



The Methodist Church

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH, OADBY

ANNUAL REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS

2023– 2024

Regd. Charity No: 1143707

Administrative information

- The Church is part of the Leicester Trinity Circuit (23/7) in the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.
- Church Address: Trinity Methodist Church, Harborough Road, Oadby, Leicester LE2 4LA
- Church Membership at 31.08.24: 86

Aims

- 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.
- Trinity Methodist Church, Oadby aims to be "*A church for all at the heart of the community*".
- The Church's Mission Statement (approved by Church Council in June 2009) states:
 - Trinity is a church which*
 - *Encourages growth in the Christian faith*
 - *Reaches out to all in the community*
 - *Aims to care for everyone*
 - *Shares God's love through worship and service*
 - *Responds with others to God's call to Mission.*
- Trinity offers facilities for baptisms, weddings and funerals with appropriate pastoral preparation and care. The Church is registered for same sex marriages and belongs to the Inclusive Church network.
- As part of the Leicester Trinity Methodist Circuit Trinity contributes money, personnel and expertise to the wider life of the Methodist Church in the City of Leicester and surrounding areas.

Organisation

The Church Council (whose members are the Managing Trustees) is the principal body responsible for the affairs of the Church. Its remit encompasses the spiritual life and growth of the church family, its outreach, and its administrative and financial affairs. Detailed governance arrangements are outlined in The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) by order of the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church. Meetings of the Council are chaired by the Minister (or in his absence by the Superintendent Minister or another ordained colleague). All decisions taken by the Church Council are minuted. Meetings are held at least once each quarter. (These normally take place in October, December, March and June).

The Trustees receive no remuneration or other financial benefits from their work. As part of the induction to their role as trustees all new Church Council members receive a copy of the document The role of a trustee in the Methodist Church together with a copy of the Safeguarding Policy agreed by Church Council.

The Church Stewards act as the Senior Leadership Team on behalf of the Church Council. They are assisted by 'teams' which cover different areas of church life such as Finance, Outreach, and Worship. The Pastoral Committee is responsible, with the Minister, for overseeing the pastoral care and spiritual welfare of the church family.

Zak's Café Ltd, established in 2013, is a trading subsidiary of the parent charity, Trinity Methodist Church. The Directors of Zak's Cafe Ltd (which trades as Zeph's) are appointed by the Church Council. They take responsibility for the management and day-to-day operation of the cafe on behalf of the Church Council, reporting to it regularly.

The Church's Safeguarding Policy is reviewed annually. A Safeguarding Officer is in post and DBS checks are carried out as required. The Church Council is committed to the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding policy and to the provision of support, advice and training to enable people to be clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and in promoting the welfare of children and of adults who may be vulnerable.

Review of progress and achievements 2023-24

- **Sunday worship** during the year continued according to its established pattern. The main act of worship at 10.30am on Sundays is also available on-line. All-age worship takes place on the first Sunday of each month. On other Sundays children's activities are provided separately; towards the end of the service the children and their leaders join the adult congregation to share news of their activities. An on-line service, organised at Circuit level, is available each Sunday evening at 6.00pm.
- **Holy Communion** is celebrated regularly. On the first Sunday of each month there is a "traditional" eucharistic celebration at 8.30am. Holy Communion normally forms part of the 10.30am service on the second or third Sunday of the month.
- **Mid-week worship** takes place at 11.30am on the first and third Wednesday mornings of each month: "a short, informal, accessible service with space to pray, a simple message, and a couple of well-loved hymns".
- A significant number of '**special**' services were held during the year. A service in September 2023 celebrated the contribution of Trinity's many 'volunteers': an accompanying display illustrated the wide range of activities undertaken by members of the church family to further Trinity's witness and mission. Harvest Festival was celebrated in October with donations for *Oadby Food Bank* and for *All We Can* (Methodist Relief and Development Fund). On the afternoon of the first Sunday in November an All Saintside act of worship (*'In heavenly love abiding'*) provided an opportunity to remember and give thanks for the lives of those who have died. Trinity once again played host on a weeknight in early December to the *Amos Trust*: its regional *Places of Peace Christmas Event for Gaza* attracted support from across the East Midlands. During December the Christmas tree in the Worship Area was decorated with doves of peace which had been made by members of the congregation and visitors to the premises. An all-age Nativity Service was held on the morning of the third Sunday in Advent. On the following Sunday evening one of the choirs which rehearses on the premises took part in a well-attended Carol Service. The Annual Covenant Service was held in early January. During Lent the '*Unbounded Love*' resources produced by the Methodist Church were used as the basis for Sunday morning worship each week and also by a weekly study group and a housegroup. Services during June made use of 'Bible Month' resources on the book of Genesis: these were produced jointly by the Methodist Church and LWPT (Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust). An opportunity was provided for members of Trinity and other local churches to join on-line with the Farewell Service for Revd Canon

Helen Cameron as Chair of the Northampton District which was held at Wesley Memorial Church, Oxford. A few weeks later morning worship was live-streamed from the Methodist Conference meeting in Leeds. A 'local arrangement' service in July, led by two of Trinity's Worship Leaders, focused on the work of *Action for Children*.

- **Worship Leaders:** In December, following a formal review of their work, Trinity's four Worship Leaders were re-appointed for a further period of three years. The Church Council expressed "*deep gratitude to each of the Worship Leaders for their faithful service in this role over many years*". In March Worship Leaders and Local Preachers from Trinity and other Circuit churches took part in a training session, led by the Minister, on the use of the Lectionary (RCL).
- The **Church Council** met on four occasions during the year: in October and December 2023 and March and June 2024. At each of those meetings, as well as completing the formal business, an opportunity was provided for members to share 'good news' about the life and activities of Trinity. The meeting held in October confirmed the list of annual appointments to a wide range of offices held within the church, received and noted the unaudited financial accounts for the previous year, appointed the independent examiner, and approved the annual Property Schedule. At the December meeting the final accounts and reserves policy were approved. The June meeting agreed the budget for the following financial year.
- Managing Trustees and other church members took part (as required) in **training sessions** provided by the Circuit and/or District on Safeguarding (at both foundation and advanced levels) and EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion).
- A **General Church Meeting** was held following the morning service on Sunday 14th April 2024. The meeting received a booklet of written reports from Church activities and organisations covering the period since the previous meeting held in May 2023. These reports illustrated a remarkable range of activity and community involvement throughout the year. Church Stewards and representatives to the Church Council were elected to serve for the ensuing year.
- From 1st September 2023 **the Minister**, the Revd Derek McLean, adopted a pattern of part-time working and relinquished pastoral oversight of the churches at Great Glen and Houghton on the Hill. Links with these '**sister churches**' nevertheless continue to be strong, not least through a pattern of shared worship particularly during the Advent, Christmas and Easter Seasons.
- The Church continued to play its part as a constituent member of **Churches Together in Oadby (CTiO)**. Joint activities included community involvement in November when the Christmas lights in the centre of Oadby were switched

on, and united services in January (to mark the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity) and on Good Friday. On Palm Sunday afternoon a procession (led by donkeys) made its way from St Peter's Parish Church via the Parade to Trinity, where a large gathering of children and adults participated in craft and other activities and enjoyed refreshments. The annual 'pulpit exchange' in January involved a lay reader from St Paul's (Anglican) Church leading worship at Trinity, while a local preacher from Trinity preached to the local Roman Catholic congregation. In June, during the General Election Campaign, Trinity's minister chaired a well attended 'hustings meeting' in the Baptist Church which was organised jointly by CTiO and Oadby Mosque.

- A **prayer group** meets on the premises each Saturday morning and continues to be well supported. In addition, a '**prayer circle**' which is organised via email performs a valuable pastoral function. Copies of the Connexional Prayer Handbook and Bible Study notes are made available to church members and are distributed annually.
- The Minister produces a **monthly pastoral letter** which is widely distributed and much appreciated. During the year as part of his new pattern of working he made regular use of the church vestry as an office.
- On most weekdays between 10.30am and 3.30pm the '**Welcome Desk**' in the church foyer is staffed by a rota of volunteers who deal with visitors' enquiries and other matters. The adjacent worship area is available throughout these hours for those who wish to make use of it for private prayer.
- Trinity's team of **pastoral visitors** engage in face-to-face visits where appropriate and also continue to keep in touch by telephone and email with members of the church family, particularly those who live alone.
- **Zeph's Cafe**, which is open to the public six days each week from 9.30am until 4.30pm, continues to thrive. It aims to be attractive, warm and welcoming: a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can eat, rest and relax in premises promoting Christian values. During the year patronage reached record levels and its occasional evening programme of 'themed events' proved to be extremely popular. In the summer months the adjoining garden area and pergola with outdoor seating were particularly attractive with an abundance of flowers tended by one of the cafe staff.
- **The Oadby Foodbank**, operating (rent-free) from the church premises, marked its 10th Anniversary in May 2024. It continues its valuable work, serving up to 50 local households at each of its fortnightly sessions.
- **Work with children and young people** includes separate sessions during Sunday morning worship: the children join the adult congregation towards the end of the service to share news of their activities. A service of all-age worship is normally held on the first Sunday morning of each month.

Occasionally *Messy Church* activities are organised ecumenically through CTiO, and the popular 'Santa' and 'Easter' Breakfasts in *Zeph's* are followed by craft and story-telling activities.

- Trinity continued to support a variety of **charities** and agencies which work with those in special need, including *Action for Children*, *All We Can* (Methodist Relief and Development Fund), *Christian Aid* and *MHA*. After several years supporting a local charity (*After 18*), the Church Council agreed to adopt *Unique* (a Rare Chromosome Support organisation) as its chosen charity for the year.
- Trinity has a **website** – www.oadbymethodist.co.uk – which is up-dated regularly. The church **newsletter**, *Affinity*, is published quarterly. Weekly **church notices**, which were revamped and given a 'fresh look' during the year, are distributed via email and are also available in print. A '**welcome pack**' of useful information is provided for visitors to take away. **Noticeboards** (both exterior and interior) are well maintained, attractive and up to date.

Property matters

- **The property** continues to be well maintained and is in good order throughout, thanks to a small and pro-active Premises Team
- Among many **improvements** and **alterations** carried out during the year were the installation of low-energy LED lighting in the Worship Area and the replacement of an old timber structure which originally served as the church creche with a modern double-glazed UPVC porch. A former 'classroom', adjacent to the main hall, was upgraded and re-decorated to provide a more attractive space: it is now designated 'community room'. New WiFi has been installed to serve both the church and the cafe. Secure cabinets were provided to house the sound and projection systems in the Worship Area.
- **Lettings:** The Church premises are let to a wide variety of individuals and community bodies. Among these the Helping Hands advice clinic operates on the premises on one morning each week: its work is valued by the local community. Oadby and Wigston Borough Council has a regular booking to provide a local appointment hub. The main hall serves as a polling station for general and local elections. Trinity also plays host to several local choirs, dance and drama classes and slimming groups. Uniformed organisations (Rainbows, Brownies and Guides) meet weekly.
- **Risk Assessments:** Health and Safety Risk Assessments and room-by-room Fire Risk Assessments have been undertaken.

Financial information

- The Trustees maintain financial arrangements requiring dual signatures on all cheques, and prior approval for all except minor items of expenditure.
- The financial accounts have been approved by the Church Council and examined independently. A copy of these accounts is appended.
- The church accounts for the year 2023-24 show that expenditure (£115,617) exceeded Income (£111,094) by £4,523.
- Income from collections (£48,501) was slightly down on the previous year but revenue from lettings showed a healthy increase (from £27,846 in 2022/23 to £32,479).
- The largest single item of expenditure was the Circuit Assessment (£54,940), followed by property repairs and renewals (£24,118).
- Zeph's Cafe had a successful year. Despite the challenging commercial climate there was a modest profit of £3,619.
- Reserves Policy: It is the church's policy to attempt to maintain non-restricted funds equivalent to 50% of annual expenditure. The policy is reviewed annually.
- The church's non-restricted funds include 'designated' funds, which are held as part of the General Funds balance. These resources need to be available to ensure appropriate care and maintenance of the buildings.
- The church has two restricted fund balances: (1) the Benevolence Fund for use at the discretion of the Minister in cases of urgent personal need; (2) the Vickerman bequest for expenditure on the organ.
- Investment policy: The General Fund, held in a current account at Lloyds Bank, operates at a level to sustain ongoing expenditure. The remainder is invested with the Methodist Church Central Finance Board which offers competitive rates of interest.

Future plans

- The age profile of the worshipping congregation and the limited number of people who are available and willing to assume leadership roles (especially as church stewards) are legitimate causes of concern at the present time.
- The Quinquennial inspection of the premises was due to take place shortly after the end of this reporting year. It was expected to highlight some matters which would require attention and significant financial outlay in subsequent years.
- Nevertheless, the Managing Trustees continue to find encouragement in many aspects of Trinity's activities and outreach. They remain committed to Trinity's vision to be "a Church for all at the heart of the community".

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 Church and Zaks Café and they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of
Treasurer

D Frost

Date 5 December
 2024

Name

David Frost

Address

9 Coombe Rise,
Oadby, Leicester,
LE2 5TJ

Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on
5 December 2024 and were approved.

Signature of the
Chair of the meeting

D McLean

Name of the Chair of
the meeting

Rev Derek McLean

Date

5 December 2024

Statement of Financial Activities **for the year ended 31 August 2024**

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies					
- Collections and tax credit		62,639	-	-	62,639
- Donations & grants		11,674	-	-	11,674
- Legacies		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities		-			
- Fund raising		-			-
- Others		184	-	1,228	1,412
Other trading activities		-			
- Lettings		32,479			32,479
- Zak's café		271,803	-	-	271,803
Investments		3,266	-	-	3,266
Other		-			
- Internal organisations		-	-	1,390	1,390
- Covid support grants		-	-	-	-
Total		382,045	-	2,618	384,663
Expenditure on:					
Salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	152,340			152,340
Circuit Assessment		54,940			54,940
Repairs and maintenance		22,368	-	1,750	24,118
Café direct sales		78,108			78,108
Utilities (insurance, heat and light, water, etc)		33,443			33,443
Depreciation	9	1,390			1,390
Internal organisations		-	-	1,563	1,563
Grants and Donations		4,475		-	4,475
Other expenditure		34,987		-	34,987
Total		382,051	-	3,313	385,364
Net income/(expenditure)		(6)	0	(695)	(701)
Transfers between funds		0	-	-	
		(6)	0	(695)	(701)
Other recognised gains / (losses):					
Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets					-
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets					-
Net movement in funds		(6)	0	(695)	(701)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		2,719,589	38,488	19,212	2,777,289
Total funds carried forward		2,719,583	38,488	18,517	2,776,588

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies					
- Collections and tax credit		62,614	-	280	62,894
- Donations & grants		15,480	-	1,262	16,742
- Legacies		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities		-			
- Fund raising		-			-
- Others		144			144
Other trading activities		-			
- Lettings		27,846			27,846
- Zak's café		227,387	-	-	227,387
Investments		1,219	-	475	1,694
Other		-			
- Internal organisations		-	-	1,527	1,527
- Covid support grants		-	-	-	-
Total		334,690	-	3,544	338,234
Expenditure on:					
Salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	124,997			124,997
Circuit Assessment		53,896			53,896
Repairs and maintenance		12,084	-		12,084
Café direct sales		68,055			68,055
Utilities (insurance, heat and light, water, etc)		28,970			28,970
Depreciation	9	4,564			4,564
Internal organisations		-	-	1,728	1,728
Grants and Donations		6,135		-	6,135
Other expenditure		33,099		-	33,099
Total		331,800	-	1,728	333,528
Net income/(expenditure)		2,890	0	1,816	4,706
Transfers between funds		0	-	-	
		2,890	0	1,816	4,706
Other recognised gains / (losses):					
Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets					-
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets					-
Net movement in funds		2,890	0	1,816	4,706
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		2,716,699	38,488	17,396	2,772,583
Total funds carried forward		2,719,589	38,488	19,212	2,777,289

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

		Unrestricted	Designated (Unrestricted)	Restricted	Totals this year
		£		£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets*					
	Notes				
Land & Buildings	9	2,670,000			2,670,000
Equipment	9	7,140			7,140
Investment properties					
Investments					
Total fixed assets		2,677,140			2,677,140
Current Assets					
Stock		3,130			3,130
Debtors and Prepayments					
Cash at Bank and in hand					
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits					
Central Finance Board Deposits		20,392	28,488	16,528	65,408
Other		30,496	10,000	1,989	42,485
Total current assets		54,018	38,488	18,517	111,023
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)		11,575			11,575
Net current assets (liabilities)		42,443	38,488	18,517	99,448
Total assets less current liabilities		2,719,583	38,488	18,517	2,776,588
Loans and creditors due after 1 year					
Provisions for liabilities and charges					
Net assets		2,719,583	38,488	18,517	2,776,588
Funds of the Church					
Unrestricted funds		2,719,583	38,488		2,758,071
Restricted funds	12			18,517	18,517
Endowment funds					
Total Funds		2,719,583	38,488	18,517	2,776,588

Comparative Balance Sheet for 31 August 2023

Unrestricted	Designated (Unrestricted)	Restricted	Totals this year
£		£	£

Tangible Fixed Assets*

	Notes				
Land & Buildings	9	2,670,000			2,670,000
Equipment	9	7,113			7,113
Investment properties					
Investments					
Total fixed assets		2,677,113			2,677,113

Current Assets

Stock		3,310			3,310
Debtors and Prepayments		409			409
Cash at Bank and in hand					
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits					
Central Finance Board Deposits		3,248	28,488	18,278	50,014
Other		46,856	10,000	934	57,790
Total current assets		53,823	38,488	19,212	111,523

Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)		11,347			11,347
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Net current assets (liabilities)		42,476	38,488	19,212	100,176
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Total assets less current liabilities		2,719,589	38,488	19,212	2,777,289
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Loans and creditors due after 1 year					
Provisions for liabilities and charges					

Net assets		2,719,589	38,488	19,212	2,777,289
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Funds of the Church

Unrestricted funds		2,719,589	38,488		2,758,077
Restricted funds	12			19,212	19,212
Endowment funds					
Total Funds		2,719,589	38,488	19,212	2,777,289

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 Bulletins 1 and 2.

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Church which are Unrestricted, this includes the funds held for the operation of Zak's cafe. There are a number of Designated funds which are being held for specific purposes while the Restricted funds include the internal organisations of the church which are under the direct control of the church council, There are no Endowment funds. 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 the church building is included at deemed cost being the Insurance valuation in 2015.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Church 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 Church to pay out resources.

VAT

VAT incurred on the cost of purchases for the running of the church is charged as a cost of operation, while the VAT related to the operation of , Zak's is recovered against output tax raised on sales.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church and Cafe

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 2015 deemed values, of which the land component is deemed to be £400,000. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the building (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.

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

All debtors relate to the trading activity of the café,.

Creditors

Creditors include both sundry expenses.

4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church.

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:

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind
Employer's National Insurance costs
Pension costs
Total staff costs

	2023/24	2022/23
£	139,222	116,398
£	7,585	5,320
£	4,823	3,279
£	152,340	124,997

Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:

	5	5
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7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31 st August 2023 there are capital commitments of.
No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023.

Nil Nil

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	651	195
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	651	195
Balance carried forward	0	0

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or valuation

	Land £	Buildings £	Other buildings £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Payments on account and assets under construction £	Total £
Balance brought forward	400,000	2,270,000		66,703		2,736,703
Additions				1,417		1,417
Revaluations (+/-)						
Disposals (-)						
Transfers * (+/-)						
Balance carried forward	400,000	2,270,000		68,120		2,738,120

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward				59,590		59,590
Depreciation charge for year (-)				1,390		1,390
Revaluations (+/-)						
Disposals (-)						
Transfers* (+/-)						
Balance carried forward				60,980		60,980

Net book value

Brought forward	400,000	2,270,000		7,113		2,677,113
Carried forward	400,000	2,270,000		7,140		2,677,140

10 Investment assets

The church has no Investment properties

The church has no common investment fund holdings

11 Loans

The Church currently has no loans outstanding

12 Analysis of restricted funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Benevolence Fund	1149	0	0		1,149	Support for individuals in specific need
Welcome on Wednesday	301	1,390	1,325		366	Internal group.
J C Ward fund	1,750		1,750		0	Building maintenance fund
Vickerman organ fund	10,634				10,634	Organ repair fund
Zephs' Purse	633		237		396	Café hospitality fund
Outreach fund	4,745	1,228			5,973	Support for community outreach initiatives
Totals	19,212	2,618	3,312		18,518	

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Oadby Trinity Methodist Church

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Oadby Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 8 to 15.

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.

Independent Examiner's Statement

The Church's gross income did not exceed £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

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.

Name William Keith Brooks ACMA

Address 2a Stanfield Road
Duston
Northampton

Date 4th December 2024

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Managing Trustees (Church Council Members), 2023-2024

Revd Derek McLean (Chair)
Revd Paula Hunt (Superintendent Minister)
Revd Dr Israel Selvanayagam
John Aldridge
Graham Austen
Alison Baker (until December 2023)
Barbara Bell
Ian Bell
Donald Candlin
Khavita Chibba (until May 2024)
Helen Cooper
Heather Corlett
Meenal Desai
Michael Elliott
David Frost (Church Treasurer)
Lesley Green
Charles Hilton (Circuit Steward)
Suzanne Kelly
Penny Lee
Christine McLean
Stella Orbell
Diane Price
Howard Smith (Church Council Secretary/Charity Commission contact)
Janice Wilford
Jonathan Wilford
Alison Wootton (until May 2024)