

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Charity Registration Number: 1135316

Circuit Number: 35/22

Annual Report and Financial Statements

31 August 2023

Tandem Accounting Ltd
Chartered Accountants
17 Heathville Road
London N19 3AL

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

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NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Legal & Administrative Information For the year ended 31 August 2023

Charity Name	New River Methodist Circuit London.																																																																									
Principal Address	Palmerston Road, Palmers Green, London N22 8RA.																																																																									
Governing Document	Deed Of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).																																																																									
Objectives	<p>The charity's main objective is to act as a resource provider for 9 churches, within the area around North London, covering the boroughs of Haringey and a small section of Enfield for the Methodist Church.</p> <p>The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">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.																																																																									
Trustees	<p>The Trustees who served during the year or who were serving at the date of this report were:</p> <table><tr><td>Rev S. Poxon</td><td>(Chair/Superintendent until 31 July 2023)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Rev T. Samuel</td><td>(Chair/Superintendent from 1 August 2023)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Rev M. Lunn</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Rev R. Maginley</td><td>(Resigned 31 August 2023)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Rev R. Weekes</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Deacon M. Poxon</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>B. Combes</td><td>(Administrator)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>L. Thompson</td><td>(Treasurer)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>C Agyeman-Duah</td><td>G Christie</td><td>J Koomson</td></tr><tr><td>C Ambrose</td><td>J Charles</td><td>S Koomson</td></tr><tr><td>C Arhin</td><td>K Coates</td><td>E Mingo</td></tr><tr><td>E Aidoo</td><td>C Dadey</td><td>P Masuku</td></tr><tr><td>G Akrobettoe</td><td>E Dofour</td><td>S Maginley</td></tr><tr><td>J Arhin</td><td>E Donkor</td><td>Y Maginley</td></tr><tr><td>J Arhin-Mensah</td><td>U Duberry</td><td>A Nartey</td></tr><tr><td>R Ankomah</td><td>C Eileen Allen</td><td>E Opoko-Abebrese</td></tr><tr><td>T Addo</td><td>G Ellis</td><td>J Owusu-Antwi</td></tr><tr><td>A Brou</td><td>B Fenning</td><td>O Phipps</td></tr><tr><td>J Beerko</td><td>C Fakeye</td><td>T Power</td></tr><tr><td>L Blenman</td><td>M Glynn</td><td>B Simpson</td></tr><tr><td>S Baidoo</td><td>M Harding</td><td>A Thomas</td></tr><tr><td>S Banton</td><td>D Jiagge</td><td>D Wade</td></tr><tr><td>S Boakye</td><td>G Jamerah</td><td>D Watson</td></tr><tr><td>E Cameron</td><td>P King</td><td></td></tr></table>		Rev S. Poxon	(Chair/Superintendent until 31 July 2023)		Rev T. Samuel	(Chair/Superintendent from 1 August 2023)		Rev M. Lunn			Rev R. Maginley	(Resigned 31 August 2023)		Rev R. Weekes			Deacon M. Poxon			B. Combes	(Administrator)		L. Thompson	(Treasurer)		C Agyeman-Duah	G Christie	J Koomson	C Ambrose	J Charles	S Koomson	C Arhin	K Coates	E Mingo	E Aidoo	C Dadey	P Masuku	G Akrobettoe	E Dofour	S Maginley	J Arhin	E Donkor	Y Maginley	J Arhin-Mensah	U Duberry	A Nartey	R Ankomah	C Eileen Allen	E Opoko-Abebrese	T Addo	G Ellis	J Owusu-Antwi	A Brou	B Fenning	O Phipps	J Beerko	C Fakeye	T Power	L Blenman	M Glynn	B Simpson	S Baidoo	M Harding	A Thomas	S Banton	D Jiagge	D Wade	S Boakye	G Jamerah	D Watson	E Cameron	P King	
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NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Legal & Administrative Information For the year ended 31 August 2023

Key Management Personnel

Those in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis were:

Active Circuit Ministers: Rev Stephen Poxon, Rev Thurairajah Samuel, Rev Rupert Weekes, Rev Robert Maginley, Deacon Myrtle Poxon, Rev Matthew Lunn

Circuit Stewards: Mr T. Addo, Ms L. Blenman, Ms E. Cameron, Mr K. Coates, Ms B. Fenning, Mr J. Koomson, Ms T. Nartey, Ms L. Thompson

Administrator: Ms B. Combes

Treasurer: Ms L. Thompson

Bankers

Lloyds Bank
25 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7HN

Independent Examiner

John Helm ACA
Tandem Accounting Ltd
17 Heathville Road
London NI9 3AL

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Annual Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees submit their annual report and the financial statements of New River Methodist Circuit London ("the Circuit") for the year ended 31 August 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in the format prescribed by the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP2019 (FRS102)). The legal and administrative information set out earlier in this document forms part of this report.

1. Structure, Governance & Management

The governing document for the Circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976). Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

The Circuit Meeting is the trustee body and consists of office holders and representatives of the local churches within the Circuit who are all annually appointed by Church Councils. The Circuit Superintendent is ex officio chair of the Circuit Meeting.

Day to day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership Team as well as specific committees for Circuit Finance, Circuit Property and Circuit Policy Committee.

The Circuit is part of the London District and is made up of 9 churches: Finsbury Park, Holly Park, Middle Lane, Miller Memorial, Muswell Hill, Ravensdale, St Marks, Trinity-At-Bowes and Willoughby.

2. Activities & Public Benefit

The principal purpose of the Circuit is to act as a supporting body between churches and the District and Connexion. The Circuit does not seek and in large measure, does not attain direct contact with the public. The direct contact is by the individual churches. It is these that the Circuit supports in their desire to provide benefit to the public.

The Circuit's nine churches have a vibrant urban multi-ethnic evangelical congregation with a membership of over 850.

The Trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commissions' guidance on public benefit. During the year the circuit churches continued to carry out the following activities in order to promote the Gospel in their local neighbourhoods:

- Sunday Worship
- Children & Youth's activities
- Bible Study and prayer meeting
- Christian counselling
- Pastoral visits

3. Review Of Progress & Achievements

This has been a good challenging year for the Circuit. The nine churches continue to see more people returning to worship after Covid. However, there are still a number of people who have not returned and others who have decided to leave.

The church year began with the Circuit knowing that 3 members of staff were due to leave the Circuit by August 23. This prompted some changing of pastoral responsibility across the 9 churches and a minister was invited to come into the Circuit to replace the Rev Robert Maginley, although for different churches. The Rev Robert, after 7 years of ministry in the New River Circuit, was invited to minister in the Romford Circuit and the Circuit gave him a warm thank you and farewell in July.

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Annual Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31 August 2023

The Rev Stephen and Sister Myrtle were coming to the end of their 10-year ministry at St Mark's. Sadly, a match with a minister to become the superintendent was not possible. The Circuit appointed one of the present ministers, the Rev Thuraiajah Samuel, as superintendent and invited both Rev Stephen and Sister Myrtle to do an extra year as part-time active supernumeraries.

During the year the Circuit Trustees gave approval for a number of building projects across the Circuit and were also able to offer small grants to help towards the cost of repairs, renovation and improvement schemes. Good news for the Circuit was the completion of renovating one of the Circuit manses into a rental property. We have happy tenants and the monthly rental has begun to help the Circuit recoup the renovation expenditure and will bring much needed extra funds into the Circuit.

Half way through the year, two of the churches indicated that they were struggling to pay their assessment. The Circuit agreed to allow them to pay what they could for this year. It was agreed that the Circuit would transfer up to £30,000 from the Youth Fund to the Reserves Fund to help fund the Circuit's activities.

Despite all this there have been some good news stories throughout the year. Holly Park has seen a growing Sunday School and Middle Lane received 4 new members, whilst Trinity-at-Bowes has created a community hub to attract more people from the community. Muswell Hill has seen a positive response to Lego Church and St Mark's is hoping to begin a Boys' Brigade.

Our longest serving Local Preacher, David Restarick died in October and we said a fond farewell to our Circuit administrator Bev Combes in August. These are but two names representing the countless people who serve God in their local churches and across the Circuit. We thank God for them all.

Rev Stephen Poxon (superintendent minister 2022-23)

4. Financial Review

4.1 Financial Activity and Financial Position

The Circuit is funded by each of the nine churches contributing an annual assessment paid quarterly. There is also income from one investment property and a small amount from interest income.

The Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet can be found on pages 9 and 11 respectively. The Circuit's financial resources increased by £796,435 during the year (2022: decreased by £110,570). The Balance Sheet shows total funds of £3,076,594 (2022: £2,280,159).

4.2 Reserves Policy

The Trustees have examined the requirements for general reserves and consider, given the nature of the Circuit's work that the general reserves should be equivalent to cover at least three months normal expenditure. This is deemed sufficient, if in the event the Circuit Assessment from churches within the circuit is not met or to meet any unforeseen items of major expenditure on manses and to be able to continue in the short term the funding of normal daily expenditure. At 31 August 2023 the Circuit had net free reserves of £68,816 (2022: net free reserves of £105,874) as follows:

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Annual Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31 August 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Total Circuit Funds	3,076,594	2,280,159
Less: Non-Current Assets	(2,945,000)	(2,080,000)
Less: Designated & Restricted funds	(62,778)	(94,285)
Free Reserves	68,816	105,874
Free Reserves Requirement:		
3 month's budgeted routine expenditure	93,700	89,800

The trustees are aware that the current free reserves are below the free reserves requirement and are actively looking at ways in which parity can be restored.

4.3 Investment Policy

The Circuit currently invests spare funds in an interest bearing bank account.

4.4 Grants Policy

The Circuit makes specific grants to support the ongoing work of churches within the circuit. The policy of the Circuit is to give grants on the basis that they are subject to annual review and only renewed on the basis of meeting set criteria. Grants were granted to two churches in the current financial year to fund building work.

5. Plans for Future Periods

The Circuit plans to continue with its existing Christian activities by providing support to its nine member churches.

The Circuit continues to face financial challenges due to falling church membership and the need to help finance urgent building work at several churches. Whilst Circuit income is forecast to be largely unchanged, expenditure will increase by approximately 4%. Therefore, the Circuit Leadership Team have made the difficult decision to reduce from 6 to 5 the number of full time equivalent ordained staff. This should enable the Circuit to generate a small surplus for the 2023-24 financial year.

Whilst there is also the possibility of another small deficit, there will be sufficient cash reserves to absorb this deficit. Accordingly, the trustees have concluded it is appropriate to prepare the 2023 Accounts on a going concern basis.

6. Responsibilities of Trustees for the Financial Statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Charity law in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

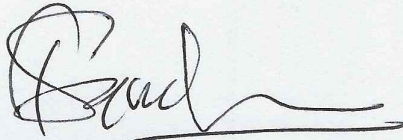
NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Annual Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the governing document. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Circuit's financial information included in the Circuit's website.

7. Approval

The Annual Report of the Trustees was approved by the Circuit Council on 16th September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Samuel', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rev. Thurairajah Samuel (Chair)

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of New River Methodist Circuit London For the year ended 31 August 2023

I report on the financial statements of the New River Methodist Circuit London for the year ended 31 August 2023, set out on pages 9 to 22.

This report is made solely to the Trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). My independent examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the Circuit Council those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by the law, I do not accept responsibility to anyone other than the Trust and the Trustees for my independent examination, for this report, or the opinions I have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The Trustees considers that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Direction given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

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 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.



John Helm ACA

16 September 2024

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) For the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Income From:					
Donations & Legacies	2	7,400	-	353	7,753
Charitable Activities	3	336,819	-	-	336,819
Investments	4	31,331	991	-	32,322
Total Income		375,550	991	353	376,894
Expenditure On:					
Raising Funds	5	3,816	11,451	-	15,267
Grants & Charitable Giving	6	18,000	-	-	18,000
Salaries & Associated Costs	7	240,217	-	-	240,217
Manse Maintenance		-	25,635	-	25,635
District Assessment		91,336	765	-	92,101
Office Expenses	8	7,698	-	-	7,698
Other Outgoings	9	31,541	-	-	31,541
Total Expenditure		392,608	37,851	-	430,459
Gains/(Losses) on Investment Properties		850,000	-	-	850,000
Net Income/(Expenditure)	10	832,942	(36,860)	353	796,435
Transfers Between Funds		(5,000)	5,000	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		827,942	(31,860)	353	796,435
Total Funds Brought Forward		2,185,874	94,285	-	2,280,159
Total Funds Carried Forward		3,013,816	62,425	353	3,076,594

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) Comparatives for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
Income From:					
Donations & Legacies	2	662	-	2,131	2,793
Charitable Activities	3	361,512	-	-	361,512
Investments	4	902	348	-	1,250
Total Income		363,076	348	2,131	365,555
Expenditure On:					
Raising Funds	5	-	86,436	-	86,436
Grants & Charitable Giving	6	-	-	2,131	2,131
Salaries & Associated Costs	7	226,459	-	-	226,459
Manse Maintenance		-	25,042	-	25,042
District Assessment		94,424	2,478	-	96,902
Office Expenses	8	9,938	-	-	9,938
Other Outgoings	9	28,344	873	-	29,217
Total Expenditure		359,165	114,829	2,131	476,125
Net Income/(Expenditure)	10	3,911	(114,481)	-	(110,570)
Transfers Between Funds		101,900	(101,900)	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		105,811	(216,381)	-	(110,570)
Total Funds Brought Forward		2,080,063	310,666	-	2,390,729
Total Funds Carried Forward		2,185,874	94,285	-	2,280,159

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Balance Sheet As At 31 August 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Fixed Assets	11	1,730,000	-	-	1,730,000	2,080,000
Investment Property	12	1,200,000	-	-	1,200,000	-
		2,930,000	-	-	2,930,000	2,080,000
Current Assets						
Debtors	13	15,995	-	-	15,995	19,423
Investments with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Deposits		-	30,695	-	30,695	30,556
Central Finance Board Deposits		125,648	31,730	-	157,378	273,810
Cash At Bank & On Hand	14	18,459	-	353	18,812	8,091
		160,102	62,425	353	222,880	331,880
Creditors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	15	91,286	-	-	91,286	131,721
Net Current Assets		68,816	62,425	353	131,594	200,159
Loans Receivable After More Than One Year						
	16	15,000	-	-	15,000	-
Net Assets		3,013,816	62,425	353	3,076,594	2,280,159
Funds of the Circuit Represented by						
Unrestricted Funds	17	3,013,816	-	-	3,013,816	2,185,874
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		-	62,425	-	62,425	94,285
Total Unrestricted Funds		3,013,816	62,425	-	3,076,241	2,280,159
Restricted Funds		-	-	353	353	-
Total Funds		3,013,816	62,425	353	3,076,594	2,280,159

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 16th September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Lorna Thompson
Treasurer

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

I. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102). The financial statements are drawn up on the historical cost basis of accounting except for the revaluation of freehold land and buildings which are shown at fair value.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the Circuit is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe an affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of Circuit members.

The Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern and accordingly the accounts have been drawn up on a going concern basis.

Income recognition

Voluntary income and donations (including legacies) are accounted for once the Circuit has entitlement to the income, it is probable the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured. Income from the recovery of tax on gift aided donations is accounted for in the period to which the relevant donation is received. Grant income is recognised on a receivable basis.

The income from trading activities includes rental income from the letting of Circuit premises and freehold land and buildings which is accounted for when earned.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Circuit; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, and the amount of obligation can be measured reliably. Longer term liabilities are discounted to present value. The Circuit is not registered for VAT and accordingly expenditure includes VAT where appropriate.

Charitable expenditure includes those costs in fulfilling the Circuit's principal objects, as outlined in the Report of the Circuit. These include grants payable and governance costs:

- Grants payable are payments made to third parties in furtherance of the Circuit's objects. In the case of an unconditional grant offer this is accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award. The notification gives the recipient a reasonable expectation that they will receive the grant. Grants awards that are subject to the recipient fulfilling performance conditions are only accrued when the recipient has been notified of the grant and any remaining unfulfilled condition attaching to that grant is outside of the control of the Circuit.
- Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the Circuit and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to the independent examination and legal fees.

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

I. Accounting Policies (continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are accounted for as follows:

- The Circuit land and buildings are stated at historic cost. Depreciation is not provided as the estimated residual value is considered to be the same or higher than the carrying value of the property in the accounts.
- The cost of furniture, fittings and equipment, of a value greater than £1,000, less any expected residual value are capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis over the effective useful life of the asset, which has been estimated at five years.

Investment Properties

Investment Properties are professionally valued at market value.

Debtors

Debtors are included at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Loans

Where concessionary loans (i.e., free of interest) are made to (or received by) the Circuit to further its charitable purposes, and are repayable after more than one year, they are initially recognised at the amount paid [or received], with the carrying value adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any impairment, if necessary. Where there is objective evidence of impairment, an immediate impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Subsequent reversals of an impairment loss that objectively relate to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Cash at bank and on hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of opening of the deposit.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation arising from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

Fund accounting

The funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.
- Discretionary Funds are funds which trustees have earmarked for a particular project or use, without restricting or committing the funds legally. The designation may be cancelled by the trustees if they later decide that the charity should not proceed or continue with the use or project for which the funds were designated.
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.
- There were no Endowment Funds.

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

2. Donations & Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations	7,400	-	353	7,753	2,793
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>7,400</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>353</u>	<u>7,753</u>	<u>2,793</u>

3. Charitable Activities

The New River Methodist Circuit London assessments due from Churches to the Circuit for the year were as follows:

Church Name	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Finsbury Park	25,000	39,346
Holly Park	20,824	20,824
Middle Lane	21,902	21,902
Miller Memorial	36,360	36,360
Muswell Hill	65,754	65,754
Ravensdale	16,216	16,216
St. Mark's	73,942	73,942
Trinity-at-Bowes	59,576	59,576
Willoughby	17,245	27,592
	<u>336,819</u>	<u>361,512</u>

Church assessments are reviewed annually when preparing the next year's financial forecast. The assessment levy for each church is dependent on the number of its members, whether there are other income streams (church hall rentals, child care centre) or the need for funds to be deployed elsewhere (building repair and renovation work).

4. Investments

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest Income					
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)	-	991	-	991	348
Central Finance Board	4,956	-	-	4,956	902
Rental Income					
41 Ashford Avenue	26,375	-	-	26,375	-
	<u>31,331</u>	<u>991</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,322</u>	<u>1,250</u>

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

5. Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Rental Property					
Agent Letting Fees & Expenses	3,816	-	-	3,816	-
Building Renovation & Repairs	-	11,364	-	11,364	86,436
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)					
Administrative Fees	-	87	-	87	-
	<u>3,816</u>	<u>11,451</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,267</u>	<u>86,436</u>

Building Renovation & Repairs: The property at 41 Ashford Avenue required extensive renovation and repairs to bring the property to the minimum standard required before it could be rented. The expenditure was not capitalised as the work carried out did not result in a capital improvement to the property.

6. Grants & Charitable Giving

The Circuit made grants to the following churches as a financial contributions towards their respective building works.

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
St. Mark's	10,000	-	-	10,000	-
Willoughby	8,000	-	-	8,000	-
	<u>18,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,000</u>	<u>-</u>

The Circuit made the following charitable giving from Restricted Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Giving to Organisations					
All We Can	-	-	-	-	2,131
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,131</u>

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

7. Salaries & Associated Costs

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Minister Stipends & Allowances	173,009	-	-	173,009	163,015
Circuit Administrator	6,146	-	-	6,146	5,291
Employer's National Insurance Contributions	16,724	-	-	16,724	15,628
Apprenticeship Levies	876	-	-	876	845
Pension Contributions	43,462	-	-	43,462	41,680
	<u>240,217</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>240,217</u>	<u>226,459</u>

No Employee (2022: nil) received emoluments in excess of £60,000 during the year.

Average number of full time equivalent staff employed during the year were:

2023	2022
<u>6.5</u>	<u>6.5</u>

8. Office Expenses

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Telephone	4,498	-	-	4,498	4,931
Travel Expenses	2,704	-	-	2,704	3,981
Computer & Technology Related Expenditure	496	-	-	496	1,026
	<u>7,698</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,698</u>	<u>9,938</u>

9. Other Outgoings

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Council Tax	16,935	-	-	16,935	15,931
Insurance	4,186	-	-	4,186	4,392
Water Charges	2,200	-	-	2,200	2,089
Publications & Reading Materials	2,378	-	-	2,378	1,170
Printing, Stationery & Postage	602	-	-	602	1,859
Governance Costs	960	-	-	960	250
Miscellaneous Expenses	4,280	-	-	4,280	3,526
	<u>31,541</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,541</u>	<u>29,217</u>

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

10. Net Expenditure

This is stated after charging

Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts

Other accountancy or consultancy fees paid to the independent examiner

2023	2022
£	£
960	250
-	-

11. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Circuit Manse £
Cost/valuation	
At 1 September 2022	2,080,000
Additions	-
Disposals	-
Transfers	(350,000)
At 31 August 2023	1,730,000
Accumulated Depreciation	
At 1 September 2022	-
Charge For Year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 August 2023	-
Net Book Value	
At 31 August 2023	1,730,000
At 31 August 2022	2,080,000

The Circuit manse are valued at historic cost as their primary function is to accommodate ordained staff.

No depreciation is provided on the buildings as the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

During 2022-23, the manse at 41 Ashford Avenue was reclassified as an investment property. Its historic cost value was £350,000.

The properties maintained by the Circuit are:

56 Redston Road, London N8 7HE	Manse
23 Broomfield Lane, London, N13 4HB	Manse
49 Pages Lane, London, N10 1QB	Manse
312 Philip Lane, London, N15 4AB	Manse
5 Whitley Road, London, N17 6RJ	Manse
41 Ashford Avenue, London N8 8LN	Rental Property

These properties are under the legal ownership of the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

12. Investment Property

	41 Ashford Ave London £
Cost/valuation	
At 1 September 2022	-
Additions	-
Disposals	-
Transfers	350,000
Investment Revaluation	850,000
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,200,000</u>
Accumulated Depreciation	
At 1 September 2022	-
Charge For Year	-
Disposals	-
At 31 August 2023	<u>-</u>
Net Book Value	
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,200,000</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>-</u>

The property was valued by the rental agents managing the property, at a market value between £1,200,000 and £1,300,000.

The trustees valuation policy is to be conservative and use the lower range of the valuation in the accounts.

13. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Debtors		
Circuit Assessments Receivable	2,164	-
Prepayments		
Prepayment September Stipends	13,460	19,423
Rental Agent Fees	371	-
	<u>15,995</u>	<u>19,423</u>

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

14. Cash At Bank & On Hand

	2023 £	2022 £
Lloyds Current Account	18,791	-
Santander Current Account	21	8,091
	<u>18,812</u>	<u>8,091</u>

15. Creditors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2023 £	2022 £
Church Assessments Paid In Advance	74,404	90,378
Building Contractors Payable	-	26,462
Circuit Member Church Grant Payable	10,000	14,881
Manse & General Expenses Payable	3,793	-
Rentals Received In Advance	3,089	-
	<u>91,286</u>	<u>131,721</u>

16. Loans Receivable After More Than One Year

	2023 £	2022 £
Interest Free Building Loans to Circuit Member Churches		
St Mark's	4,000	-
Trinity-at-Bowes	5,000	-
Willoughby Church	6,000	-
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>

All loans are interest free with a term of 5 years and are payable by 31st August 2028.

The Circuit Trustees agreed to lend Willoughby Church £18,000 for urgent roof repairs. As at August 2023, the church has borrowed £6,000 with the intention of borrowing the balance during 2023-24.

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

17. Detailed Analysis of Individual Fund Movements

17a For the year ended 31 August 2023

	At 1 September 2022	Received	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
(i) Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	74	375,550	(374,608)	-	1,016
Reserves Fund	2,185,800	850,000	(18,000)	(5,000)	3,012,800
Unrestricted Funds Total	2,185,874	1,225,550	(392,608)	(5,000)	3,013,816
(ii) Designated Funds					
Circuit Model Trust: 10799	30,556	991	(851)	-	30,696
Manse Repairs & Renewals Fund	8,287	-	(37,000)	30,000	1,287
Music Bursary Fund	376	-	-	-	376
Removals Fund	10,837	-	-	-	10,837
Training Fund	8,761	-	-	-	8,761
Youth Work Fund	35,468	-	-	(25,000)	10,468
Unrestricted Funds Total	94,285	991	(37,851)	5,000	62,425
(iii) Restricted Funds					
Donations for External Charities - All We Can	-	353	-	-	353
(iv) Total Funds	2,280,159	1,226,894	(430,459)	-	3,076,594

Fund Movements Summary

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fund Balances Brought Forward	2,185,874	94,285	-	2,280,159	2,390,729
Net Income/(Expenditure)	832,942	(36,860)	353	796,435	(110,570)
Fund Transfers	(5,000)	5,000	-	-	-
Fund Balances Carried Forward	3,013,816	62,425	353	3,076,594	2,280,159

Notes regarding transfers:

The Manse Repairs & Renewals Fund received £30,000 from the Reserves Fund, to fund ongoing manse building maintenance and the completion of the renovation work at 41 Ashford Avenue.

The Youth Fund transferred £25,000 to the Reserves Fund to help finance the £30,000 transfer to the Manse Repairs & Renewals Fund. As this was a transfer from a designated fund to an unrestricted fund, it was agreed by a vote at a Circuit meeting.

The net impact on the Reserves Fund was a £(5,000) fund reduction.

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

17. Detailed Analysis of Individual Fund Movements (continued)

17b For the year ended 31 August 2022

	At 1 September 2021	Received	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 August 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
(i) Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	63	363,076	(359,165)	(3,900)	74
Reserves Fund	2,080,000	-	-	105,800	2,185,800
Unrestricted Funds Total	2,080,063	363,076	(359,165)	101,900	2,185,874
(ii) Designated Funds					
Circuit Model Trust: 10799	99,125	348	(2,761)	(66,156)	30,556
Manse Repairs & Renewals Fund	33,610	-	(111,478)	86,156	8,288
Music Bursary Fund	376	-	-	-	376
Removals Fund	10,836	-	-	-	10,836
Training Fund	8,761	-	-	-	8,761
Youth Work Fund	36,058	-	(590)	-	35,468
Reserves	121,900	-	-	(121,900)	-
Unrestricted Funds Total	310,666	348	(114,829)	(101,900)	94,285
(iii) Restricted Funds					
Donations for External Charities - All We Can	-	2,131	(2,131)	-	-
(iv) Total Funds	2,390,729	365,555	(476,125)	-	2,280,159

Fund Movements Summary

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Designated Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Fund Balances Brought Forward	2,080,063	310,666	-	2,390,729	2,396,065
Net Income/(Expenditure)	3,911	(114,481)	-	(110,570)	(5,336)
Fund Transfers	(20,000)	20,000	-	-	-
Reclassification: General Reserves Fund	121,900	(121,900)	-	-	-
Fund Balances Carried Forward	2,185,874	94,285	-	2,280,159	2,390,729

Notes regarding transfers:

The 2021 Financial Accounts reported £121,900 of General Reserves as part of Designated Funds on the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and the Balance Sheet. This amount has now been reclassified to the General Reserves Fund and the comparative statements have been amended.

The Unrestricted General & Reserves Funds transferred £3,900 & £16,100 respectively to the Manse Repairs & Renewals Fund, to fund maintenance work on the Circuit manses.

The Circuit Model Trust transferred £66,156 to the Manse Repairs & Renewals Fund, to fund the renovation work at 41 Ashford Avenue.

NEW RIVER METHODIST CIRCUIT LONDON

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2023

17. Detailed Analysis of Individual Fund Movements (continued)

Descriptions of the Designated Funds are as follows:

- (i) **Circuit Model Trust: 10799:** The trust is administrated by The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). The main purpose of this trust is to fund grants for church building work. Funds arise from the sale of church properties and are held in interest bearing money accounts.
- (ii) **Manse Repairs & Renewals Fund:** Fund for the purpose of maintaining the Circuit manses and investment property
- (iii) **Music Bursary Fund:** Funds to help finance the purchase of music equipment and the cost of music lessons.
- (iv) **Removals Fund:** Funds to cover the removal cost when ordained staff move into a manse within the circuit.
- (v) **Training Fund:** Funds to cover the cost of training for ordained staff and lay preachers.
- (vi) **Youth Fund:** Funds to cover the cost of youth ministry for the young people within the circuit.

18. Related Party Transactions

The Circuit paid "ARG Garden Design" £1,150 during 2022-23 (2022: £650) for general gardening services. The company director is the son of a current church member within the circuit.

19. Capital Commitments & Contingent Liabilities

As at the 31st August 2023 the Circuit has no capital commitments.
No contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023.