

CHORLEY AND LEYLAND
METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

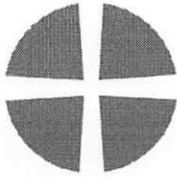
for the year ended

31 AUGUST 2023



Registered Charity No. 1135868

Introduction



Welcome to the 2022-2023 Annual Report for the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit.

According to the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church, *"The Circuit is the primary unit in which Local Churches express and experience their interconnexion in the Body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help."* (SO 500 (1)).

The Chorley & Leyland Circuit gives a strategic lead in the work of God in and through our 11 churches, and celebrating our four primary schools (Methodist or CofE / Methodist) reaching out in witness and service to our communities.

This report offers insights into the main activities of our Circuit; our local churches produce their own reports

Church Vision & Priorities



Following two years of being impacted by COVID restrictions, this year was fully 'back to normal' with churches resuming gathered worship and in person events and gatherings. However, we did also continue to offer on-line worship each week, which enables many people to worship with us in their own time and in their own place. The Circuit continues to be 'Growing in Christ', both individually and collectively. Each of the rainbow colours in our logo, represents one of our key priority areas of working, and updates for each of these is provided below.

Ministry of All God's People/Spiritual Growth

Following the COVID related delays this area has now been brought to life. The appointment Kai Bland into the position of Lay Worker supporting Rev'd Gill McBride in working with Midge Hall & Leyland Methodist Churches enabled Dcn Ellen Monk-Winstanley's role to be refocused so that significant amount of her time could be spent in this area.

Experiences have been offered for all people across the Circuit to explore their own faith and spiritual growth through Lenten Quiet Days, The Difference Course, Bereavement Reflection Groups, Open the Book training and a day exploring Depression and the Church. We are finding that as we explore our faith together more opportunities are presenting themselves. As we go forward, we are offering more Empowering All Days that explore aspects of faith and evangelism, retreats around the Divine Heart of Darkness, a Woman at the Well event that explored the story of the Samaritan Woman and much more. Connections are being made and people are beginning to talk about their faith and their questions as a space is created in which to do so.

Creative Communication

The Circuit Communications Team, gathered from a number of our churches, continues its work to develop better communication across, within and beyond our Circuit family of churches. Over the last year continued to offer weekly online worship. This has taken up a large amount of resources to produce the material and to ensure that the output is of the highest quality.

Physical Presence

The responsibility for maintaining and where appropriate developing Church buildings lies with the local Church Councils as Managing Trustees. However, the Circuit does recognise that it does have a role to play in this and is in the process of developing ways of being able to use the financial resources that it has to support the Church Managing Trustees as and when appropriate.

Contagious Pioneering



Our Pioneer Ministry Enabler completed his final full year with us, but for a number of reasons it was agreed that funding for the role would be extended to December 2024. The report below summarises the excellent work that has been done during the past five years.

The '20 Guitars Project' – this offers the opportunity to not only learn to play the guitar but also to receive support and encouragement, and this was especially valuable during the period of COVID restrictions when the group continued on-line. Two groups are now in place and continue to thrive. At the request of the group members our pioneer enabler is looking at ways to continue these groups beyond the end of the role with the Circuit.

The Gregorian Chant Project, was launched in March 2019, and is aimed at reaching, amongst others, those who can't find a place in any of the established Churches, as well as those who define themselves as spiritual but not religious. Regular services continued in the chapel at Lisieux Hall. Ways of continuing these services are being explored

The Music Therapy Sessions in the Buckshaw Retirement Village Retirement Hall have continued and are very much appreciated by the residents.

The Buckshaw Rickshaw Project was developed pre COVID and was due to launch in 2020 but had to be put on hold due to the restrictions. Working alongside Buckshaw Village Church, and Buckshaw Retirement Village this is a project to use Rickshaws to transport the elderly in the village. However, in September 2022 the order was placed for two Rickshaws to be built in Poland, and these were delivered early in 2023 enabling the project to be relaunched in April 2023 at an event with the Speaker of the House of Commons in attendance.

This project has been developed to stand alone and it is envisaged that it will continue. There are some ongoing challenges with finding enough volunteers to drive the Rickshaws but it is hoped that as people see them being used it will encourage others to join. The remaining funds held by the Circuit for this project are 'ring-fenced' in a Restricted Fund but will be released as and when they are required for further developments which are currently being worked on.

The Circuit also continues to be committed to rolling out a strategy and funding for local churches to pioneer new projects, over the coming months and years.

Schools Plus



We have 4 Methodist or Church of England/Methodist schools in our Circuit, serving over 1,200 children and their families. We also have connections to many community schools where lessons have been shared around Christianity. We offer regular RE support, worship, support to staff and families and in church worship as we support schools as they face the challenges of educating in today's world. We have offered Open the Book across several schools and are aiming to train more volunteers to support this work. We offered a Prayer Experience to all the students and staff at Trinity Buckshaw C of E/ Methodist Primary school in the summer term 2023 and continue to work with schools to find more ways to enrich and inspire the children and staff. We offer ongoing support to senior leadership and staff through Ofsted and Siam's inspections. Regular class worship and whole school worship has been held in church allowing children and their parents to experience worship together. We have also offered hospitality opportunities to the school community around these worships in church. We are looking at providing a Godly Play Day and a Lifepath experience in the future.

Other

Worship

Public Worship, open to all without charge, remained one of the main activities where people engage with the church. All churches held regular Sunday morning worship (some occasionally holding two services on some Sundays and a couple held regular evening service). With just a few exceptions, these are organised and led by preachers (often ministers) deployed by the circuit, but aided by others such as stewards and musicians. Several united services were organised by the circuit across the churches.

Local Churches organise their own special services and other events around the major festivals, especially **Christmas** and **Easter** and commemorations such as **Remembrance Sunday**. These are often occasions when people with limited connection with the Church were made especially welcome.

A number of our churches have continued to offer messy church as an alternative form of worship. Last year as part of the work with Sanctuary seekers a new Bible Study has started in Farsi, following on from bilingual Baptisms for a number of Iranians.

Staffing

During the year the circuit continued to resource, support and deploy paid staff (five ordained Ministers), a part-time Circuit Administrative Assistant, a full-time Pioneer Ministry Enabler (co-funded by the Lancashire District) and many lay volunteers in work across the circuit and in the community.

We welcomed Rev'd Gordon Gresswell into the Circuit as our new Superintendent, and he and his wife, Sue, moved to Chorley in August 2022, ready to start with us in the new church year from September. Rev'd Gordon was responsible for Eccleston, Whittle and Euxton Churches as well as his duties as Superintendent. Unfortunately, due to ill health he had to relinquish his appointment at the end of the year due to personal reasons. We continue to hold him and Sue in our prayers and we them both well for the future.

We are thankful to Rev 'ds Gill McBride, Helen Millward and Karen Hilsden who have now taken joint responsibility for the Circuit Superintendency for the foreseeable future.

In January 2023 we were pleased to welcome Kai Bland into the role of Lay Worker supporting both Midge Hall and Leyland Churches. Kai's appointment enabled Rev'd Gill McBride to take over pastoral care for Midge Hall which then released time for Dcn Ellen Monk-Winstanley to focus on and develop circuit wide Spiritual Growth opportunities.

After 8 years' service we were sad to see Kathryn Townson, our Circuit Administration Assistant leave at the end of August 2023 to take up a new role. We thank Kathryn for her service and wish her well in the future. Work is on-going on the potential redesign of this role for the future.

The Pioneer Ministry Enabler role held by Andrew Kesiak was due to come to an end at the end of August 2023, however due to a variety of reasons this was extended for a further 4 months. A full report on the work and life of the role is included in the Contagious Pioneering section of this report. We thank Andrew for his work over the past five years and wish him well for the future.

Ecumenical

We continue to work ecumenically where we can, and our Methodist Churches take a very active role in the work of Churches together in Leyland, Euxton, and Chorley.

Outreach

As with many in the local community, several of our churches have responded in a variety of ways to the request to offer warm spaces. Local churches are opening their doors on a regular basis to create community spaces where people are welcome, fed and given space to socialise, responding to the needs of isolation and loneliness.

In addition, some of our churches are also working with Sanctuary seekers, local school families and older members of the community. The work with Sanctuary seekers also involves advocacy work and our lay worker undertakes this. There were also ESOL courses which also included a baking activity to help develop participants English language.

Churches are constantly looking for opportunities to move beyond the walls of the church to engage with the community in new ways.

Our churches continue to support fully the work of local food banks, and are often involved in delivering food parcels and other works of support via our schools.

Governance

The Circuit sought to be fully compliant with all aspects of **Charity Commission** requirements, especially in relation to the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults.

The Circuit's **Safeguarding** Policy was renewed at the start of the year and all necessary training was undertaken by those post holders that the Methodist Church deems necessary. The Circuit coordinates aspects of the work of Safeguarding within the local churches.

The Circuit works closely with the District Safeguarding Officer, the Connexional Methodist Church and Due Diligence Checking (DDC) for DBS checks.

The Circuit acknowledges the importance of the **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)** and continues the task of ensuring all its practices and those of the local churches are compliant with regulations.

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) is the controller and responsible for general data protection issues arising in respect of day to day matters.

Property

The Circuit, through the Circuit Meeting, acts as Managing Trustees for circuit property, which is primarily the manses provided as homes and working environments for the ministerial staff.

The redundant manse (James Place) in Coppull was let out on a lease until February 2022, and was placed on the market in January 2022. After attracting an offer which was acceptable, the potential purchasers withdrew this in April 2022. No further offers were forthcoming at that time, however alternative buyers were eventually found and the property was sold in October 2023.

The Canberra Road manse which was vacated in August 2022 was sold in July 2023.

As a result of Rev'd Gordon Gresswell having to relinquish his appointment the Arley Wood Drive manse became vacant and the Trustees decided to place this on the rental market pending any further staffing decisions. A tenant moved into the property in December 2023 after signed a 12-month lease.

Financial Report

Financial Review

Income for the General Fund for the year ended 31st August 2023 was £302,229 (2022: £282,301) and expenditure £351,468 (2022: £298,601), resulting in a deficit before investment gains & losses of £49,239 (2022: £16,300). This was higher than the planned deficit of £29,315 by £19,924 which was largely due to 'one-off' expenditure on former manses prior to them being sold.

The Circuit Model Trust fund shows an increase of £608,425, largely due to the net sale proceeds of £609,001 from two of the former manses. The impact on overall funds was zero as the carrying value of these properties was held in General Funds which is then released in the 'Reclassification of Funds' line on the Statement of Financial Activities.

Details of income and expenditure on Designated and Restricted/Endowment Funds can be found in Notes 23c, 24 & 25.

Exceptional Items

As at 31st August 2023 the Charity currently had one former manse on the market for sale, and this was subsequently sold in October 2023. Therefore, in line with accounting policy K ii found on page 17 of this report, this property has been revalued as at 31st August 2022 to actual net sales proceeds, including the impact of the Connexional Levy payable. This has resulted in an exceptional loss of £ (61,636). In addition, a gain of £7,065 was recorded on the sale of Canberra Road which occurred in the year, resulting in overall losses on property revaluations/disposals of £ (54,571).

See Note 15 for further details.

Reserves

As at 31 August 2023 the total funds of the Circuit were £1,737,552, of which £1,314,708 was held in properties and a further £54,324 in Designated & Restricted Funds. This leaves a total of £368,520 of 'free' reserves in the General Fund. The first call on these funds is to cover the operating expenses of the Circuit and this is covered in the Circuit Reserves policy. See below for the details of this policy.

Plans for 2023/24 and beyond

In May 2021 the Trustees approved a five-year financial strategy designed to create the financial environment to support the key purpose of the Circuit outlined in the Church Life Review, which is to 'go forth and make disciples', whilst at the same time providing a degree of financial stability for the churches.

The key elements of the strategy were: a revised staffing plan, a manse re-configuration plan and change in the way that the annual assessment was allocated to the churches. The latter is designed to maintain stability in the underlying assessment throughout the five-year period.

The manse re-configuration plan has now been completed as has the method for the allocation of the annual assessments to the churches. The staffing plan has been revised as a result of the changes in the Staffing Section of this report and continues to be reviewed on a regular basis.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum of free reserves equivalent to 6 months' average expenditure. Based on the net available funds held in the General Fund as at 31 August 2023 of £368,520 and annual budgeted operating expenditure for 2023-24 of £374,353, the Circuit currently holds reserves equal to 11.8 months of expenditure.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 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

Full Name of Charity: Chorley and Leyland Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1135868

Date of registration: 11 May 2010

Main communication address: tbc

The members of the Chorley and Leyland 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.

Current Circuit Ministers and Officers

Active Circuit Ministers	Circuit Stewards
Rev'd H Millward (Co-Superintendent)	Mrs B Frankish
Rev'd G McBride (Co-Superintendent)	Mr T Melling
Rev'd K Hilsden (Co-Superintendent)	Mr R Scott
Dcn E Monk-Winstanley	Ms L Taylor
Rev'd M Whiffen (Associate)	Mrs C Wroe
	Mr D Kelsall
Administrator Vacant	Mrs Y Taylor
Mr Tim Melling acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.	
Independent Examiner Mrs Jacquie Adams 2 Stable Mews, Withnell Fold, Chorley PR6 8AR Investment Bankers Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, 9 Bonhill Street, London, EC2A 4PE Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ Other Bankers Co- Op Bank, PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT Solicitors Sintons Solicitors LLP The Cube, Barrack Road, Newcastle. NE24 Property Advisors Peter E Gilkes & Company, 33 Market Street, Chorley, PR7 2SE	

Aims and Organisation

The Charity's objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around Chorley and Leyland 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.

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 Lancashire District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference. The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Adlington United Reformed/Methodist Church	Chorley Methodist Church
Eccleston Methodist Church	Euxton Methodist Church
Leyland Methodist Church	Hillside Methodist Church
Spendmore Lane Methodist Church	Midge Hall Methodist Church
	Whittle-le-Woods Methodist Church

Risk Management

The major risks are identified and monitored by the Circuit Meeting via the Circuit Stewards. Professional advice from either within the Connexion or if necessary, from external advisors is taken as required.

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 humans 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 Chorley and Leyland Methodist 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 Chorley and Leyland Methodist 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, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Approved by the Trustees on 12th March 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Rev'd G McBride (Chair)



Appendix A – Full List of Circuit Meeting Members (“Trustees”)

Ministers

Rev G Gresswell (Appointed 1/09/22, Resigned 07/10/ 23)

Rev H Millward

Rev K Hilsden

Dcn E Monk-Winstanley

Rev G Welsh (Chair)

Rev M Whiffen (Associate)

Ministers in Other Appointments

None

Circuit Stewards & Meeting Secretary

Miss A Cupit (Resigned 31/08/23)

Mrs B Frankish

Mrs C Hothersall (Resigned 31/08/22)

Mr C Howard (Resigned 31/12/23)

Mr R Scott

Mrs L Taylor

Mr T Melling (Treasurer)

Mrs K Townson (Circuit Meeting Secretary) (Resigned 31/08/23)

Mrs C Wroe (Appointed 16/03/23)

Mr D Kelsall (Appointed 16/03/23)

Mrs Y Taylor (Appointed 14/06/23)

CIRCUIT LOCAL PREACHERS, WORSHIP LEADERS, SUPERN & CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs M Abel	Mr K Ashton	Mrs M Bennett (Resigned 01/09/22)	Mrs M Bibby
Rev J Clasper	Mrs J Davenport (Resigned 31/08/2022)	Mrs S Draper	Miss L Duckworth (resigned 29/10/23)
Mrs F Eccles	Mr A Edge	Mr J Fishwick	Mr D Frost
Mrs P Gerrard	Mr S Hardacre	Mrs M Harris (Resigned 10/10/23)	Mr T Harris (Resigned 10/10/23)
Mrs L Heston	Mr G Horton	Mrs J Horton	Mrs C Hulse
Mr D Hulse		Mrs N Klunder	Mrs Y Lancaster
Mr D Leach (Resigned 31/08/23)	Rev A Mashiter	Mrs A Melling	Mrs S Mercer
Mrs H Molyneux (Resigned 06/03/24)	Mrs R Moss	Mr C Naylor	Mrs L Naylor
Deacon S Nicholls	Mr B Noon	Mrs J Owen	Mrs K Owen
Mr F Robinson	Mrs A Sandham (Resigned 31/08/23)	Mr M Saunders	Mrs C Shapley
Mr L Shields	Mrs C Stafford	Mr W Stafford	Rev R Stubbings
Mrs Y Taylor	Mrs C Tetlow	Mr J Whittle	Miss A Cupit (Appointed 01/02/24)
Mrs C Hothersall (Appointed 01/09/24)			

Financial Statements

For the Year Ending 31 August 2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ending 31st August 2023

		Unrestricted Funds					
	Note No.	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Income and Endowments							
Donations and legacies	3	0	0	0	0	0	19,595
Income from monetary investments		1,296	4,655	0	150	6,100	1,838
Income from investment properties	4	0	0	0	0	0	5,766
Assessments on Churches	5	300,484	0	0	0	300,484	276,136
Capital Receipts	6	0	609,001	0	0	609,001	0
Grants received	7	0	0	11,755	500	12,255	10,927
Other charitable activities	8	103	0	0	0	103	0
Total from Charitable Activities		301,883	613,656	11,755	650	927,943	314,261
Other income		346	0	0	0	346	50
Total Income and Endowments		302,229	613,656	11,755	650	928,289	314,311
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	8	1,117	0	3,420	0	4,537	14,333
Salaries and associated costs	9	230,571	0	30,762	0	261,334	232,237
Property	10	31,062	0	0	0	31,062	21,633
District Assessment & Levy	11	75,373	2,936	10,610	0	88,919	82,496
Depreciation		0	0	0	0	0	0
Office expenses	12	2,982	310	54	0	3,346	4,195
Other outgoings	13	10,362	1,985	0	10,427	22,775	9,057
Total Charitable Expenditure		351,468	5,231	44,847	10,427	411,974	363,950
Net Incoming Resources /(Resources Expended before Investment Gains /(Losses))		(49,239)	608,425	(33,092)	(9,778)	516,316	(49,639)
Gain/(loss) monetary investments	14	0	(1,661)	0	0	(1,661)	(3,485)
Gain/(loss) investment properties & manses	15	(54,571)	0	0	0	(54,571)	(25,492)
Reclassification of Funds	16	(609,001)	0	0	0	(609,001)	0
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(712,811)	606,763	(33,092)	(9,778)	(148,918)	(78,616)
Transfers between funds		7,619	(28,710)	21,091	0	0	(0)
Other gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		(705,192)	578,053	(12,001)	(9,778)	(148,918)	(78,616)
Total funds brought forward		1,701,653	108,714	47,528	28,575	1,886,470	1,965,086
less Loans Repaid		379,206	(379,206)	0	0	0	0
add back Future Instalments of Grants		0	0	0	0	0	0
Grant Instalment Provisions Released		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funds Carried Forward		1,375,667	307,562	35,527	18,797	1,737,552	1,886,470

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023 - £s

		Unrestricted Funds					
	Note No.	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Equipment	18	1,127,686				1,127,686	1,729,622
Investment properties	18	187,022				187,022	248,658
Investments	19		35,555			35,555	37,217
Total Fixed Assets		1,314,708	35,555			1,350,263	2,015,497
Current Assets							
Debtors	20	20,738		1,260		21,998	25,348
Loans by the Circuit	21	91,000				91,000	90,770
Investments with TMCP	19		272,006			272,006	71,498
Central Finance Board Deposits	22	(0)		20,418	4,457	24,874	82,573
Cash at Bank and in hand	22	18,544		23,692	14,341	56,577	106,642
Total Current Assets		130,282	272,006	45,370	18,797	466,455	376,832
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	23	69,323		9,843		79,166	505,859
Grants payable within 1 year							
Total Current Liabilities		69,323		9,843		79,166	505,859
Net Current Assets/Liabilities		60,959	272,006	35,527	18,797	387,289	(129,027)
Total Assets less Current Liabilities							
		1,375,667	307,562	35,527	18,797	1,737,552	1,886,470
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 1 year							
Loans to the Circuit							
Net Assets		1,375,667	307,562	35,527	18,797	1,737,552	1,886,470
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund	24a/26	1,375,667				1,375,667	1,701,653
Circuit Model Trust Fund	24b/26		307,562			307,562	108,714
Designated Funds	24c/26			35,527		35,527	47,528
Total Unrestricted Funds						1,718,755	1,857,895
Restricted & Endowment Funds	25/26				18,797	18,797	28,575
Total Funds		1,375,667	307,562	35,527	18,797	1,737,552	1,886,470

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31st August 2023

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023 - £s

		Unrestricted Funds			Restricted & Endowment Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
Note No.		General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds			
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Equipment	18	1,127,686				1,127,686	1,729,622
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Current Assets							
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Creditors (due in under 1 year)	23	69,323		9,843		79,166	505,859
Grants payable within 1 year							
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Net Current Assets/Liabilities		60,959	272,006	35,527	18,797	387,289	(129,027)
Total Assets less Current Liabilities							
		1,375,667	307,562	35,527	18,797	1,737,552	1,886,470
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 1 year							
Loans to the Circuit							
Net Assets		1,375,667	307,562	35,527	18,797	1,737,552	1,886,470

	2023 £	2022 £
Statement of cash flows		
Cash from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(138,540)	(12,508)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	6,100	1,838
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	609,001	0
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(379,496)
TMCP Charges & Levies	(2,626)	(8,839)
Net cash provided by investing activities	612,475	(386,498)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Loans Granted		(85,000)
New borrowing		379,206
Repayments of borrowing	(379,206)	
Interest Paid	(1,985)	
Net cash used in financing activities	(381,191)	294,206
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	92,744	(104,800)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	260,714	365,514
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	353,457	260,714
	2,023 £	2,022 £
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities		
Net income for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)	(148,918)	(78,616)
Adjustments for:		
Profit on the sale of fixed assets	(7,065)	(39,107)
Loss on the sale of fixed assets	61,636	64,599
Losses on investments	1,661	3,485
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(6,100)	(1,838)
TMCP Charges & Levies	2,626	8,839
Interest Paid	1,985	
(increase)/decrease in debtors	3,121	(6,391)
increase/(decrease) in creditors	(47,487)	36,520
Net cash used in operating activities	(138,540)	(12,508)
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash in hand	56,577	106,642
Short term deposit (less than 3 months)	296,881	154,071
Total cash and cash equivalents	353,457	260,714

1) Basis of Accounting and Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Standard

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), effective from 1 January 2015. (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

b) Public Benefit Entity

The Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

c) Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that the investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used and the Trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

d) Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

e) Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2023, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

f) Consolidation

The Circuit and denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements. The income and expenditure relating to the Women's Network – Chorley & Leyland Circuit are consolidated into these financial statements as this group does fall within the overall governance of the Trustees.

g) Income Recognition

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other Income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Circuit acts as agent in three matters:

- The collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church, known as 'Connexional Funds'.
- The administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexional.
- The collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to the Circuit nominated 'Charity of the Year.'

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or the Churches as appropriate. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102), module 19.12

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees Annual Report. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

h) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.

i) Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operations obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year, the balance payable in future years, discounted to net present value where the difference is material, is treated as a provision for future commitments in the balance sheet against the appropriate fund. The provision is then released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms. Any future payment provision is applied to the fund from which the grant will be ultimately be paid

j) VAT

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

k) Tangible Fixed Assets

- i. These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.
- ii. Freehold property owned as at 31st August 2015 is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values based on insured amounts. Property acquired after that date is shown at cost. No depreciation is provided because the Trustees consider the current residual value of the properties in their present condition to be not less than their historical cost and, in the absence of any material impairment, any deprecation provision for the building component of the properties would be immaterial. From time to time the Circuit may be required to assume responsibility for Church premises following closure and cessation of worship. This results in the Circuit becoming Managing Trustees for the property. At the time the property is recognised as an asset at its anticipated net sale proceeds as determined by a professional valuation and after taking into consideration the levy to be charged by the Connexion. Any expenditure of such assets, that is likely to enhance sale value, is capitalised at the time the expenditure is incurred.

Tangible Fixed Assets cont.

- iii. Manses which are no longer required and subsequently offered for sale are revalued at its anticipated net sale proceeds as determined by a professional valuation and after taking into consideration, disposal costs and the levy to be charged by the Connexion.

l) Monetary Investments

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS102, and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains or losses arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA and in Note 16 below.

m) Investment Property

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formally manses) which is either surplus to its normal staffing requirements or is not currently required due to different living arrangements for one or more of the presbyters. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of two years, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not). Any letting arrangements are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

n) Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic Financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

o) Funds

The trustees have adopted a policy for all unrestricted reserves which is to maintain a minimum of six months cover for Operating Expenses together with specific designated funds for Major Manse Repairs and Ministers Removal Costs. Further details can be found in Note 24

p) Ministers Manse Costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families, and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, council tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits in kind as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of the ministers.

2) Glossary of Terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church – manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain, and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 300.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30.

Circuit Leadership Team (CLT): a group (comprising mostly, but not exclusively) of Circuit trustees responsible for the day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally, the CLT comprises the Presbyters and Deacons stationed within the Circuit, together with the Circuit Stewards, of which the Circuit Treasurer is one.

Circuit Meeting: The Trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Churches.

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches.

Connexional Funds: The Designated and/or Restricted Funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of its charitable and mission objectives.

District: a group of contiguous circuits usually between 15 and 30.

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.

FTE: Full time equivalent. Used in the expression of staffing levels when not all staff are employed on a full-time basis.

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs

Lay Employees: Personnel employed by the Church on generally accepted commercial employment terms.

Manse: Accommodation provided by the Circuit for the Presbyters for the period that they are stationed within the circuit

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

PASLEMC: Pensions and Assurance Scheme for Lay employees of the Methodist Church

Minister: Probationer or Ordained Methodist Presbyters or Deacons who have pastoral and administrative responsibility for the Churches within the Circuit

Quinquennial Report: a report prepared every five years by an architect or qualified building surveyor on each manse and church within the Circuit outlining (in priority order) any major repairs needed to the building

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds

3) Donations and Legacies

The Circuit received donations of £0 during the year (2022, £19,955), as shown below.

	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Christmas Books for Schools					0	14
Digital Enabler Fund					0	0
Buckshaw Rickshaw Project					0	17,581
Other					0	2,000
Total	0	0	0	0	0	19,595

4) Income from Investment Properties

The former manse situated in James Place, Coppull was designated as an Investment Property and put on the market for sale in January 2022, therefore no rental income was received in the year (2022, £5,766). Letting income is shown gross of fees and commissions which are accounted for in Property Expenses (see Note 10b). The property remained on the market at 31st August 2023, but was sold in October 2023.

5) Assessments on Churches

	General Fund	
	2022-23	2021-22
Adlington	1,900	6,007
Chorley Methodist	48,238	43,757
Eccleston	21,228	18,747
Euxton	27,591	25,171
Hillside	48,977	43,887
Leyland Methodist	83,968	74,072
Midge Hall	33,775	28,370
Spendmore Lane	22,381	19,444
Whittle	12,427	11,932
Withnell Fold	0	4,749
Total	300,484	276,136

The Circuit comprises 9 churches (2022: 10) and each is assessed for a contribution to meet a proportion of the net operating costs of the Circuit. The calculation is based on the budget for the year and assessed based on ordained and lay worker time allocated. Due to delays in the recruitment of a budgeted lay worker the Trustees approved a rebate of 4% (2022: 11%), which are reflected in the figures above.

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023

6) Capital Receipts

Two former manse were sold in the ended 31st August 2023, yielding net receipts of £609,001, (2022: £0), as per the details below.

	Circuit Model Trust Fund			
	Millfield Road	Canberra Road	Total 2022-23	2020-21
Gross Sale Proceeds	425,000	290,000	715,000	
CPF Levy	0	(89,146)	(89,146)	
Selling Agent Fees	(5,508)	(3,523)	(9,031)	
Surveyors Fees	(1,077)	(691)	(1,768)	
Legal Fees	(3,000)	(2,880)	(5,880)	
Other Fees	(133)	(41)	(174)	
Net Sales Proceeds	415,282	193,719	609,001	0

7) Grants Received

Grants totalling £12.225 were received in the year (2022: £10,927), primarily funding for the Pioneer Ministry Enabler post from the Lancashire District.

8) Grants & Donations Made

The grants and donations listed below were agreed and paid during the year. The grants for contactless giving are to encourage and support the churches to introduce new methods of giving. As at 31st August 2022 six churches had taken up this opportunity, and the Designated Funds put aside for this had been fully utilised.

From General Funds	Agreed This Year			Agreed Previous Year			Total
	Agreed	Paid This Year	Carried Forward	Unpaid b/f	Paid This Year	Carried Forward	Paid This Year
St Johns School, Brinscall	1,117	(1,117)	0			0	(1,117)
Total	1,117	(1,117)	0	0	0	0	(1,117)

From Designated Funds	Agreed	Paid This Year	Carried Forward	Unpaid b/f	Reversed This Year	Carried Forward	Paid This Year
Contactless Giving	1,996	(1,996)	0	0		0	(1,996)
Refugee Support	1,024	(1,024)	0	0		0	(1,024)
3 Generate	400	(400)	0	0		0	(400)
Total	3,420	(3,420)	0	0	0	0	(3,420)

Overall Total	4,537	(4,537)	0	0	0	0	(4,537)
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9) Stipends, Salaries & Associated Costs**a) Presbyters & Deacons**

Stipends were paid to 5 Presbyters & Deacons (5.0 fte), (2022: (5.0 fte)).

	Full Time	Part Time	General	Designated	2023	2022
Stipends	140,026		140,026		140,026	134,202
National Insurance	13,475		13,475		13,475	12,847
Pensions	36,218		36,218		36,218	34,733
Total Employment Costs	189,719	0	189,719	0	189,719	181,783
Telephone & Internet	2,731	0	2,731		2,731	2,799
Travelling	3,708	0	3,708		3,708	5,483
Removal & Relocation			0	0	0	4,734
Total	196,158	0	196,158	0	196,158	194,800

b) Lay Workers & Administration

During the year the Circuit employed three lay members of staff (1.7fte), (2021 1.45fte), one (0.7fte) providing Administration support to the Circuit, a Lay Ministry worker (1.0 fte) from January 2023 and the third (1.0 fte) in a Pioneer Ministry Enabler role. The Circuit Administrator works an additional 2hrs per week for the Lancashire District and this cost is recharged. The costs below are shown net of this recharge.

	Full Time	Part Time	General	Designated	2023	2022
Salary	15,249	14,277	29,525	25,967	55,492	32,762
National Insurance	1,252	717	1,969	2,358	4,326	1,873
Pensions	908	856	1,765	1,558	3,323	1,809
Total Employment Costs	17,409	15,850	33,258	29,883	63,141	36,445
Telephone & Internet	171	326	498	474	972	592
Travelling	434	223	657	405	1,063	400
Total	18,014	16,399	34,413	30,762	65,175	37,437

c) Totals

	Full Time	Part Time	General	Designated	2022	2021
Stipends, Salaries & Associated Costs	190,066	10,160	200,226	32,011	232,237	247,078

No employees received employee benefits of more than £60,000. There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial; the holiday year ends on 31 August. All staff are paid at or above the living wage.

d) Pensions

All ordained Presbyters & Deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS), which is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term was deemed to include presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

On the other hand, lay employees are contractual employees and do have the option of joining an occupational pension scheme.

Financial details of the MMPS can be found in the note to the Consolidated Report and Financial Statements of The Methodist Church

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023

e) Cost of Superintendent, Presbyters, Deacons & Trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Presbyters and Deacons and the remaining members of the CLT are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent chairs CLT and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employers pension contributions and other expenses of the Presbyters and Deacons of the Circuit are paid by the Circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the properties. Council tax and water charges are paid by the Circuit, but as HMRC does not regard this a benefit in kind the values are not disclosed here.

Each Presbyter and Deacon is entitled to a three-month sabbatical, every seven years. Expenses incurred during this are met by the Connexion, with the Circuit continuing to pay the stipend. During the year there have been no sabbaticals. There are no additional costs incurred as a result of sabbaticals as the remaining Presbyters and Deacons cover the work without additional payment.

The total employment costs for Presbyters and Deacons can be found in Note 9a above

f) Payments to Trustees

It is not generally Circuit policy to reimburse the lay members of the CLT or Circuit Meeting members for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. However as outlined above the Presbyters, Deacons, and the Administration Assistant are paid by the Circuit for their work within the Circuit. In addition, payments (fees and/or travel expenses) are made to Supernumerary Ministers for preaching duties they undertake within the churches of the Circuit. These costs are reported as 'Other Outgoings' and details of payments made to Supernumery Ministers who are Trustees are outlined below:

Trustee	2022-23	2021-22
Rev A Mashiter	1,179	561
Rev D Oldham	1,100	525
Rev J Clasper	247	0
Rev M Randle	649	368
Rev R Stubbings	700	175
Dcn S Nicholls	683	179
Total	4,557	1,808

The travel cost of the Presbyters & Deacons who attend CLT and Circuit Meetings is included within their overall travel expenses and is not separately determined.

10) Property Expenses

During the year the Circuit was Managing Trustee for 6 manses (2021, 6), of which 4 were occupied by the Presbyters. The remaining two (Millfield Road & Canberra Road) were sold during the year. The circuit is also Managing Trustee for a former manse, James Place, which is designated as an investment property. The cost of on-going maintenance and improvements to all properties is current funded on an 'as incurred' basis from the General Fund. Any major/one-off repairs or maintenance are funded from the reserve held in Designated Funds.

The Circuit is also responsible for any property related expenses in respect of closed churches, as well as Quinquennial Reports for all Churches and Manses within the circuit.

a) Expenditure on Manses`

General Fund								
Manse	Council Tax	Insurance	Repairs, Maint & Improv	Maintenance Contracts	Water	Other	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Arley Wood Drive	2,555	596	1,535	120	357	54	5,216	73
Canberra Road	1,274	583	3,122	70	414	824	6,287	3,775
Little Close	1,687	387	1,490	35	(101)	0	3,499	3,333
Millfield Road	(65)	44	0	0	63	582	624	4,435
Warton Place	1,426	434	239	33	646	0	2,777	2,634
Windsor Drive	1,912	448	1,188	130	443	0	4,121	2,650
Total General Funds	8,788	2,493	7,574	387	1,822	1,460	22,524	16,898
Designated Funds								
Arley Wood Drive							0	570
Windsor Drive							0	0
Warton Place							0	1,174
Total Designated Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,744
Total - Manses	8,788	2,493	7,574	387	1,822	1,460	22,524	18,642

b) Expenditure on Other Property

Description	General Fund		Designated Funds	
	2022-23	2021-22	2022-23	2021-22
Investment Properties	8,063	2,140	0	0
Church Quinquennial Reports	475	850	0	0
Total	8,538	2,990	0	0

Total Expenditure on Property

	General Fund		Designated Funds		Total Funds	
	2022-23	2021-22	2022-23	2021-22	2022-23	2021-22
Manses	22,524	16,898	0	1,744	22,524	18,642
Other Property	8,538	2,990	0	0	8,538	2,990
Total	31,062	19,888	0	1,744	31,062	21,632

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023

11) District Assessment & Levy

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of Staffing (Presbyters, Deacons and Mission staff) of all Circuits within the Lancashire District. Presbyters & Deacons, attract a weighting of 1.50 per Fte and Mission Staff a weighting of 1.0 per Fte. The amounts included in Designated Funds relate to the Pioneer Ministry Enabler. The Circuit Model Trust levy is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuits CMTF account balance as at 31 August in the previous accounting year.

	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
District Expenses	10,800		1,520		12,321	10,680
Methodist Church Fund	64,573		9,090		73,663	63,588
Levy - CMTF		2,936			2,936	8,228
Total	75,373	2,936	10,610	0	88,919	82,496

12) Office & Administration Expenses

	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Payroll Admin charge	480				480	480
Computer Levy - Ministers	880				880	855
TMCP Investment Management Fees		310			310	611
Printer Cartridges	363				363	550
Conference Minutes & CPD	283				283	288
Office Equipment	369				369	952
Circuit Website	249				249	249
Other Admin Costs	358	0	54	0	413	210
Total	2,982	310	54		3,346	4,195

13) Other Outgoings

	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Mission, Preaching & Worship						
Supernumery Preacher Expenses	2,618				2,618	1,808
Messy Church - Buckshaw	467				467	0
Resources	1,519			1,182	2,701	967
Other Expenditure						
Training Courses & Events	94				94	0
Apprenticeship Levy	991				991	856
Staff Retreat/CLT Away Day	1,089				1,089	2,465
Stationing Expenses						625
Purchase of Rickshaws				9,186		
Interest Paid		1,985				
Venue Hire	868			60		
Professional Fees	2,335				2,335	1,420
Other	380	0	0	0	380	916
Total	10,362	1,985		10,427	10,676	9,056

14) Investment Management

During the year the Circuit paid TMCP, the custodians of the Circuits investments, management charges based on 0.2% of the value of the funds as at the beginning of the financial year. Details of these by fund are listed below. None of the individual amounts are considered material but the totals by Fund category are shown in Note 12 above.

Realised and Unrealised gains/(losses) in invested funds are listed below.

	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022 - 23	Total 2021 - 22
CFB Corporate Bond		(379)			(379)	(1,450)
CFB Managed Mixed Fund		(1,271)			(1,271)	(2,006)
CFB Managed Fixed Interest Fund		(12)			(12)	(29)
Total		(1,661)	0	0	(1,661)	(3,485)

15) Gain/(loss) on Investment Properties & Manses

2022-23 £ (54,571) (2022: £25,492). In January 2022, the investment property in James Place, Coppull, and the former manse in Millfield Road, Chorley were placed on the market. In addition, the manse at Canberra Road was placed on the market in December 2022. The former Manse in Millfield Road was sold in September 2022, Canberra Road in July 2023 and James Place in October 2023. In line with the Charity's accounting policy the carrying value of James Place has been revalued to actual net sale proceeds of £187,022, taking account of the valuations contained in the Qualified Surveyor reports, net of costs of disposal, including the Connexional Levy payable, compared to a carrying value is £248,658, resulting in the revaluation loss of £61,636. A gain of £7,065 was recorded on the sale of Canberra Road in the year.

16) Reclassification of Funds

2022-23 £609,001, (2022, Nil). This arises due to the carrying value of the manses being held in General Funds, whereas the net sale proceeds (see note 6) are credited to the CMTF. The impact on overall reserves is nil.

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023

17) Manses & Other Property

Buildings comprise 5 (6 in 2021-22) manses located in Chorley, Leyland & Brinscall. Investment property comprises a former manse at St James Place, Coppull,

a) Cost or Valuation

	Investment Properties	Land	Buildings	Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	Assets under Construction	Total
Balance brought forward	248,658	0	1,729,622	0	0	1,729,622
Additions in the year						0
Revaluations	(61,636)					0
less Disposals in the year			(601,936)			(601,936)
Transfers between Categories						0
Total	187,022	0	1,127,686	0	0	1,127,686

Accumulated depreciation and impairment provisions

Balance brought forward	0		0			0
Depreciation charge for the year	0		0			0
Impairment provisions						0
Revaluations						0
Disposals						0
Transfers						0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

b) Net book value

Brought Forward	248,658	0	1,729,622	0	0	1,729,622
Carry Forward	187,022	0	1,127,686	0	0	1,127,686

c) Schedule of Assets

Property					
Arley Wood Drive (Manse)		379,496			379,496
James Place (Manse)	187,022				0
Little Close (Manse) *		295,000			295,000
Warton Place (Manse)		223,162			223,162
Windsor Drive (Manse)		230,028			230,028
Total	187,022	0	1,127,686	0	1,127,686

* Little Close is subject to a 999 lease of which there were 979 years remaining as at 31st August 2023

18) Investment Assets, including Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund (as listed below) are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest, Managed Equity or Corporate Bond Funds on which interest or dividends are credited to the accounts either monthly or quarterly. These are regarded as medium to long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing trustees who are responsible for the day-to-day management of trust property. TMCP ensure, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, that the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Investment Fund Details		Trust Fund - Details				
Name	Number	Number of Units	Closing Price - £s	CMTF - Trust 9540	Total 2023	2022
CFB Managed Mixed Fund	2C100	5,698	5.028	28,650	28,650	29,920
CFB Managed Fixed Int. Fund	2C122	92	1.68	155	155	167
CFB Corporate Bond	2C128	5,825	1.159	6,751	6,751	7,130
Total Investments				35,555	35,555	37,217
Trustees Interest Fund	2C110	n/a		272,006	272,006	71,498
Total				307,562	307,562	108,714

19) Debtors & Prepayments

All items shown as Debtors as at 31 August 2022 were received during the current financial year. All sums paid in advance at 31 August 2022 have been released in 2022-23. It is expected that all other sums paid in advance at 31 August 2023 will be released in 2023-24

	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2023	2022
Trade Debtors						
Assessments					0	770
Other	0	0	0		0	195
Total Debtors		0	0	0	0	965
Prepayments						
Stipends, Pension & NI	17,052				17,052	19,202
Property Insurance	1,857				1,857	1,808
Council Tax & Water Charges	306				306	526
QSR Report Fees	5,055				5,055	
Funding for 3 Generate			1,260		1,260	0
Other	(3,533)	0	0	0	(3,533)	2,848
Total Prepayments	20,738		1,260	0	21,998	24,384
Total Debtors & Prepayments	20,738	0	1,260	0	21,998	25,348

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023

20) Loans to Churches

Loans to churches within the Circuit may be granted by the trustees for a variety of purposes. All loans are interest free. The agreed repayment period (if set) is shown in the table below. The loan granted on 25th November 2021 is to assist Leyland with essential major roof repairs.

21)

Church	Date Granted	Amount	Period	Balance b/f	Granted This Year	Repaid This Year	Balance c/f
Leyland Methodist Church	15-Aug-21	5,770	1 Year	5,770		(5,770)	0
Leyland Methodist Church	25-Nov-21	85,000		85,000	6,000		91,000
Total				90,770	6,000	(5,770)	91,000

22) Central Finance Board (CFB) and Bank Balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, The Co-op Bank and at the Royal Bank of Scotland plc are all available on demand without loss of interest. Where possible the Restricted Funds are all held in specific bank accounts. The allocation of the balances across General and Designated Funds is arbitrary, but wherever possible balances are not shown as negative

	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total	2022
Central Finance Board	0		20,418	4,457	24,874	82,573
Co-op Bank	18,542		23,692	14,321	56,555	106,135
Royal Bank of Scotland	2		0	20	22	507
Total	18,544	0	44,110	18,797	81,451	189,216

23) Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

It is expected that all sums accrued at 31 August 2023 will be paid during the year to 31 August 2024. The loan outstanding as at 31st August 2023 was a bridging loan taken out to finance the purchase of the Arley Wood Drive manse. This was necessary because of the delay in selling James Place & Millfield Road. The loan was repaid in full from the sale proceeds of the Millfield Road manse on 30th September 2022.

	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total	2022
Income in Advance						
Assessments received in advance	44,756				44,756	113,714
Other	0				0	0
Total Income in Advance	44,756				44,756	113,714
Creditors & Accruals						
Loans due in <1yr	0					379,496
Minister & Staff expenses	159				159	1,429
Ministers Removal Expenses			0		0	600
Circuit Assessment Rebate	12,462				12,462	
District Assessment	9,843		9,843		19,686	7,970
Manse Repairs/Council Tax etc. etc.	1,764		0		1,764	1,150
Other	339	0	0	0	339	1,500
Total Creditors & Accruals	24,567		9,843		34,410	392,145

24) Unrestricted Funds**General Fund**

	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22
Balance	1,375,667	1,701,653

The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit, and which have not been designated for other purposes. As at 31 August 2023, 82% (2022 79%) of this fund is held as freehold and long leasehold properties (net of loans outstanding), being manse for ministers and investment properties. Details of grants and donations made from the General Fund during the year can be found in Note 8.

The Trustees are aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit and this is true for this fund.

a) Circuit Model Trust Fund

	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22
Balance	307,562	108,714

The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is from the sale of church buildings in the Circuit.

Although this is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Trustees, Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) do contain some restrictions on the use of the fund.

b) Designated Funds

	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22
Balance	35,527	47,528

These funds are to serve specific purposes, but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. Details of the specific funds are as follows:

Manse Major Repair/Improvement Fund – this is a historical fund, established over time by transferring funds from the General Fund. The fund balance at 31 August 2023 stands at £13,302 (2022: £13,302).

Presbyters & Deacons Removal Fund – used to meet the removal costs of new presbyters & deacons joining the circuit, and was established over time by designating funds previously held in the General Fund. The fund balance at 31 August 2022 stands at £906 (2022: £906).

Pioneer Ministry Fund – this fund was established during 2017-18 to provide funding for a 1.00 fte Lay Ministry post for a period of 5 years from 1st September 2018 to 31st August 2023. In May 2023 the Circuit Trustees agreed to extend the funding for the role for a further 4 months to December 2023. The balance on this fund as at 31st August 2023 of £14,588 is sufficient to cover expenditure during the extended 4-month period.

Contactless Giving Fund – this fund was established during 20-21 to provide funding for the churches to try out new forms of giving, including for example a contactless collection plate. The funding has been taken up by 6 churches and has now been fully utilised.

Training & Development Fund – this fund was established during 20-21 to provide support for individuals who are looking to further develop their own faith life with specific training. The balance as at 31st August 2023 stands at £5,883 (2022: £5,883)

Other Designated Fund – this is used to fund 'one-off' items that wouldn't be classed as normal operating expenditure or be covered by one of the other designated funds. The balance as at 31st August 2023 was £847, after charging £1,424 granted to support work done with refugees in the Chorley area.

25) Restricted and Endowment Funds

	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22
Balance	18,797	28,575

The restricted and endowment funds exist to support the causes below. The funds held as Investments within the Balance sheet are managed by TMCP. In the SOFA the investment income and charges for these funds are recorded to the relevant fund and then a fund transfer is recorded to reflect the fact that the net income from these funds (after charges) is credited to the CMTF, which is an Unrestricted Fund. The funds held on deposit with the Central Finance Board ("CFB") are managed by the CFB and the interest is credited to the relevant account. Each fund is listed below and is categorised according to the following key:

EE – Expendable Endowment – Capital available with restrictions

PE – Permanent Endowment – Capital unavailable

RL – Locally Restricted – Capital and interest available

Digital Enabler (RL) – Grants and donations received in 2020-21 for equipment and resources to enable digital ministry. The balance on this fund as at 31st August 2023 was £4,341. (2022: £5,500)

Buckshaw Rickshaw Project (RL) – Grants and fundraising to be used to support the Buckshaw Rickshaw project. The balance on this fund now stands at £9,895 (2022: £18,581). During the year 2 rickshaws were purchased from this fund

Local Preachers(RL) – to be used to support those following their calling to be local preachers. The balance on this fund at 31st August 2023 stood at £2,907. (2022: £2,895)

St Johns School(RL) – available to fund any emergency repairs at the joint Church of England/Methodist primary school in Brinscall. The balance as at 31st August 2023 stood at £1,635 (2022: £1,580).

26) Summary of Fund Movements

	Balance at 1 Sep 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/ Losses	Balance at 31 Aug 2023
General	1,701,653	302,229	27,738	(601,382)	(54,571)	1,375,667
Circuit Model Trust	108,714	613,656	(384,437)	(28,710)	(1,661)	307,562
Total Unrestricted & Undesignated	1,810,367	915,885	(356,699)	(630,092)	(56,232)	1,683,228
Manse Major Repair/Improvement	13,302	0	0	0	0	13,302
Presbyters & Deacons Removal	906	0	0	0	0	906
Pioneer Ministry	23,161	11,755	(41,427)	21,099	0	14,588
Contactless Giving	2,004	0	(1,996)	(8)	0	0
Training & Development Fund	5,883	0	0	0	0	5,883
Other Designated	2,271	0	(1,424)	0	0	847
Total Designated	47,528	11,755	(44,847)	21,091	0	35,527
Digital Enabler	5,500	0	(1,159)	0	0	4,341
Buckshaw Rickshaw Project	18,581	500	(9,186)	0	0	9,895
Local Preachers	2,895	95	(82)	0	0	2,907
St Johns School	1,580	55	0	0	0	1,635
Network	20	0	0	0	0	20
Total Restricted	28,575	650	(10,427)	0	0	18,797
Total of All Funds	1,886,470	928,289	(411,974)	(609,001)	(56,232)	1,737,552

27) Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:

	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	2022
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,127,686	0	0	0	1,127,686	1,729,622
Fixed Asset investments	187,022	0	0	0	187,022	248,658
Investments	0	35,555	0	0	35,555	35,555
Current Assets	130,282	272,006	45,370	18,797	466,455	465,738
Current Liabilities	(69,323)	0	(9,843)	0	(79,166)	(67,626)
Creditors Due After One Year	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Fund Value	1,375,667	307,562	35,527	18,797	1,737,552	2,411,947

28) Related Parties

Related parties include the Methodist Connexion, the Lancashire District and Churches within the Circuit, other Methodist Circuits and Districts, CFB and TMCP. All of these entities have their own Trustees or directors.

The majority of the Circuit Trustees are members of one of the Churches within the Circuit and the majority are Trustees in their Churches.

The receipts and payments to related parties shown below do not appear elsewhere in the accounts

	Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) / to Circuit - 31 Aug 23
Mission in Britain Fund	1,240	(1,240)	0
Property Fund	1,270	(1,270)	0
World Mission Fund	925	(925)	0
Presbyters and Deacons Fund	890	(890)	0
Training Fund	200	(200)	0
JMA	1,773	(1,773)	0
Total	6,298	(6,298)	0

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023

29) Volunteer Contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. The Presbyters and Deacons are supported by local preachers and supernumerary ministers to ensure that worship can be held at all the churches every Sunday. In addition, many people contribute by serving on committees/and or working in teams that deal with planning, mission, manses, finance, and safeguarding.

30) Capital Commitment and Contingent Liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at the year-end (2022 nil).

31) Lease commitments

On 26th July 2019 the Circuit acquired a property in Little Close, Leyland as a replacement manse. This property is subject to a 999 year lease with effect from 1st January 2000. The annual ground rent payable is £85. The Circuit has no other long-term lease obligations. There are short term obligations for telephones/broadband at the Circuit Manses. The total annual cost of these is not considered material.

32) Independent Examiner

The independent examiner provided no additional services during the year.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Circuit, named above

The Circuit's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 present a true and fair view of the Circuit's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit: Chorley & Leyland..... No: 21/10.....

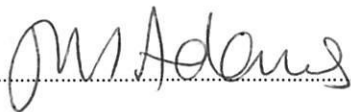
Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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 with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the trustees concerning 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. My 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 (other than as disclosed below*)

- (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 2011
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011have 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 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: Jacqueline M Adams

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: N/a

Address: 2 Stable Mews, Millwood Close, Withnell Fold, Chorley, PR6 8AR

Date: 8/6/24.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-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 treasurer TJ Melling Date..... 11th March 2024

Name and address of treasurer. Timothy J Melling, F.C.C.A.

16 Millwood Close, Withnell Fold, Chorley, PR6 8AR.....

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were presented to the Circuit Meeting on 12th March 2024.....

Signature of the Chair of the meeting: G McBride

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev G McBride..... Date: 12th March 2024.....