



The Methodist Church

Northampton Circuit
23/13

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

"The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond
to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out
its discipleship in worship and mission"

2023 - 2024

Registered Charity No 1135635

Introduction

This is the Fifteenth annual report produced by the Northampton Methodist Circuit since its registration as a separate charity and aims to share a review of the activities of the Circuit during 2023 – 24 while also meeting all the legal requirements.

The Vision Statement

The Northampton Methodist Circuit currently consists of 12 Christian Communities, seeking to be a discipleship movement shaped for mission. We see mission as who we are. It is the sharing of the good news of God's love incarnate, through Jesus Christ, in the witness of the community to the world.

Superintendent's letter of Greeting

As the Superintendent Minister it gives me great pleasure to present the annual report and accounts for the Northampton Methodist Circuit.

The circuit formally consists of two church bodies:

1) Northampton Methodist Church, a multi-site church that consists of ten worshipping communities worshipping around Northampton and the surrounding villages.

2) The Emmanuel Group of Churches, a Local Ecumenical Partnership (Anglican/Methodist/Baptist) that meets at Weston Favell Shopping Centre with other congregations at Boothville and Rectory Farm.

The circuit has been discussing and planning the potential formation of a new Local Ecumenical Partnership Church that would formally join together the Methodist and Baptist congregations currently meeting together at Kingsthorpe Baptist Church. This is likely to result in the circuit having an additional church in the next connexional year.

This year we adopted the 'Stepping Out' report which was a joint document written by the Circuit and Northampton Methodist Church in order to further the mission and property priorities of both organisations. We are hoping to progress the implementation of the reports recommendations across the next few connexional years.

The circuit, in conversation with its constituent churches, has identified developing work amongst children, young people, and families as a high missional priority. As a result we successfully applied for a district grant that will enable us to recruit a lay circuit mission enabler to offer us support in this area.

The Circuit remains committed to responding to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission in Northamptonshire. We are thankful that God continues to equip and enable us for service in Christ's Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, Revd David Speirs

Operational review - A review of our published Mission Statement

Mission is our key purpose. It is the sharing of the good news of God's love incarnate, through Jesus Christ, in our witness to the community and the wider world.

As a circuit we are committed to Worship, Service, Evangelism, and Learning & caring. The highlighted statements are our overarching intent and the notes below show our activity

WORSHIP, which seeks to increase awareness of God's presence and celebrates God's love seeking to underpin everything we do in God-centred prayer

Regular worship continued to be resourced and offered at all our worshipping communities with the continued provision of circuit wide services once per quarter. Throughout the year we continued to offer weekly online worship through the Circuit website.

SERVICE seeking to be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.,

The year has seen the emergence of several targeted activities offering help and support into our local community specifically support of the various foodbanks and providing one of our Church buildings for use by the Northampton Hope Centre to provide overnight shelter during the winter period for up to 28 people. We have also continued our community litter picking initiatives whilst actively seeking to respond to the challenge to be eco church.

EVANGELISM, which is a call to all people to Christian discipleship, growing in the Christian faith alongside others seeking the same, to talk about God and to serve God in the world

The One Voice Podcast is now being produced in conjunction with the District team each month and has remained a valuable means of sharing the Christian message. There has been a number of activities to encourage youth fellowship whilst proposals have been progressed to recruit a lay worker to support the on going development of work with families.

LEARNING and CARING, which is equipping and resourcing people for mission and Christian relationships.

The circuit planned bible study groups have continued and attendance has remained stable. There has also been developments in provision of carers and toddlers groups along with encouraging levels of attendance of the various mid-week groups targeted at those over retirement age.

The continuing development of Northampton Methodist Church (NMC) as a multi-site church with a single trustee body has seen the Circuit team work with the church leadership group to consolidate its structure and help develop its future vision for mission across Northampton.

Review of and financial position of the Circuit

The following summary reflects the financial activities of the Circuit for the year, with the previous 3 years provided for comparison: -

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income				
Assessment contributions from circuit churches	218.3	230.3	225.1	228.4
Other income	18.3	5.6	3.8	7.4
Interest	0.1	1.1	6.4	10.1
Rental income	11.2	15.8	1.2	0
Total income	247.9	252.8	236.5	245.9
Expenditure				
Ministerial Stipends	141.7	116.1	123.0	123.5
Lay Workers	17.0	19.4	24.5	26.5
Manse maintenance	26.3	11.1	21.0	12.0
Manse utility costs	19.5	19.7	18.3	20.0
Methodist Church Fund	42.6	33.5	24.6	30.9
District Assessment	10.0	6.6	5.6	8.8
Grants	0.0	5.5	2.0	0.0
Levy	118.7	8.9	6.5	101.8
Wootton running costs	12.0	5.8	0.0	0.0
Depreciation	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Other Expenses	17.1	24.7	39.2	28.6
Total expenditure	405.2	251.6	265.0	352.4
Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources	(157.3)	1.2	(28.5)	(106.5)
Increase/ (Reduction) in manse valuation	0.0	0.0	217.6	0.0
Transfer of Wootton to NMC			-209.9	
Gain/ (Loss) on Investments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Increase/ (Decrease) in value of funds	(157.3)	1.2	(20.8)	(106.5)

Income trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches. The 2023-24 contributions requested remained similar to those from the previous year.

Income from rentals has now ceased with the sale of the spare manse and the transfer of the Wootton building to the management of Northampton Methodist Church.

Other income during 2023-24 includes both grant income received from the District towards the production cost of the monthly One Voice podcast and the Circuit Administrators activity as District GDPR advisor along with the surplus generated by the sale of 75 Kentstone Close.

Expenditure trends

Ministerial stipends have increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases, the drop in 2021/22 reflects the reduction of one in the full time ministerial team.

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2024 the net current assets of the Circuit was £322k (2023 £128k), of this £317k was being held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund.

A significant proportion of the increase resulted from the sale of 75 Kentstone Close.

Plans for 2024/25

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there are only three full time ordained staff along with usage of our local supernumerary team to provide both preaching and pastoral care support.

It is anticipated that schemes will be developed in line with our mission plans to refurbish a number of the circuit church buildings while progressing sale of those identified as not required for future mission purposes.

The “Stepping out” project will continue such that further clarity on the circuits longer term physical and financial structure is determined.

Trustee's Annual Report on Finance and Governance

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 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 FRS102.

The Charity's report and accounts include all the separately established funds for which the Circuit has primary responsibility.

Full Name of Charity: Northampton Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1135635

Date of registration 22 April 2010

The circuit office is located at: Harpole Methodist Church
School Lane
Harpole
Northampton
NN4 4DR

The members of the Northampton 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 David Spiers,
Rev Samantha Gillard,
Rev Ian Forsyth

Circuit Stewards Dr Hellen Okello
Ms Charmaine Wareham-Voyce
Miss Pam Kirkland
Mr Phil Leeson

Circuit Treasurer Mr Keith Brooks,

Administrator: Miss Sarah Eason

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

Independent examiner Miss C Haynes (ACA)
4 Delamere Road
Northampton

Investment Banker Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Charity objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around Northampton for 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 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.

Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

Public Benefit

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

Structure, Governance and Management

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

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

Day to day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting, the Circuit Finance and Property Committee and the Circuit Policy Committee.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Circuit meeting members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Northampton District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The Circuit is a member of Shared Churches Northampton Ltd in relation to support of the Emmanuel Group of Churches.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Circuit Leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

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

Safeguarding

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

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- 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 Northampton 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 Northampton 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.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 4 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on

manes and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

Annual Financial Statements

Basis of preparation

As treasurer I confirm that I have prepared the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of
Treasurer

W K Brooks

Date 23 January
2025

Name

W K Brooks ACMA

Address

2a Stanfield Road
Duston
Northampton

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on 23 January 2025 and were approved.

Signature of the
Chair of the meeting

Rev David Speirs

23 January 2025

Name of the Chair of
the meeting

Rev David Speirs

Date

23 January 2025

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 August 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023- 24
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:						
Donations, legacies & grants		5,202			1,000	6,202
Church assessments		228,365				228,365
Lettings		0				-
- Miscellaneous						-
Investments		1,068	8,971		20	10,059
Other		88	1,150			1,238
Total		234,723	10,121	-	1,020	245,864
Expenditure on:						
Stipends, salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	149,930				149,930
District Assessment		8,775				8,775
Methodist Church Fund		30,956				30,956
Telephone & travel		7,215				7,215
Insurance, utilities, etc		20,003				20,003
Maintenance on manses		12,013				12,013
Expenditure on other Circuit property		701				701
Depreciation	9	250				250
Other Expenditure		20,248	407		72	20,728
Grants and Donations						0
Contributions to District Advance Fund			101,813			101,813
Total		250,091	102,220	0	72	352,383
Net income/(expenditure)		(15,368)	(92,099)	0	948	(106,519)
Sale of 75 Kentstone Close		(301,773)	301,773			0
Transfers between funds		35,000	(35,000)			0
		(282,140)	174,674	0	948	(106,519)
Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets						0
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets						0
Net investment in funds		(282,140)	174,674	0	948	(106,519)
Total funds brought forward		1,653,837	142,875	0	1,176	1,797,888
Total funds carried forward		1,371,697	317,549	0	2,124	1,691,369

Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for previous year ended 31 August 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022- 23
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:						
Donations, legacies & grants		3,587				3,587
Church assessments		225,075				225,075
Lettings		1,185				1,185
- Miscellaneous						-
Investments		1,294	5,156		11	6,461
Other		40		200		240
Total		231,181	5,156	200	11	236,548
Expenditure on:						
Stipends, salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	147,623				147,623
District Assessment		5,650				5,650
Methodist Church Fund		24,571				24,571
Telephone & travel		7,386				7,386
Insurance, utilities, etc		18,330				18,330
Maintenance on manses		21,021				21,021
Expenditure on other Circuit property		13,680				13,680
Depreciation	9	250				250
Other Expenditure		17,601	512			18,113
Grants and Donations		1,251		718		1,969
Contributions to District Advance Fund			6,486			6,486
Total		257,363	6,998	718	0	265,079
Net income/(expenditure)		(26,182)	(1,842)	(518)	11	(28,531)
Transfer of Wootton to NMC				(209,901)		(209,901)
Transfers between funds		35,000	(35,000)			0
		8,818	(36,842)	(210,419)	11	(238,432)
Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets		217,621				217,621
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets						0
Net investment in funds		226,439	(36,842)	(210,419)	11	(20,811)
Total funds brought forward		1,427,398	179,717	210,419	1,165	1,818,699
Total funds carried forward		1,653,837	142,875	0	1,176	1,797,888

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Circuit Model Trust Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals this year £
Tangible Fixed Assets						
Land & Buildings		1,366,657				1,366,657
Equipment		2,416				2,416
Investment properties						
Investments						
Total fixed assets		1,369,073				1,369,073
Current Assets						
Debtors and Prepayments		11,397				11,397
Other						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits			317,548			317,548
Central Finance Board Deposits		22,456				22,456
Cash at Bank and in hand		7,009			2,124	9,133
Total current assets		40,862	317,548		2,124	360,534
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)		18,238				18,238
Net current assets (liabilities)		22,624	317,548		2,124	342,296
Total assets less current liabilities		1,391,697	317,548		2,124	1,711,369
Loans and creditors due after 1 year		20,000				20,000
Provisions for liabilities and charges						
Net assets		1,371,697	317,548		2,124	1,691,369
Funds of the Circuit						
Unrestricted funds		5,040				5,040
Property reserve		1,366,657				1,366,657
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			317,548			317,548
Designated funds	12					
Restricted funds	12				2,124	2,124
Total Funds		1,371,697	317,548		2,124	1,691,369

Comparative Balance Sheet for 31 August 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Circuit Model Trust Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals this year £
Tangible Fixed Assets						
Land & Buildings		1,668,429				1,668,429
Equipment		2,018				2,018
Investment properties						
Investments						
Total fixed assets		1,670,447				1,670,447
Current Assets						
Debtors and Prepayments		10,176				10,176
Other						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits			142,875			142,875
Central Finance Board Deposits		22,692				22,692
Cash at Bank and in hand		17,960			1,176	19,136
Total current assets		50,828	142,875		1,176	194,879
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)		47,438				47,438
Net current assets (liabilities)		3,390	142,875		1,176	147,441
Total assets less current liabilities		1,673,837	142,875		1,176	1,817,888
Loans and creditors due after 1 year		20,000				20,000
Provisions for liabilities and charges						
Net assets		1,653,837	142,875		1,176	1,797,888
Funds of the Circuit						
Unrestricted funds		(14,592)				-14,592
Property reserve		1,668,429				1,668,429
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			142,875			142,875
Designated funds	12					
Restricted funds	12				1,176	1,176
Total Funds		1,653,837	142,875		1,176	1,797,888

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2015 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletin 2 issued in 2018.

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are no Endowment funds. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year and land and buildings at deemed current value. Accruals accounting principles have been adopted as far as practical to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment.

VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at estimated 2023 values, of which the land component is deemed to be £160,000. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because 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. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Investment Properties

Investment properties – In the 2023 accounts 75 Kentstone Close is deemed to not be required for the long term purposes of the charity and was reclassified as an investment property and sold during 2024.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Debtors and Prepayments

The prepayment included in the accounts is in respect of ministerial stipends paid in August due on 1st September..

Creditors

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting, this excludes stipends.

Trustee expenses

	2023/24	2022/23
Number of Trustees	7	8
Total amount	£7,054	£7,667

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel and computing costs

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	Nil	Nil
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	Nil	Nil

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	113,825	113,418
Employer's National Insurance costs	10,7006	10,626
Pension costs	24,828	23,021
Apprenticeship levy	577	558
Total staff costs	149,930	147,623

Average number of employees in the year were:

2023/24	2022/23
4	4

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2024 there are no capital commitments.
No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2024.

8 For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Balance brought forward from last year		
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	0	0
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	0	0
Balance carried forward	0	0

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or valuation

	Land £	Manse £	Other buildings £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Payments on account and assets under constructio n £	Total £
Balance brought forward	200,000	1,468,430		4,863		1,673,293
Additions				648		648
Revaluations (+/-)						
Disposals (-)	(40,000)	(261,773)				(301,773)
Transfers * (+/-)						
Balance carried forward	160,000	1,206,657	0	5,511		1,372,168

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward				2,845		2,845
Depreciation charge for year (-)				250		250
Revaluations (+/-)						
Disposals (-)						
Transfers* (+/-)						
Balance carried forward				3,095		3,095

Net book value

Brought forward	200,000	1,468,430		2,018		1,670,448
Carried forward	160,000	1,206,657	0	2,416		1,369,073

Sale of 75 Kentstone Close

	£	£
Sale proceeds		315,000
Book value of property	301,773	
Remedial work following water leak	9,214	310,987
Gross sales margin		4,013
Cost of sale		
Surveyor fees	315	
Estate agent fees	1,399	
Legal costs	1,149	2,863
Profit on sale		1,150

Of the sale proceeds the levy taken for wider Methodist purposes was £97,169 on this transaction.

10 Investment assets

The Circuit has no common investment fund holdings

11 Loans

The Circuit currently has a loan from the District of £20,000 in respect of initial funding related to the redevelopment of the Kingsthorpe Church. This has been treated as a long term creditor.

12 Analysis of restricted and designated funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted fund						
Benevolent Fund	1,176	1020	72		2,124	Support for individuals in specific need
2022/23	1,165	11	0		1,176	
Designated funds						
Development Fund	0	0	0		0	Available for funding outreach and development work
2022/23	518	200	718		0	
Totals	1,176	1,020	72		2,124	
2022/23	1,683	211	718		1,176	

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Northampton Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024 and is carried out under Sections 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Institute of Chartered Accountants England & Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or .
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 at the balance sheet date.

Name	Miss C Haynes ACA
Qualification reference	ACA ICAEW 7945127
Address	4 Delamere Road Northampton NN4 8QG
Date	15 March 2025

CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

MINISTERS

Rev David Speirs
Rev Samantha Gillard
Rev Ian Forsyth

SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS

Rev Alan Sharp

CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATOR

Miss Sarah Eason

CIRCUIT STEWARDS

Miss Pam Kirkland
Dr Hellen Okello
Ms Charmaine Wareham-Voyce
Mr Phillip Leeson

CIRCUIT TREASURER

Mr Keith Brooks

Circuit Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Mrs Jenny Brooks

CIRCUIT CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST CHURCH

Mr Trevor Clarke
Mrs Pat Oliver
Mrs. Hilary MacCallum
Mr Paul Deakin

EMMANUEL GROUP

Mrs Maureen Timms
Mrs Jenny Cole