

**VICTORIA METHODIST CHURCH BRISTOL**

**1A Whiteladies Rd, Bristol BS8 1NU**

**Registered Charity number 1135776**

**Trustees Annual Report - 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024**

**Members of the Council**

Minister REV PATRICK STONEHEWER  
Circuit Minister Rev Sally Spencer  
Church Secretary VERONICA WILSON

**Co-ordinators**

Worship DAVID PLEASANTS  
Learning HUGH LLOYD JONES  
Outreach JANE STACEY, TIM MELLING, JOY MORISON  
Faith in the Future JOHN BARNETT  
Property KEVIN CORNELIUS  
Events HELEN HARRISON  
Safeguarding JANET GEORGE, Jill James (YP)  
Communication SHINGAI MANYIWA  
Church Treasurer ONKHOPOTSE MOENG  
Circuit Steward Mike Culshaw

**Other Representatives to Church Council**

Dora Alderson  
David Ball (Property)  
Sarah Ball  
Ian Campion Smith (Assistant Treasurer)  
Diana Casey  
Helen Davies  
James Gibbs  
Robert Harrison  
Michael Hazell  
Sheelagh Hiley  
Ruth Hudson (Pastoral Secretary)  
Chris Morison

CAPITALS denotes member of Leadership Team (Also listed as Church Stewards)

**Objectives and Activities**

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.

### **Mission**

The Mission of Victoria Methodist Church is to respond to God's Love in Christ and to live out that love in God's world. As a Methodist Church, members and non-members alike are welcome to attend worship and activities.

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance for charities for the advancement of religion. In pursuit of its mission, the church vision is to be 'a Methodist Church which seeks to share the Gospel through encouraging lifelong learning and engaging with and through media and the creative arts'.

### **Review of the year**

The church continued to offer a regular pattern of worship, led by a mixture of ordained and lay leaders. The main Sunday worship continues to be a hybrid worship service (on-line and in-person). This is supplemented by a shorter act of online worship on a weekday evening, a monthly evening service using material from the Taizé community, and a quarterly 'All Together' service bringing all ages together in a less formal style. We are grateful for the musical, creative and technical gifts of all those who support this core activity of the church. Lay-led house study groups have also continued throughout this year, forming part of our wider mission of learning.

In line with our Mission statement we have held a Come and Sing event, a choir of 80 singers rehearsing and performing Faure's Requiem. We have started to hold 'Knitalongs' where through Lent and Advent people sign up to follow a daily pattern and receive a daily reflection related to the liturgical season. Over one thousand people have participated during this year and very positive feedback has been received. A range of University Music concerts used the premises throughout the year and we have continued to share space with the Art School next door, both of which complemented our own contributions to exploring spirituality through the creative arts.

The work of the church Eco Champions group has continued on further reducing our carbon footprint, following up on the previous Energy Audit; we have continued to look at the practicalities of installing solar panels on church roof. Our engagement with our local community around eco initiatives has included organising an art competition for local schools on the theme "From Pollution to Solution" Five primary and two secondary schools participated and there was an awards event where the artwork was displayed with 150 people present.

Our commitment to a range of ministries addressing issues of poverty and social inclusion continued, working with other local Methodist churches and our neighbouring ecumenical partners. Bristol Street Pastors are based in our premises and we have provided two members for their oversight group. 'Calm, Create, Community' provided an ongoing opportunity each week for a quiet and reflective space based in the church premises. A weekly group for people with mental health difficulties provides valuable support.

## THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Victoria Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

Saturday, August 31, 2024

Circuit

Circuit no.

0702

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1135776

If not a registered charity **His Majesty's Revenue and Customs**

(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)

Minister:

Rev Patrick Stonehewer

Church Stewards:

John Barnett

Tim Melling

Kevin Cornelius

Joy Morison

Janet George

David Pleasants

Helen Harrison

Jane Stacey

Gemma Keeley

Treasurer:

Onkhopotse Moeng CA (SA)

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024				Victoria Methodist		Church		PAGE 2	
	SECTION A			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year		Totals last year	
				£	£	£		£	
a1	RECEIPTS		Note						
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered			164,787		164,787		140,549	
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income			14,821		14,821		9,622	
a4	Lettings			36,346		36,346		46,696	
a5	Other receipts			11,699		11,699		8,281	
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS			227,653	0	227,653.41	(a7)	205,148	
	SECTION B								
b1	PAYMENTS								
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share			65,280		65,280		59,347	
b3	Donations			52,902		52,902		11,000	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance			47,736		47,736		36,482	
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)			27,688		27,688		33,093	
b6						0		0	
b7	Other payments			31,692		31,692		29,224	
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS			225,298	0	225,298.34	(b9)	169,146	
	SECTION C								
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR		(a6-b8)	2,355.07	0	2,355		36,002	
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year			395,929.74		395,930	(c6)	359,928	Check Res+Unres total TRUE
c3	Sub total		(c1+c2)	398,285	0	398,285		395,930	
c4	Transfers and adjustments					0	(c7)		
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR		(c3+c4)	398,285	0	398,285	(c8)	395,930	(c6) c6 totals TRUE
	SECTION D								
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS								
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)					£		£	
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					0			
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations								
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations								
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)					0		0	

**SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL****SECTION E****Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church 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 income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, 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 District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances		
e1			0			0		
e2			0			0		
e3			0			0		
e4			0			0		
e5			0			0		
e6			0			0		
e7			0			0		
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0	0	0	0	0 (e11)	0 (e12)	Check TRUE
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	227,653 (a7)	225,298 (b9)	2,355	(c7)	395,930 (c6)	398,285 (c8)	Check TRUE
e10	<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>	<b>227,653</b>	<b>225,298</b>	<b>2,355</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>395,930 (x)</b>	<b>398,285 (y)</b>	Check TRUE
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>					

**SECTION F****STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024				OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES		
f1	Cash in hand						
f2	Bank Current Account			41,952	31,949		
f3	Bank Deposit Account						
f4	Central Finance Board			286,966	296,006		
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes			67,012	70,330		
f6	Other funds						
f7	<b>SUB TOTAL - Church accounts</b>			<b>395,930 (c6)</b>	<b>398,285 (c8)</b>		
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)			<b>0 (e11)</b>	<b>0 (e12)</b>	Opening Closing	
f9	<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>			<b>395,930 (x)</b>	<b>398,285 (y)</b>	Check bails FALSE FALSE	

**SECTION G****OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

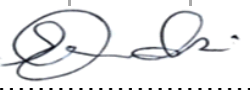
	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	
g3	Other Assets	
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	
g5	Other Liabilities	

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Name of Church :Victoria Methodist Church..... No:07/02.....									
<b>Declarations and Scrutiny</b>									
I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.									
Signature of treasurer <i>Niceba</i> ..... Date <i>22.04.2025</i>									
Name and address of treasurer: Onkhopotse Moeng CA (SA) .....									
29 Clark Drive, Yate..... Post Code: BS37 7EH.....									
<b>Presentation to the Church trustees</b>									
I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on <i>27/2/2025</i> .....									
Signature of the Chair of the meeting <i>P.D. Stonehewer</i> .....									
Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Patrick Stonehewer ..... Date <i>25/4/2025</i> .....									
<b>Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the</b>									
<b>Victoria Methodist Church</b>									
<b>Charity Number: 1135776.....</b>									
<b>Responsibilities and basis of report</b>									
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Victoria Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Church'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 Church'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.									

Name of Church: Victoria Methodist Church ..... No: 07/02 ....									
<b>Independent Examiner's Statement</b>									
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:									
<input type="checkbox"/> the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or <input type="checkbox"/> 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 obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.									
									
Signature of independent examiner .....									
Name of independent examiner: Elorm Numadzi CA (Gh).....									
Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner : CA (Gh) .....									
Name of firm (where appropriate): N/A .....									
Address: 33 Montgomery Avenue, Wellesley, Aldershot .....									
..... Post Code: GU11 4DG .....									
Date 25/04/2025.....									