

**Farnworth & Worsley Methodist Circuit
(Registered Charity No. 1135135)**

ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

Introduction by the Superintendent Minister, the Rev. Darren Garfield

I warmly invite you to read our Annual Report. It contains much work which reflects the Our Calling document and the Priorities of the Methodist Church, around worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism. We continue to remind ourselves that we underpin everything we do in God-centred worship and prayer, speak about faith, look at how we can 'do' and 'be' Church in fresh ways and nurture a people-centred (and God-centred!) culture.

All we do is in consultation with each other. Our circuit is not a separate entity, but a group of disciples, a team, who share resources and look at how we can be the 'Church' in the community. This of course includes the important work we do in our schools. We are grateful for the ministerial team, including our supernumeraries, who serve with such care and dedication. We appreciate those committed and faithful lay people, church and circuit stewards, elders, local preachers, treasurers, property officers, Sunday school teachers and the many, of all ages, who make up our church congregations, who offer prayer, support, and encouragement. I am thankful for the guidance and wisdom they bring.

As we look to the future, with all the changes and developments that inevitably come with the passage of time, the words written by Joseph Hart back in the 18th century ring true even today:

This, this is the God we adore,
our faithful, unchangeable friend,
whose love is as great as his power,
and neither knows measure nor end:

'Tis Jesus, the first and the last,
whose Spirit shall guide us safe home;
we'll praise him for all that is past,
and trust him for all that's to come.

Joseph Hart (1712–1767)

Aims and Organisation

The charity objective is to act as a resource provider within the Farnworth & Worsley area for the Methodist Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union (1932) the advancement of:

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

The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.

The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.

The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.

Taking religious assemblies in local schools.

Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.

Activities

The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure regular acts of worship take place at each of the eight churches in the Circuit's geographical area. These are led by the Circuit's ordained ministers, including a supernumerary presbyter and Deacon, local preachers or visiting ministers from other Circuits and denominations.

All the Circuit's ministers are involved in community work, including community cohesion and inter-faith groups and Churches Together groups relevant to the Circuit's various geographical areas.

Ministers are involved in schools work, including leading assemblies and being governors/chaplains. There are two Methodist primary schools located in the Circuit with which the Circuit has close links.

We employ a part-time Circuit Administrator who manages the Circuit's administration, including the website and electronic newsletters as well as keeping minutes of meetings.

October 2022 a mixed group of circuit members attended Farnworth and Worsley Circuit Weekend with the theme *Journeying On*. 29 adults and 8 children enjoyed the hospitality of the Glendower Hotel in Lytham St Anne's and explored how they would journey on towards the future and what this may look like. The weekend included worship, discussion session, food and fun for all.

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Financial

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the Circuit churches, totalling £183289 out of a total income of £204329. £13317 of the total came in the form of additional funding from the Methodist Connexion channelled through the Bolton & Rochdale District. This was to compensate the Circuit for time spent by the Superintendent as Deputy Chair of the District and superintendent of the Bolton Mission (two days per week in total). This money was used to fund pastoral work by a supernumerary Deacon, the balance being carried forward into 2023/24 to fund additional administrative support and to enhance a similar sum due in that year.

Proposed assessments figures are prepared in consultation with the treasurers of the Circuit churches prior to approval by the Circuit Meeting.

Expenditure comprised principally stipends and expenses for the three Circuit staff (two Presbyters and a Deacon) and their accommodation and running costs, together with the salary and expenses of the part-time administrator.

£37368 (20%) of the total expenditure or £186599 was the Circuit's contribution to the District and Connexion, which helps fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

Expenditure of stipends increases annually in line with changes approved by the Methodist Conference. Other budget elements are adjusted to take account of anticipated expenditure needs and costs increases.

Overall, there was a surplus of £17730 overall in the year, compared with a deficit of £1173 in 2021/22. The surplus largely arises due to the unspent element of the Connexional funding mentioned earlier and the retirement of our Deacon a couple of months before the year end, leading to some unused budget for stipends.

Balances, including Restricted Funds, totalled £141758 at year end. The Circuit's policy is to hold a minimum of six months normal expenditure in reserve to meet any unforeseen items of necessary expenditure or the inability to raise the full assessment from the churches.

Safeguarding

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

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

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

The Farnworth & Worsley Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Farnworth & Worsley Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the activities of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting and property and finance meetings with representatives of the Circuit churches.

The Circuit is part of the Bolton & Rochdale Methodist District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following churches are linked to the Circuit:-

Boothstown Methodist Church

Christ Church, Little Lever (Methodist URC/LEP)

Kearsley Mount Methodist Church

St. Catherine's, Highfield (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

Trinity Church, Farnworth

Walkden Methodist Church

Wharton & Clegg's Lane Church and Community Centre, Little Hulton
(Methodist/URC LEP)

Worsley Road North Methodist Church, Walkden

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102. Accounts are submitted using the Methodist Church's Standard Form of Accounts.

Full Name of Charity: Farnworth & Worsley Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1135135

Date of registration: 24 March 2010

Main communication address: 16 Arkholme, Worsley, Manchester M28 1ZJ

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

Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

Circuit Ministers and officers

Active Circuit Ministers	Rev Darren Garfield Rev Sarah Knebel Deacon Debbie Harkness (to June 2023)
Circuit Stewards	Helen Bolton Peter Irwin Gillian Dascombe Ian Lord
Administrator:	Ruth Dawson (from October 2022)

Name of treasurer acted as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year: Ian Lord

Independent examiner:	Keith Higson FCA
Investment Bankers	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church Trustees for Methodist Church purposes
Day-to-day banking	Royal Bank of Scotland

Appendix A

Names of Trustees of the Charity

Rev Darren Garfield	Superintendent Minister
Rev Sarah Knebel	Presbyter Minister
Rev Neville Markham	Chaplain Bolton Royal
Deacon Debbie Harkness	Deacon
Rev Pat Brown	Supernumerary Minister
Helen Bolton	Circuit Steward / Synod Rep
Gill Dascombe	Circuit Steward
Peter Irwin	Circuit Steward / Property Steward
Ian Lord	Circuit Steward / Circuit Treasurer
Graham Bone	Local Preachers Secretary
Alan Nuttall	Local Preachers Rep
Joan Marshall	Circuit Rep to Connexion Funds
Lee O'Neill	JMA Secretary
Rosemary Young	MWiB Rep
Joe Sate	Boothstown MC Church Steward
Wynn Nuttall	Christ Church Elder
Alan Hartley	Christ Church Treasurer
Dorothy Holland	Christ Church Rep
Sheila Briggs	KMMC Steward
Wendy Witts	KMMC Rep
Andrew Gibbons	St Catherine's Church Steward / Treasurer
Joy Fairbrother	St Catherine's Rep
Christine Hotchkiss	Trinity MC Treasurer
David Coucill	Trinity MC Rep
Lorraine Price	Walkden MC Steward
Margaret O'Neill	Walkden MC Treasurer
Anne Bennett	Walkden MC Rep
Val Hancox	Walkden MC Rep

Keith Mann	W&CL Treasurer
Joan Adams	W&CL Steward
Margaret Rothwell	W&CL Rep
Susan Taylor	Worsley Road North Steward
Anne Bradley	Worsley Road North Rep

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Farnworth & Worsley	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2023**

Bolton & Rochdale	District	Circuit no	6/3
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1135135

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**

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(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Ministers:

Rev. Darren Garfield
Rev. Sarah Knebel

Circuit Stewards:

Helen Bolton
Peter Irwin
Gillian Dascombe
Ian Lord

Treasurer:

Ian Lord

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS						
a2	Assessment/Share		183,289			183,289	178,561
a3	Capital receipts						
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		1,947	539		2,486	326
a5	Grants		13,318			13,318	
a6	Other receipts		4,340		896	5,236	1,752
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		202,894	539	896	204,329 (a8)	180,639

SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		113,202			113,202	114,536
b3	Manse Costs		16,035			16,035	13,724
b4	Administration etc		10,512			10,512	11,923
b5	District Assessment		37,368			37,368	35,420
b6	Grants & donations		806			806	1,444
b7							
b8	Other payments		8,018	480	179	8,676	4,765
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		185,941	480	179	186,599 (b9)	181,811

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	16,952	60	718	17,730	(1,173)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		96,669	17,219	10,140	124,028 (c6)	125,201
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	113,621	17,279	10,857	141,758	124,028
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	113,621	17,279	10,857	141,758 (c8)	124,028 (c6)

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

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					(e11)	(e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	204,329 (a8)	186,599 (b9)	17,730	(c7)	124,028 (c6)	141,758 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	204,329	186,599	17,730		124,028 (x)	141,758 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	37,682	62,653
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	20,525	11,802
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	65,821	67,302
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	124,028 (c6)	141,758 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	124,028 (x)	141,758 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	827,593	1,021,850
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

Name of CircuitFarnworth & Worsley..... No...6/3.

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurerI.C.Lord..... Date...19.3.24..

Name and address of treasurer Ian Lord,

..... Post Code... ..

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/~~will be~~* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 19th March 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meetingD.Garfield.....

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev. Darren Garfield Date19.3.24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Farnworth & Worsley Circuit

Charity Number 1135135

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Farnworth & Worsley Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of CircuitFarnworth & Worsley..... No ...6/3.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examinerK.Higson.....

Name of independent examinerKeith Higson FCA.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ...ICAEW FCA.....

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

..... Post Code

Date31 May 2024.....

* delete or circle as appropriate

Form reviewed

May 23