee's gross salary into this scheme.

Three employees are contributing to the scheme.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Circuit's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

3. Circuit assessment

	2022	2021
	£	£
Clapton Methodist Church	27,900	24,800
Clapton Park Methodist Church	4,844	20,800
Dalston Methodist Church	23,400	20,800
Green Lane/Stoke Newington Methodist Church	49,500	45,175
Mare Street Methodist Church	22,950	22,950
	128,594	134,525

4. Grants and donation received

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
London District Methodist Church	-	6,000	6,000	18,000
Hackney Giving	-	8,502	8,502	3,644
Others	1,474	-	1,474	-
	1,474	14,502	15,976	21,644

5. Investment income and interest

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Interest from CFB Bank	504	-	504	125
Interest from Trust	193	-	193	160
	697	-	697	285

6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Management fees	24,991	-	24,991	16,796
Women in Britain(Network)	-	62	62	446
West London Mission Circuit	24,533	-	24,533	6,986
Clapton Park HSBC balance	5,746	-	5,746	-
Letting (hire)	20,275	-	20,275	-
Other income	2,974	-	2,974	2,096
	78,519	62	78,581	26,324

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

7. Stipends and staff costs

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<u>Ministry and staff</u>				
Stipends	48,766	6,000	54,766	53,192
Salaries staff	43,857	6,000	49,857	41,603
Employer's National Insurance	5,892	-	5,892	7,426
Pension costs	16,418	-	16,418	15,470
	<u>114,933</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>126,933</u>	<u>117,691</u>
<u>Internal organisations</u>				
Salaries	-	6,924	6,924	6,880

The average monthly number of staff employed during the year was 4 (2021: 4).

There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more.

7a. Trustees' emoluments

One or more Trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from their employment with the Circuit. Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking their employment roles under their contracts of employment and not in respect of their services as Trustees.

	2022 £	2021 £
Joan Van Anderson	-	1,592
Rev Andrew Letby	35,650	37,832
Revd Paulo Bessa Da Silva	33,058	34,039
Rev John Richey	8,600	8,445
	<u>77,308</u>	<u>81,908</u>

7b. Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel of the Circuit comprise of the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 3. The total amount of the employee benefits (including employer pension contributions received by the key management personnel for their services to the Circuit was £82,586 (2021: £95,455).

7c. Pension costs

The total pension cost for the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £16,418 (2021: £15,470). There were no outstanding or prepaid pension contributions at 31 August 2022.

8. Telephone, travel and administration

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Travel	175	-	175	102
Printing	402	-	402	805
Stationery and postage	1,181	-	1,181	1,292
Telephone, internet and website	3,348	500	3,848	4,094
Bank charges	94	-	94	104
Investment management fees	81	-	81	97
	<u>5,281</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>5,781</u>	<u>6,494</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

9. Maintenance on manses

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Building repairs and maintenance	4,515	-	4,515	17,923
Fire and security systems	284	-	284	270
Manse Council tax	3,946	-	3,946	3,117
Insurance	2,775	-	2,775	2,722
Utilities, telephone and other services	(1,062)	-	(1,062)	882
	<u>10,458</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,458</u>	<u>24,914</u>

10. Internal organisations

The Circuit has a lunch club project and the income and expenditure was as follows:

	Total Restricted Funds £
Income and Endowments from:	
Grants received *	9,801
Donation Received	100
Activities for generating funds	1,443
Charitable activities	6,889
Other Income	2,734
Total Income	<u>20,967</u>
Expenditure	
Charitable activities	12,167
Staff costs	6,924
Support costs	2,138
Total expenditure	<u>21,229</u>
Net movement in funds	(262)
Funds balances at 1 September 2021	<u>2,975</u>
Funds balances at 31 August 2022	<u><u>2,713</u></u>

* From London Borough of Hackney Fund.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

11. Other expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Tower Hamlets Methodist Circuit fees	6,420	-	6,420	4,364
Cleaning and waste removal	8,505	-	8,505	-
Training, conference and workshops	675	-	675	580
Ministry costs	4,436	-	4,436	5,061
Relocation expenses	-	-	-	617
Professional fees	17,530	-	17,530	1,630
Independent examiner's fees	-	-	-	3,300
Church independent examination fees	-	-	-	500
Letting agent fees	-	-	-	4,056
Subscription	-	-	-	1,452
Apprenticeship Levy	274	-	274	281
Other expenses	3,641	449	4,090	4,364
	41,481	449	41,930	26,205

12. Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
All We Can	145	-	145	250
Dalston Methodist Church	-	-	-	50
Methodist World Church Fund	-	-	-	50
Others	965	-	965	408
	1,110	-	1,110	758

13. Auditors' remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the Circuit's auditors for audit of the annual accounts	8,400	-

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

14. Tangible assets

	Freehold Land & Buildings
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2021	963,477
Additions - donated assets	3,692,898
At 31 August 2022	4,656,375

The carrying value of freehold land and building comprises of:

	2022 £	2021 £
Manses	963,477	963,477
Church building	3,692,898	-
	4,656,375	963,477

During the year, the Clapton Park Methodist Church building was transferred to the Circuit and has been included at the Trustees' estimated value at the date of transfer.

15. Financial Instruments

	2022 £	2021 £
Carrying amount of financial assets	2,906	5,948
Debit instruments measured at amortised cost		
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	23,055	40,001

16. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Other debtors	2,906	8,723

17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other Creditors	13,487	36,173
Accruals	9,568	3,828
	23,055	40,001

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 (continued)

18. Restricted funds

	Balance as at 01.09.21 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Balance as at 31.08.22 £
Funds				
i. Listening group fund	-	14,502	(12,949)	1,553
ii. Women in Britain (Network) fund	1,118	62	-	1,180
iii. Internal Organisations fund	2,975	20,967	(21,229)	2,713
	4,093	35,531	(34,178)	5,446

i. Listening group fund - The Listening Place is run twice a week at Stoke Newington Methodist Church and is part of the church's outreach work, encouraging involvement with the disadvantaged within the community.

ii. Women in Britain (Network) fund - This fund is a self financing and volunteer run within the Methodist Church in Britain.

iii. Internal Organisations fund - This fund is for the lunch club project operated within the Circuit.

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	4,656,375	-	4,656,375
Net current assets	207,488	5,446	212,934
	4,863,863	5,446	4,869,309

20. Related party transactions

The Circuit is part of The London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference, the ultimate controlling body. Related parties also include Ministers, other Circuit and Churches, Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP").

Details of the transactions occurring during the year were as follows:

Methodist church in Tower Hamlets (MCTH)

During the year, the Circuit paid management and administration fees of £6,420 (2021: £4,364) to MCTH for services provided by MCTH Circuit's Chief Executive Officer and other members of staff.

During the year, a loan owed from the Circuit to MCTH amounting to £9,000 was repaid in full.

West London Mission Circuit (WLMC)

The West London Mission Circuit makes payments to the Circuit as rent and as a contribution to Council Tax and the provision of telephone and broadband. The amount contributed this year was £24,533 (2021: £6,986).

Stoke Newington Methodist Church (SNMC)

During the year, the Circuit received management and administration fees of £24,991 (2021: £16,796) from SNMC for services provided by the Circuit's members of staff.

Accounts

2021

The Methodist Church - Hackney and Stoke
Newington Circuit
(London District – Circuit No 35/10)
Charity Registration Number 1134389
Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	Page
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS	3
TRUSTEES’ REPORT	4 – 7
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES’ RESPONSIBILITIES	8
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER’S REPORT	9
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	10-11
BALANCE SHEET	12
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	13- 20

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Reference and Administrative Details

Names and addresses

The address of the registered office for the Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit for the purposes of the Methodist Church Act 1976 and any other legislation is:

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11 - 13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY
Tel: 07736972202
Email: handsnmethodist@gmail.com
Web: www.hackneymethodist.org.uk

Custodian Trustees:

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester M1 1JQ

Senior Management Team:

Rev Andrew Letby
Rev Paulo Bessa Da Silva

Investment Managers:

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London EC2A 4PE

Trustees for the Methodist Connexional Funds (registered)
9 Bonhill Street
London EC2A 4PE

Bankers:

HSBC PLC
333 Vauxhall Bridge Road
Victoria
London SW1V 1EJ

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue,
ME 19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

Stephen Simou FCA
Citroen Wells
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
Devonshire House
1 Devonshire Street
London W1W 5DR

Solicitors:

Lovell Son and Pitfield
9 Gray's Inn Square
Gray's Inn
London WC1R 5JT

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2021

The Trustees present their report and the examined accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and accounts of the Circuit.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Circuit's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective from 1 January 2019).

Governance

The governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference, which meets annually. The authority under which the Conference acts is given by the Methodist Church Act 1976.

We are governed by the Methodist Churches Constitutional Practice and Discipline and all Charity Law of the United Kingdom.

The Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church. The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union of advancement of: (a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the 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 or subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church; any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives as set out above.

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is part of the Methodist Church London District, and is a registered charity, number 1134389.

Full Name of Charity: Hackney Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1134389

Date of Registration: 18 February 2010

Main Communication Address: The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
11 - 13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Trustees

The full list of Trustees who served during the year and up to date of signature of the accounts were as follows:

Trustees who joined during 2020/21 are shown with an (*) and those who left during the year with two (**). Trustees who have joined during 2021/22 are denoted with three (***) and those who left during 2020/21 are denoted with four (****).

Rev Andrew Letby	Rev John Pamhare Sakutombo
Vera Ferquharson**	Mackenzie Greer
Rev Paulo Bessa Da Silva*	Roland Hagan
Rev John Richey*	Catherine Hogan
Mandy Baafi*	Alexander Amarteifio
Laura Dyer Gloria Amarteifio	Valentine Baxter
Vera Mawu	Joyce Borley
Faginetta Beatrice Mclean	Susan Millman
Cora Woolcock	Mathilda Small-Byam
Eric Frempong	Icilda Lynch
Mary Campbell	Vicky Ryan
Rudolph Homer	Ernell Watson
Lucinda Ansah	Tetty Kojo Nartey****
Thomas Daley	Merlin Williams
Clord Dyer	Allins Horne
Esther Adekunle	Vanessa Baxter****
Charlotte Morgan	Kwaku Anyemedu
Eunice Whyte	Anthony Jumpah
Jacob Ogunleye	

Objective and purpose

The calling of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. This is expressed through Worship, Learning and Caring, Evangelism and Service. The Circuit is committed to use its resources in a clearly focussed and intentional way to ensure an effective response to the needs of our congregations and wider community.

Activities

The mission of the Circuit is to worship God as it celebrates its diversity according to the teachings of Jesus Christ. Through social ministry, prayer and pastoral care we will express God's kingdom of love.

Organisational structure

The Circuit includes responsibility for the Methodist Churches at Dalston, Clapton, Clapton Park, Mare Street and Stoke Newington (Stoke Newington Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Green Lanes and Stoke Newington High Street).

Internal Organisations

The Circuit includes two internal organisations: the Chatsworth Road Lunch Club project and Women in Britain group. The Chatsworth Road Lunch Club project has with its own management committee, chaired by Rev John Richey, under the umbrella of the Circuit Meeting. Women in Britain have no separate bank nor cash accounts. All income raised and spent in connection with this group is recorded by the Circuit and transacted through the Circuit bank account.

Staff

The Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Managing Trustees is Rev Andrew Letby. From September 2020 Rev Paulo Bessa da Silva was also stationed to the Circuit. In addition, the Circuit employs a supernumerary minister, Rev John Richey, for 2 days per week to assist with pastoral and preaching duties.

Together they have pastoral charge of the 5 Churches in the Circuit.

Theresa Sam (Church and Community Worker) left her post in August 2020.

Helen Cornick was employed as part-time (30 hours per week) Circuit Administrator and PA to the Superintendent from December 2020 in succession to Joan Van Anderson. The Circuit 'buys in' payroll and finance support from the Methodist Church in Tower Hamlets.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Achievements and performance

There are 4 active and 4 inactive Local Preachers in the Circuit. Circuit Stewards are Valentine Baxter, Sue Millman Kwaku Anyemedu and Catherine Hogan.

A full programme of Christian education, social activity and mission outreach work continued throughout the year despite the constraints put upon in person activity during the pandemic.

Property

Dalston Church rents out many of its rooms using the standard Methodist License. The Richmond Road Manse is let out on a managed tenancy through Courtney's Estate Agents until 30 June 2022.

At Stoke Newington High Street and Green Lanes Churches a full time premises manager has oversight of both sites, and the Listening Place Project offers drop-in and signposting for vulnerable people.

Investments

The investment of surplus funds is operated via the Central Finance Board (CFB) of the Methodist Church. CFB aims to provide high quality investment service seeking above average returns for long term investors, whilst ensuring that the securities held by all its funds are in line with the ethical policy of the Methodist Church. The Circuit has its funds in a deposit account with CFB. The Restricted Fund which is mainly funds from sales of properties is managed by Trustees for Methodist Purposes (TMCP). These funds are also invested with CFB.

Public Benefit Requirement

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission in compliance with its duties under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

This guidance sets out two key principles:

1. The organisation must have an identifiable benefit.
2. The benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Church exists to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

The Trustees consider that for these reasons the charity meets these public benefit requirements.

Financial Review

Circuit ministry is funded through the offering receipts from all the Churches in the Circuit and their respective assessment contributions. This was supplemented by rent received from the Circuit property in Richmond Road (a manse) and a grant of £12,000 towards the cost of the Circuit Administrator.

The various properties are funded from their income on a day-to-day basis.

The value of Circuit funds (including land and buildings) as at 31 August 2021 was £1,125,821 which is a decrease of £6,576 from the previous year.

A minister stationed in another circuit resides in Hackney and Stoke Newington Manse. Deacon Belinda Letby is a minister in the West London Mission Circuit. The West London Mission Circuit make payments to Hackney and Stoke Newington Circuit as rent and as a contribution to Council Tax and the provision of telephone and broadband. The amount contributed this year was £6,986.

Trustees' interests

The Ministers who are Trustees of the Circuit are paid a stipend and are given a manse for the Ministers and their family to live. The Council Tax is paid for by the Circuit and also an official telephone line with broadband facilities to enable them to carry out their service as Ministers. These arrangements are practiced throughout the Connexion.

Two payments were made to Trustees during the course of the year in respect of their assistance in developing Covid safe measures for all the churches. £500 was paid to each of Mrs Gloria Amarteifio and Mrs Catherine Hogan.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Risk Management

The Circuit has reviewed its risk policies and is producing a Risk Register highlighting the various risks facing the Circuit, the impact and the likelihood of them happening. The main headings under which these risks have been categorised are:

- Trustees' Responsibilities
- Membership and Mission
- Resources, People and Property
- Financial
- Legal

These risks are reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness.

Reserves Policy

The primary purposes of the Circuit are:

- (i) to support the presbyteral ministers in their responsibilities to preach, offer a sacramental ministry and provide pastoral care to the congregations of the six Methodist Churches and to the wider community within the borough of Hackney and Stoke Newington.
- (ii) to support the work of the lay employees, Circuit officers and Church members in their various responsibilities in relation to the Circuit's overall mission.

The reserves policy in connection with this purpose is to maintain sufficient funds to ensure the payment of stipends, other allowances, manse costs and contributions to the District assessment for two ministers for six months.

The unrestricted funds, excluding Manses, of £158,251 are for the purpose of the Circuit.

Plans for the future

This has been another challenging year due to consequences of Covid 19 lockdown and other restrictions. The Circuit moved to offering most services of worship and fellowship groups using online platforms with in person worship services and meetings beginning to restart from July 2021. Even as it becomes possible to resume regular worship, we have continued to develop our online offering to allow for wider participation. To support this the Circuit will continue to work on addressing issues of digital exclusion through an ongoing link with Hackney Citizens.

Approved by the Trustees on the 21/6/2022 signed on their behalf by:

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa da Silva

Rev Paulo Bessa Da Silva
Minister

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities for the year ended 31 August 2021

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts, and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church, the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and other relevant regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of frauds and other irregularities.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Church

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Church (the Circuit) for the year ended 31 August 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Circuit 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. 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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Circuit has prepared accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Circuit as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Stephen Simou FCA

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

Independent Examiner

Devonshire House
1 Devonshire Street
London, W1W 5DR

21/6/2022

Date:

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Income and Endowments from:					
Circuit assessment	3	134,525	-	134,525	167,000
Grants and donations received	4	-	21,644	21,644	36,271
Investment income and interest	5	285	-	285	936
Rental income		33,800	-	33,800	31,547
Other income	6	25,878	446	26,324	18,795
Internal organisations	10	-	10,210	10,210	11,661
Total income		194,488	32,300	226,788	266,210
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Stipends and staff costs:					
Ministry	7	96,047	21,644	117,691	112,646
Internal organisations	10	-	6,880	6,880	6,396
District assessment		43,824	-	43,824	39,984
Telephone, travel and administration	8	6,494	-	6,494	4,959
Maintenance on manses	9	24,914	-	24,914	65,201
District advance fund		708	-	708	1,212
Other expenditure	11	26,205	-	26,205	31,308
Internal organisations	10	-	5,890	5,890	7,859
Grants and donations	12	508	250	758	250
Total expenditure		198,700	34,664	233,364	269,815
Net expenditure before transfers		(4,212)	(2,364)	(6,576)	(3,605)
Transfers between funds		(922)	922	-	-
Net movement in funds		(5,134)	(1,442)	(6,576)	(3,605)
Funds balances at 1 September 2020		1,126,862	5,535	1,132,397	1,136,002
Funds balances at 31 August 2021		1,121,728	4,093	1,125,821	1,132,397

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2021

Comparative year information

Year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 Total £
Income and Endowments from:				
Circuit assessment	3	167,000	-	167,000
Grants and donations received	4	36,271	-	36,271
Investment income and interest	5	936	-	936
Rental income		31,547	-	31,547
Other income	6	18,795	-	18,795
Internal organisations	10	-	11,661	11,661
Total income		254,549	11,661	266,210
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities:				
Stipends and staff costs:				
Ministry	7	112,646	-	112,646
Internal organisations	10	-	6,396	6,396
District assessment		39,984	-	39,984
Telephone, travel & administration	8	4,959	-	4,959
Maintenance on manses	9	65,201	-	65,201
District advance fund		1,212	-	1,212
Other expenditure	11	31,308	-	31,308
Internal organisations	10	-	7,859	7,859
Grants and donations	12	250	-	250
Total expenditure		255,560	14,255	269,815
Net movement in funds		(1,011)	(2,594)	(3,605)
Funds balances at 1 September 2019		1,127,873	8,129	1,136,002
Funds balances at 31 August 2020		1,126,862	5,535	1,132,397

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	13	963,477	-	963,477	963,477
		<u>963,477</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>963,477</u>	<u>963,477</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors	14	8,723	-	8,723	8,850
T.M.C.P. Interest funds		28,334	-	28,334	48,483
Central Finance Board Deposits		113,937	-	113,937	78,386
Cash at bank and in hand		47,258	1,118	48,376	62,040
Fund held by internal Organisations		-	2,975	2,975	5,535
		<u>198,252</u>	<u>4,093</u>	<u>202,345</u>	<u>203,294</u>
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(40,001)	-	(40,001)	(34,374)
Net Current Assets		<u>158,251</u>	<u>4,093</u>	<u>162,344</u>	<u>168,920</u>
Net Assets		<u>1,121,728</u>	<u>4,093</u>	<u>1,125,821</u>	<u>1,132,397</u>
Accumulated funds					
Unrestricted funds		1,121,728	-	1,121,728	1,126,862
Restricted funds		-	4,093	4,093	5,535
Total Funds		<u>1,121,728</u>	<u>4,093</u>	<u>1,125,821</u>	<u>1,132,397</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 21/6/2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev Dr Paulo Bessa da Silva

.....
Rev Paulo Bessa Da Silva
Minister

Sue Millman

.....
Susan Millman
Circuit Steward

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021

1. Accounting policies

a) Circuit information

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is an unincorporated Charity in England and Wales. The main address is given on page 4 of these accounts.

b) Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019)'. The Circuit is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Circuit has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The accounts have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Circuit.

The accounts of the Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies are set out below.

c) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Circuit has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable

d) Funds

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are held for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors and grantors. The aim and use of the major restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

e) Income recognition

Church assessment

The Church assessment is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Benevolence

Benevolence funds have been historically contributed by the six Churches from their general funds and are accounted for on a receipts basis in accordance with Standing Order 527 of the Constitution of the Methodist Church.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)****1. Accounting policies (continued)****Grants and donations received**

Grants from third parties are included when the relevant conditions for the grant have been met.

Voluntary income comprises donations and contributions and is accounted for when entitlement has been confirmed, the amount can be measured and receipt is probable.

Rental income

Rental income from investment properties is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Other income

Other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Lunch Club

Lunch Club is the project of Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Church Circuit. The income is either derived from voluntary income, grants or by way of charitable activities.

Investment income and interest

Interest on deposits and investments is accounted on a receivable basis.

f) Expenditure recognitionExpenses

All expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. Any ensuing liabilities are recognised as soon as a legal or constructive obligation arises.

District assessment

District assessment is accounted for on an accruals basis.

g) Tangible fixed assets

Properties are stated at cost or in the case of donated assets at valuation at the date that the assets are gifted to the Circuit. The Trustees consider that the lives of the properties are so long and their residual values so high based on prices prevailing at the time of acquisition that the annual depreciation charge and accumulated depreciation is not material. Accordingly, no depreciation is provided on freehold properties used for charitable activities. Any material impairment in the value of such properties, following an annual review, would be chargeable to the Statement of Financial Activities.

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year.

h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Financial instruments

The Circuit has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Circuit's balance sheet when the Circuit becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include other debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including other payables are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

j) Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Circuit is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

k) Retirement benefits

Stipendiary Circuit Ministers are eligible to join the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). The MMPS is a funded defined benefit scheme maintained by The Methodist Church of Great Britain. As the Circuit is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme, the Circuit has taken the advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 102, Retirement Benefits, and has accounted its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs for the scheme represent the contribution payable by the Circuit in the year. The contribution rates are set each year by the Methodist Conference.

Access to a stakeholder pension scheme is provided to all eligible lay employees and the Circuit contributes an amount equal to 6% of the employee's gross salary into this scheme.

Two employees are contributing to the scheme.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Circuit's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)****3 . Circuit assessment**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Clapton Methodist Church	24,800	31,000
Clapton Park Methodist Church	20,800	28,000
Dalston Methodist Church	20,800	26,000
Green Lane / Stoke Newington Methodist Church	45,175	57,000
Mare Street Methodist Church	22,950	25,000
	134,525	167,000

4 . Grants and donation received

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
London District Methodist Church	-	18000	18,000	18,929
Tower Hamlets Methodist Church	-	-	-	5,000
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	11,640
Hackney Giving	-	3,644	3,644	-
Others	-	-	-	702
	-	21,644	21,644	36,271

5 . Investment income and interest

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Interest from CFB Bank	125	-	125	338
Interest from Trust	160	-	160	598
	285	-	285	936

6 . Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Management fees	16,796	-	16,796	16,241
Women in Britain(Network)	-	446	446	-
West London Mission	6,986	-	6,986	-
Other income	2,096	-	2,096	2,554
	25,878	446	26,324	18,795

7 . Stipends and staff costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
<u>Ministry</u>				
Stipends	71,871	-	71,871	67,968
Salaries	41,603	-	41,603	41,332
Employer's National Insurance	2,323	-	2,323	1,101
Pension costs	1,894	-	1,894	2,245
	117,691	-	117,691	112,646

The average monthly number of staff employed during the year was 4 (2020: 4).
There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)****7a. Trustees' emoluments**

One or more Trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from their employment with the Circuit. Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking their employment roles under their contracts of employment and not in respect of their services as Trustees.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Joan Van Anderson	1,592	4,766
Rev Andrew Letby	37,832	36,668
Revd Hazel Forecast	-	31,142
Revd Paulo Bessa Da Silva	34,039	-
	73,463	72,576

7b. Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel of the Circuit comprise of the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 3. The total amount of the employee benefits (including employer pension contributions received by the key management personnel for their services to the Circuit was £76,972 (2020: £72,576).

7c. Pension costs

The total pension cost for the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £1,894 (2020: £2,245). There were no outstanding or prepaid pension contributions at 31 August 2021.

8. Telephone, travel and administration	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Travel	102	-	102	178
Printing	805	-	805	611
Stationery and postage	1,292	-	1,292	530
Telephone ,internet and website	4,094	-	4,094	3,475
Bank charges	104	-	104	15
Investment management fees	97	-	97	150
	6,494	-	6,494	4,959

9. Maintenance on manses

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Building repairs and maintenance	17,923	-	17,923	57,961
Fire and security systems	270	-	270	1,663
Manse Council tax	3,117	-	3,117	2,918
Insurance	2,722	-	2,722	2,520
Utilities, telephone and other services	882	-	882	139
Cleaning costs	-	-	-	-
	24,914	-	24,914	65,201

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)****10. Internal organisations**

The Hackney and Stoke Newington has a lunch club project and the income and expenditure was as follows:

	Total Restricted Funds £
Income and Endowments from:	
Grants received *	7,841
Activities for generating funds	230
Charitable activities	<u>2,139</u>
Total Income	10,210
Expenditure	
Charitable activities	5,354
Staff costs	6,880
Support costs	<u>536</u>
Total expenditure	12,770
Net movement in funds	(2,560)
Funds balances at 1 September 2020	<u>5,535</u>
Funds balances at 31 August 2021	<u>2,975</u>

Notable grants were received during the year from the following organisations:

* London Borough of Hackney Fund (£7,841) provided funding for the lunch club Project.

11. Other expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Youth expenses	-	-	-	121
Tower Hamlets Methodist Circuit fees	4,364	-	4,364	9,900
Dalston Project	-	-	-	3,810
Training, conference and workshops	580	-	580	396
Ministry costs	5,061	-	5,061	7,227
Relocation expenses	617	-	617	-
Profession fees	1,630	-	1,630	825
Independent examiner's fees	3,300	-	3,300	3,120
Church independent examination fees	500	-	500	-
Letting agent fees	4,056	-	4,056	4,056
Subscription	1,452	-	1,452	1,567
Apprenticeship Levy	281	-	281	286
Other expenses	4,364	-	4,364	-
	<u>26,205</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,205</u>	<u>31,308</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

12. Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
All We Can	-	250	250	-
Dalston Methodist Church	50	-	50	-
Methodist World Church Fund	50	-	50	-
Others	408	-	408	250
	508	250	758	250

13. Tangible assets

	Freehold Land & Buildings
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2020 and	
At 31 August 2021	963,477

The carrying value of freehold land and building comprises of:

	2021 £	2020 £
Manses	963,477	963,477
	963,477	963,477

14. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	8,723	8,850

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other Creditors	36,173	28,821
Accruals	3,828	5,553
	40,001	34,374

16. Restricted funds

	Balance as at 01.09.20 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers between funds £	Balance as at 31.08.21 £
Funds					
i. Grants	-	21,644	(21,644)	-	-
ii. Women in Britain(Network	-	446	(250)	922	1,118
iii. Lunch Club	5,535	10,210	(12,770)	-	2,975
	5,535	32,300	(34,664)	922	4,093

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 (continued)****17. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	963,477	-	963,477
Net current assets	<u>158,251</u>	<u>4,093</u>	<u>162,344</u>
	<u>1,121,728</u>	<u>4,093</u>	<u>1,125,821</u>

18. Related party transactions

The Circuit is part of The London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference, the ultimate controlling body. Related parties also include Ministers, other Circuit and Churches, Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP").

Details of the transactions occurring during the year were as follows:

Methodist church in Tower Hamlets (MCTH)

During the year, the Circuit paid management and administration fees of £4,364 (2020: £9,900) to MCTH for services provided by MCTH Circuit's Chief Executive Officer and other members of staff.

Last year, the MCTH advanced a loan of £18,000 to the circuit and £9,000 was still outstanding at 31 August 2021. Capital is repayable in eight equal instalments of £2,250 and interest, calculated based on the rate the Circuit would have received on its investment, will be paid when the capital is fully repaid.

Accounts

2020

The Methodist Church - Hackney and Stoke
Newington Circuit
(London District – Circuit No 35/10)
Charity Registration Number 1134389
Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	Page
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS	3
TRUSTEES’ REPORT	4 – 8
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES’ RESPONSIBILITIES	9
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER’S REPORT	10
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	11-12
BALANCE SHEET	13
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	14 - 21

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Reference and Administrative Details

Names and addresses

The address of the registered office for the Tower Hamlets Circuit for the purposes of the Methodist Church Act 1976 and any other legislation is:

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY
Tel: 020 7254 2399
Web: www.hackneymethodist.org.uk

Custodian Trustees:

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester M1 1JQ

Senior Management Team:

Revd Andrew Letby
Revd Hazel Forecast

Investment Managers:

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London EC2A 4PE

Trustees for the Methodist Connexional Funds (registered)
9 Bonhill Street
London EC2A 4PE

Bankers:

HSBC PLC
333 Vauxhall Bridge Road
Victoria
London SW1V 1E

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue,
ME 19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

Stephen Simou FCA
Citroen Wells
Chartered Accountants
Devonshire House
1 Devonshire Street
London W1W 5DR

Solicitors:

Lovell Son and Pitfield
9 Gray's Inn Square
Gray's Inn
London WC1R 5JT

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2020

The Trustees present their report and the examined accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2020. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and accounts of the Circuit.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Circuit's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Governance

The governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference, which meets annually. The authority under which the Conference acts is given by the Methodist Church Act 1976.

We are governed by the Methodist Churches Constitutional Practice and Discipline and all Charity Law of the United Kingdom.

The Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church. The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union of advancement of: (a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the 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 or subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church; any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives as set out above.

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is part of the Methodist Church London District, and is a registered charity, number 1134389.

Full Name of Charity: Hackney Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1134389

Date of Registration: 18 February 2010

Main Communication Address: The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington
Dalston Methodist Church
13 Richmond Road
London E8 3HY

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Trustees

The full list of Trustees who served during the year and up to date of signature of the accounts were as follows:

Trustees who joined during 19/20 are shown with an asterix (*) and those who left during the year with (**). Trustees who have joined during 2020/21 are denoted with three asterisks (***)

Revd Andrew Letby	Revd John Pamhare Sakutombo
Hazel Forecast**	Mackenzie Greer
Revd Paulo Bessa Da Silva***	Roland Hagan*
John Richey***	Catherine Hogan
Mandy Baafi*	Alexander Amarteifio*
Laura Dyer	Gloria Amarteifio*
Vera Mawu*	Valentine Baxter
FagINETTE Beatrice Mclean	Joyce Borley
Cora Woolcock	Sue Millman*
Eric Frempong	Mathilda Small-Byam*
Mary Campbell*	Icilda Lynch*
Rudolph Homer	Vicky Ryan
Eric Ayoola **	Ernell Watson
Thomas Daley	Kojo Nartey*
Clord Dyer	Merlin Williams
Esther Adekunle	Allins Horne
Charlotte Morgan	Vanessa Baxter
Eunice Whyte	Doreen Williams**
Kwaku Anyemedu	Wilhelmina Aidoo **
Jacob Ogunleye	Vera Farquharson
Lucinda Ansah	Anthony Jumpah

Method to recruit new Trustees

There are a number of *ex officio* trustees – a London District Chair, Presbyters, Circuit Stewards, secretary of the Local Preachers' Meeting and one Steward from each of the Churches in the Circuit. These trustees will change when the post holders change. Additional members from each Church are confirmed by the relevant Church Council. A Secretary of the Circuit Meeting, who is a Lay Person, is appointed by the meeting.

Objective and purpose

The calling of the Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Circuit is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. This is expressed through Worship, Learning and Caring, Evangelism and Service. The Circuit is committed to use its resources in a clearly focussed and intentional way to ensure an effective response to the needs of our congregations and wider community.

Activities

The mission of the Circuit is to worship God as it celebrates its diversity according to the teachings of Jesus Christ. Through social ministry, prayer and pastoral care we will express God's kingdom of love.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Annual Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Organisational structure

The Circuit includes responsibility for the Methodist Churches at Dalston, Clapton, Clapton Park, Mare Street and Stoke Newington (Stoke Newington Methodist Church operates from 2 sites on Green Lanes and Stoke Newington High Street). In addition to the above, the Circuit runs one Project, the Chatsworth Road Lunch Club as an Internal Organisation, with its own management committee, chaired by Revd Hazel Forecast, under the umbrella of the Circuit Meeting.

Staff

The Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Managing Trustees is Revd Andrew Letby, who until August 2020 worked alongside another presbyter Revd Hazel Forecast. She was succeeded by Revd Paulo Bessa da Silva and Revd John Richety. Together they have pastoral charge of the 5 Churches in the Circuit.

There is a part time Circuit Church and Community Worker, Theresa Sam, who commenced work on 1 September 2016. The post is funded jointly by the Circuit. In addition, the Circuit Office is staffed by Joan Van Anderson (one day per week equivalent). The Circuit 'buys in' property, HR, and finance support from the Methodist Church in Tower Hamlets.

Achievements and performance

There are 4 active and 4 inactive Local Preachers in the Circuit. Circuit Stewards were Valentine Baxter, Sue Millman Kweku Anyemedu and Catherine Hogan.

A full programme of Christian education, social activity and mission outreach work continued throughout the year.

Property

Dalston Church rents out many of its rooms using the standard Methodist License. The Richmond Road Manse is let out on a managed tenancy through Courtney's Estate Agents until 30 June 2021.

At Stoke Newington High Street and Green Lanes Churches a full time premises manager has oversight of both sites, and the Listening Place Project offers drop-in and signposting for vulnerable people.

Investments

The investment of surplus funds is operated via the Central Finance Board (CFB) of the Methodist Church. CFB aims to provide high quality investment service seeking above average returns for long term investors, whilst ensuring that the securities held by all its funds are in line with the ethical policy of the Methodist Church. The Circuit has its funds in a deposit account with CFB. The Restricted Fund which is mainly funds from sales of properties is managed by Trustees for Methodist Purposes (TMCP). These funds are also invested with CFB.

Public Benefit Requirement

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance published by the Charities Commission in compliance with its duties under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

This guidance sets out two key principles:

1. The organisation must have an identifiable benefit.
2. The benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Church exists to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

The Trustees consider that for these reasons the charity meets these public benefit requirements.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Annual Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Financial Review

Circuit ministry is funded through the offering receipts from all the Churches in the Circuit and their respective assessment contributions. This was supplemented by rent received from the Circuit property in Richmond Road (a manse) and a grant of £10,000 towards the costs of the Church and Community Worker.

The various properties are funded from their income on a day to day basis.

The value of Circuit funds (including land and buildings) as at 31 August 2020 was £1,132,397 which is a decrease of £3,605 from the previous year.

Trustees' interests

The Ministers who are Trustees of the Circuit are paid a stipend and are given a manse for the Ministers and their family to live. The Council Tax is paid for by the Circuit and also an official telephone line with broadband facilities to enable them to carry out their service as Ministers. These arrangements are practiced throughout the Connexion.

Apart from these, no other Trustees have been paid for their services to the Circuit.

Risk Management

The Circuit has reviewed its risk policies and is producing a Risk Register highlighting the various risks facing the Circuit, the impact and the likelihood of them happening. The main headings under which these risks have been categorised are:

- Trustees' Responsibilities
- Membership and Mission
- Resources, People and Property
- Financial
- Legal

These risks are reviewed regularly to ensure effectiveness.

Reserves Policy

The primary purposes of the Circuit are:

- (i) to support the presbyteral ministers in their responsibilities to preach, offer a sacramental ministry and provide pastoral care to the congregations of the six Methodist Churches and to the wider community within the borough of Hackney and Stoke Newington.
- (ii) to support the work of the lay employees, Circuit officers and Church members in their various responsibilities in relation to the Circuit's overall mission.

The reserves policy in connection with this purpose is to maintain sufficient funds to ensure the payment of stipends, other allowances, manse costs and contributions to the District assessment for two ministers for one year.

The unrestricted funds, excluding Manses, of £163,385 are for the purpose of the Circuit.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Annual Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Plans for the future

This has been a challenging year due to consequences of Covid 19 lockdown and other restrictions. The circuit moved to offering most services of worship and fellowship groups using online platforms. Even when it is possible to resume regular worship, we will continue to develop our online offering to allow for wider participation. To support this the circuit will continue to work on addressing issues of digital exclusion through an ongoing link with Hackney Citizens.

Approved by the Trustees on the 25/5/2021 signed on their behalf by:



**Revd Andrew Letby
Superintendent Minister**

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities for the year ended 31 August 2020

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts, and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church, the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and other relevant regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of frauds and other irregularities.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Church

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Church (the Circuit) for the year ended 31 August 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Circuit you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Circuit has prepared accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed by examination. I confirm that no material 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 Circuit as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Stephen Simou FCA

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

Independent Examiner

Devonshire House
1 Devonshire Street
London, W1W 5DR

27/5/2021

Date:

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
Income and Endowments from:					
Circuit assessment	3	167,000	-	167,000	167,000
Grants and donations received	4	36,271	-	36,271	-
Investment income and interest	5	936	-	936	949
Rental income		31,547	-	31,547	33,800
Other income	6	18,795	-	18,795	24,652
Internal organisations	10	-	11,661	11,661	33,249
Total income		254,549	11,661	266,210	259,650
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Stipends and staff costs:					
Ministry	7	112,646	-	112,646	110,897
Internal organisations	10	-	6,396	6,396	6,305
District assessment		39,984	-	39,984	34,337
Telephone, travel and administration	8	4,959	-	4,959	4,566
Maintenance on manses	9	65,201	-	65,201	20,901
District advance fund		1,212	-	1,212	4,555
Other expenditure	11	31,308	-	31,308	42,585
Internal organisations	10	-	7,859	7,859	20,731
Grants and donations	12	250	-	250	35,540
Total expenditure		255,560	14,255	269,815	280,417
Net movement in funds		(1,011)	(2,594)	(3,605)	(20,767)
Funds balances at 1 September 2019		1,127,873	8,129	1,136,002	1,156,769
Funds balances at 31 August 2020		1,126,862	5,535	1,132,397	1,136,002

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2020

Comparative year information

Year ended 31 August 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2019 Total £
Income and Endowments from:				
Circuit assessment	3	167,000	-	167,000
Investment income and interest	5	949	-	949
Rental income		33,800	-	33,800
Other income	6	24,652	-	24,652
Internal organisations		-	33,249	33,249
Total income		226,401	33,249	259,650
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities:				
Stipends and staff costs:				
Ministry	7	110,897	-	110,897
Internal organisations		-	6,305	6,305
District assessment		34,337	-	34,337
Telephone, travel and administration	8	4,566	-	4,566
Maintenance on manses	9	20,901	-	20,901
District advance fund		4,555	-	4,555
Other expenditure	10	42,585	-	42,585
Internal organisations		-	20,731	20,731
Grants and donations		35,540	-	35,540
Total expenditure		253,381	27,036	280,417
Net movement in funds		(26,980)	6,213	(20,767)
Funds balances at 1 September 2018		1,154,853	1,916	1,156,769
Funds balances at 31 August 2019		1,127,873	8,129	1,136,002

All activities are classified as continuing.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	13	963,477	-	963,477	963,477
		963,477	-	963,477	963,477
Current Assets					
Debtors	14	8,850	-	8,850	42,733
T.M.C.P. Interest funds		48,483	-	48,483	74,908
Central Finance Board Deposits		78,386	-	78,386	38,286
Cash at bank and in hand		62,040	-	62,040	14,943
Fund held by internal Organisations		-	5,535	5,535	8,129
		197,759	5,535	203,294	178,999
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(34,374)	-	(34,374)	(6,474)
Net Current Assets		163,385	5,535	168,920	172,525
Net Assets		1,126,862	5,535	1,132,397	1,136,002
Accumulated funds					
Unrestricted funds		1,126,862	-	1,126,862	1,127,873
Restricted funds		-	5,535	5,535	8,129
Total Funds		1,126,862	5,535	1,132,397	1,136,002

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 25/5/2021

and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Revd Andrew Letby
 Chair of Circuit



.....
Susan Millman
 Circuit Steward

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020

1. Accounting policies

a) Circuit information

The Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington is an unincorporated Charity in England and Wales. The main address is given on page 3 of these accounts. The nature of the Circuit's operations and principal activities are set out in the Trustees' Report.

b) Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). The Circuit is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Circuit has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The accounts have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Circuit. Monetary amounts in these accounts are rounded to the nearest pound.

The accounts of the Methodist Church in Hackney and Stoke Newington have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies are set out below.

c) Going concern

At the year end, the Circuit had unrestricted general reserves of £163,385 and it will continue to receive income from the churches in the Circuit and from property rentals during 2021. If required, it can also seek financial support from other Methodist Church entities. The Trustees acknowledge the adverse effect that the Covid pandemic has had on not only the services it offers to its worshippers but also on its finances but most of the challenges have been overcome. Thus, at the time of approving these accounts, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Circuit will have sufficient financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

d) Funds

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are held for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors and grantors. The aim and use of the major restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

e) Income recognition

Church assessment

The Church assessment is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Benevolence

Benevolence funds have been historically contributed by the six Churches from their general funds and are accounted for on a receipts basis in accordance with Standing Order 527 of the Constitution of the Methodist Church.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Grants and donations received

Grants from third parties are included when the relevant conditions for the grant have been met.

Voluntary income comprises donations and contributions and is accounted for when entitlement has been confirmed, the amount can be measured and receipt is probable.

Rental income

Rental income from investment properties is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Other income

Other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

Lunch Club

Lunch Club is the project of Hackney and Stoke Newington Methodist Church Circuit. The income is either derived from voluntary income, grants or by way of charitable activities.

Investment income and interest

Interest on deposits and investments is accounted on a receivable basis.

f) Expenditure recognition

Expenses

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Any ensuing liabilities are recognised as soon as a legal or constructive obligation arises.

District assessment

District assessment is accounted for on an accruals basis.

g) Tangible fixed assets

Properties are stated at cost or in the case of donated assets at valuation at the date that the assets are gifted to the Circuit. The Trustees consider that the lives of the properties are so long and their residual values so high based on prices prevailing at the time of acquisition that the annual depreciation charge and accumulated depreciation is not material. Accordingly, no depreciation is provided on freehold properties used for charitable activities. Any material impairment in the value of such properties, following an annual review, would be chargeable to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Assets having an initial cost of £1,000 or less are written off on acquisition. Fixtures and fittings, office and computer equipment having an initial cost greater than £1,000 are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life are as follows:

- Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 10% - 20% on a straight line basis

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year.

h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Financial instruments

The Circuit has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Circuit's balance sheet when the Circuit becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the accounts, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include other debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including other payables are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

j) Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Circuit is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

k) Retirement benefits

Stipendiary Circuit Ministers are eligible to join the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). The MMPS is a funded defined benefit scheme maintained by The Methodist Church of Great Britain. As the Circuit is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme, the Circuit has taken the advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard 102, Retirement Benefits, and has accounted its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs for the scheme represent the contribution payable by the Circuit in the year. The contribution rates are set each year by the Methodist Conference.

Access to a stakeholder pension scheme is provided to all eligible lay employees and the Circuit contributes an amount equal to 6% of the employee's gross salary into this scheme. Three employees are contributing to the scheme.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Circuit's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)****3. Circuit assessment**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Clapton Methodist Church	31,000	31,000
Clapton Park Methodist Church	28,000	28,000
Dalston Methodist Church	26,000	26,000
Green Lane / Stoke Newington Methodist Church	57,000	57,000
Mare Street Methodist Church	25,000	25,000
	167,000	167,000

4. Grants and donations received

	2020	2019
	£	£
London District	4,929	-
TMCP 16035	14,000	-
MCTH	5,000	-
HMRC Job Retention Scheme	11,640	-
Others	702	-
	36,271	-

5. Investment income and interest

	2020	2019
	£	£
Interest from CFB Bank	338	294
Interest from Trust	598	655
	936	949

6. Other Income

	2020	2019
	£	£
Management fees	16,241	23,757
Other income	2,554	895
	18,795	24,652

7. Stipends and staff costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2020 Total	2019 Total
	£	£	£	£
<u>Ministry</u>				
Stipends	67,968	-	67,968	50,363
Salaries	41,332	-	41,332	40,325
Employer's National Insurance	1,101	-	1,101	4,690
Pension costs	2,245	-	2,245	15,519
	112,646	-	112,646	110,897

The average monthly number of staff employed during the year was 4 (2019: 4).

There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)****7a. Trustees' emoluments**

One or more Trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from their employment with the Circuit. Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking their employment roles under their contracts of employment and not in respect of their services as Trustees.

	2020	2019
	£	£
Joan Van Anderson	4,766	4,893
Revd Catherine Bird	-	29,797
Rev Andrew Letby	36,668	2,835
Revd Hazel Forecast	31,142	30,764
	72,576	68,289

7b. Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel of the Circuit comprise of the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 3. The total amount of the employee benefits (including employer pension contributions received by the key management personnel for their services to the Circuit was £72,576 (2019: £67,989).

7c. Pension costs

The total pension cost for the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £2,245 (2019: £2,486). There were no outstanding or prepaid pension contributions at 31 August 2020.

8. Telephone, travel and administration	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020	2019
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Travel	178	-	178	55
Printing	611	-	611	732
Stationery and postage	530	-	530	936
Telephone, internet and website	3,475	-	3,475	2,636
Bank charges	15	-	15	-
Investment management fees	150	-	150	207
	4,959	-	4,959	4,566

9. Maintenance on manses

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020	2019
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Building repairs and maintenance	57,961	-	57,961	14,428
Fire and security systems	1,663	-	1,663	270
Manse Council tax	2,918	-	2,918	2,778
Insurance	2,520	-	2,520	2,454
Utilities, telephone and other services	139	-	139	971
	65,201	-	65,201	20,901

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON**Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)****10. Internal organisations**

The Hackney and Stoke Newington has a lunch club project and the income and expenditure was as follows:

	Total Restricted Funds £
Income and Endowments from:	
Grants received *	8,013
Activities for generating funds	263
Charitable activities	<u>3,385</u>
Total Income	11,661
Expenditure	
Charitable activities	4,700
Staff costs	6,396
Support costs	<u>3,159</u>
Total expenditure	14,255
Net movement in funds	(2,594)
Funds balances at 1 September 2019	<u>8,129</u>
Funds balances at 31 August 2020	<u>5,535</u>

Notable grants were received during the year from the following organisations:

*London Borough of Hackney Fund (£5,881) and HMRC Job Retention Scheme (£2,132) provided funding for the lunch club **Project**.

11. Other expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
Youth expenses	121	-	121	349
Tower Hamlets Methodist Circuit fees	9,900	-	9,900	9,900
Dalston	3,810	-	3,810	-
Training, conference and workshops	396	-	396	4,649
Ministry costs	7,227	-	7,227	6,759
Relocation expenses	-	-	-	4,518
Profession fees	825	-	825	5,335
Independent examiner's fees	3,120	-	3,120	3,120
Letting agent fees	4,056	-	4,056	4,056
Subscription	1,567	-	1,567	1,556
Tenant Compensation	-	-	-	1,300
Apprenticeship Levy	286	-	286	254
Other expenses	-	-	-	789
	<u>31,308</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,308</u>	<u>42,585</u>

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

12. Grants and donations

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2020 Total	2019 Total
	£	£	£	£
Chatsworth Road Methodist Church	-	-	-	7,000
Dalton Methodist Church	-	-	-	8,500
Stoke Newington Methodist Church	-	-	-	20,000
Others	250	-	250	-
Action for children	-	-	-	40
	250	-	250	35,540

13. Tangible assets

	Freehold Land & Buildings
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2019 and	
At 31 August 2020	963,477

The carrying value of freehold land and building comprises of:

	2020 £	2019 £
Manses	963,477	963,477
	963,477	963,477

14. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Other debtors	8,850	42,733

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Other Creditors	28,821	1,482
Accruals	5,553	4,993
	34,374	6,475

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2020 Total
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	963,477	-	963,477
Net current assets	163,385	5,535	168,920
	1,126,862	5,535	1,132,397

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

17. Related party transactions

The Circuit is part of The London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference, the ultimate controlling body. Related parties also include Ministers, other Circuit and Churches, Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP").

Details of the transactions occurring during the year were as follows:

Methodist church in Tower Hamlets (MCTH)

During the year, the Circuit paid management and administration fees of £9,900 (2019: £9,900) to MCTH for services provided by MCTH Circuit's Chief Executive Officer and other members of staff.

During the year, MCTH advanced a loan of £18,000 to the Circuit and this amount was outstanding at 31 August 2020. Capital is repayable in eight equal instalments of £2,250 and interest, calculated based on HMRC's official rate of interest, will be paid when the capital is fully repaid.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH - HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON CIRCUIT
DALSTON METHODIST CHURCH
13 RICHMOND ROAD
LONDON E8 3HY**

Stephen Simou
Citroen Wells
Chartered Accountants
Devonshire House
1 Devonshire Street
London
W1W 5DR

25/5/2021

Dear Sirs,

RE: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience such as we consider necessary in connection with your report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2021. These enquiries have included inspection of supporting documentation where appropriate. All representations are made to the best of our knowledge and belief.

GENERAL

1. We acknowledge that the work performed by you is substantially less in scope than an audit performed in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) and that you do not express an audit opinion.
2. We confirm that the Charity was entitled to exemption under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 from the requirement to have its financial statements for the financial year ended 31 August 2021 audited.
3. We have fulfilled our responsibilities as Trustees under the Charities Act 2011, as set out in the terms of your engagement letter, for preparing financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for making accurate representations to you.
4. All the transactions undertaken by the Charity have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records, including those related to the Covid-19 pandemic.
5. All the accounting records and related financial information, including minutes of all management and Trustees' meetings, and correspondence with the Charity Commission, have been made available to you for the purpose of your work. We have provided you with unrestricted access to all appropriate persons within the Charity.
6. The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

7. The Charity has satisfactory title to all assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on the Charity's assets, except for those that are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
8. All actual liabilities, contingent liabilities and guarantees given to third parties have been recorded or disclosed as appropriate.

9. We have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value and where relevant the fair value measurements or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.

ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

10. Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

LOANS AND ARRANGEMENTS

11. The Charity has not granted any advances or credits to, or made guarantees on behalf of, Trustees other than those disclosed in the financial statements.

LEGAL CLAIMS

12. We have disclosed to you all claims in connection with litigation that have been, or are expected to be, received and such matters, as appropriate, have been properly accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements.

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

13. We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.

RELATED PARTIES

14. Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements. We have disclosed to you all relevant information concerning such relationships and transactions and are not aware of any other matters which require disclosure in order to comply with the requirements of charity law or accounting standards.

SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

15. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements which require adjustment or disclosure have been properly accounted for and disclosed.

GOING CONCERN

16. We believe that the Charity's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the Charity's needs. We have considered a period of twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. We believe that no further disclosures relating to the Charity's ability to continue need to be made in the financial statements.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Letby

.....
Revd Andrew Letby

Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees

Charity registration number: 1134389