

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD

England & Wales · Charity number 1144617

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2011-11-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Trinity Methodist Church Rainsford Road Chelmsford CM1 2XB
Phone	01245499028
Email	trinitymethodistchelmsford@btconnect.com
Website	trinitymethodistchelmsford.org

Activities

Objects: 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 THE 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.

Activities: Advancement of Christian faith, in accordance with doctrinal standards of The Methodist Church, any charitable purpose of any Connexional, district, circuit or local organisation of the Methodist Church, any charitable purpose of any society/institution subsidiary to the Methodist Church, or any purpose of any charity being a charity/subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£108,581	£99,053	-	-
2024-08-31	£121,595	£97,963	-	-
2023-08-31	£97,462	£112,249	-	-
2022-08-31	£87,026	£97,985	-	-
2021-08-31	£77,534	£93,963	-	-
2020-08-31	£85,095	£126,378	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anthony Bender		2018-04-01
Christine Elles		2025-03-01
DIANE MARY POTTER		2011-09-27
Hilary Georgina Walden		2018-02-25
Janet Cassels		2025-03-01
Janet Lesley Wintle		2018-06-01
John Cullum		2025-03-01
Judith Molyneux		2024-03-01
Karen Elizabeth Murrell		2018-06-01
Kay Burton		2018-04-01
MR JEFF GREEN		2011-09-27
Nigel Charles Murrell		2018-06-01
Rev Asif Karam		2024-09-01
Russell Burton		2025-03-01

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1144617

Accounts

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
RAINSFORD ROAD, CHELMSFORD

CM1 2XB



ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2024 – AUGUST 2025

Trustees' Annual Report for year ended 31 August 2025

It is with deep gratitude to God that I present this ministerial report reflecting on the life, worship, and mission of Trinity Methodist Church over the past year. As a city-centre church situated on Rainsford Road in Chelmsford, Trinity continues to serve as a place of worship, hospitality, community engagement, and mission within the wider city.

Worship and Spiritual Life

At the heart of Trinity's life remains the regular gathering of God's people for worship, prayer, and fellowship. Week by week, members of the congregation gather to praise God, hear the Scriptures, share in prayer, and participate in the sacraments. Our services continue to welcome people of all ages and backgrounds, and we give thanks for the faithful participation of members, volunteers, musicians, and worship leaders who contribute to the spiritual life of the church.

Throughout the year we have also been blessed by special services, seasonal celebrations, and occasions that bring together both the church community and visitors from the wider city. As a city church, Trinity continues to see a steady flow of visitors and newcomers who join our services and events. We remain encouraged by these encounters and pray that those who enter this place may experience the presence and love of God.

Mission and Community Engagement

We give thanks to God for the many missional opportunities that arise through the use of our building. Our calling is to serve the entire city and all its people, regardless of race, colour, faith, or ethnicity. As a city-centre church, Trinity Methodist Church Chelmsford seeks to be a welcoming place where people from many backgrounds can gather, find community, and experience hospitality.

Trinity Methodist Church is blessed with modern facilities that enable the church to serve a wide range of community groups and activities. Throughout the week the building hosts a variety of organisations and gatherings including Brownies, Scouts, a Music and Drama group, bereavement support groups, community events such as an Iftar gathering, Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, and fellowship groups from other churches. These activities ensure that the building is used actively and meaningfully well beyond Sunday worship.

As a church we increasingly understand ourselves not simply as a congregation gathered for worship, but as a **community called out from the community for the community**. This vision shapes how we use our space, our hospitality, and our resources for the benefit of the wider city.

The present trustees have shown generosity, wisdom, and vision in ensuring that the building remains accessible and available to a range of community groups, ministries, and entrepreneurial initiatives. Their commitment has enabled Trinity to remain an open and welcoming place for the people of Chelmsford.

These partnerships bring many people into the building each week who may not otherwise encounter a church. It is our hope and prayer that through their time in this place, individuals may experience a warm and welcoming environment, encounter the Christian community, and sense something of the love and grace of God.

By opening our doors to the wider community, Trinity continues to embody the Methodist calling to serve its neighbourhood and city. The building therefore functions not only as a place of worship, but also as a hub of community engagement, creativity, and service.

Membership and Pastoral Life

During the previous reporting year, Trinity Methodist Church recorded a membership of **125 members**. Over the course of the year there have been several changes in the membership roll. Two members transferred to another church, while a number of faithful members entered into their eternal rest and were received into God's final home.

At the close of the reporting year **2025**, the total recorded membership stands at **119 members**.

While the numerical membership has slightly decreased, we remain encouraged by the wider life of the congregation. As a city church, Trinity continues to welcome many visitors, guests, and new faces who attend our services, concerts, community events, and gatherings. These encounters remind us that the influence and reach of the church extend beyond the formal membership roll.

We continue to place strong emphasis on pastoral care, fellowship, and mutual support within the congregation, ensuring that members who are elderly, unwell, or unable to attend regularly remain connected to the life of the church.

Stewardship and Trusteeship

The trustees of Trinity Methodist Church continue to demonstrate faithful stewardship of the church's resources, buildings, and mission. Their commitment to maintaining the property and enabling the building to serve both church and community is deeply appreciated.

Their careful oversight ensures that the building remains a place where worship, fellowship, and community activity can flourish. Their work also enables the church to respond creatively to opportunities for outreach and engagement in the city.

Looking Ahead

As we look to the future, Trinity Methodist Church remains committed to its calling as a welcoming city church that serves Chelmsford with faith, hope, and love. We pray that God will continue to guide our ministry, strengthen our fellowship, and open new doors for mission.

Our prayer remains that every person who enters this building whether for worship, community activity, or daily work may encounter something of God's presence, grace, and transforming love.

Thanksgiving

Finally, I give thanks to God for the faithfulness of the congregation, the dedication of volunteers and leaders, and the support of the trustees who continue to sustain the ministry of Trinity Methodist Church.

May God continue to bless this church and all who enter its doors.

Rev. Asif Karam
Minister in-charge

Safeguarding

Hilary Walden & Diane Potter

The Safeguarding Officers continue to ensure that church volunteers are DBS and Safeguarding training compliant with the support of the Circuit Safeguarding Officer - Esther Burton.

The church's Safeguarding Policy continues to be updated and displayed on the church premises. The latest policy is available in the office and on the website. Contact details are on church notice boards. The current policy was signed in January 2026.

The Safeguarding Officers were responsible for writing a Photography, Filming and Streaming Policy with special reference to issues of privacy, safety and copyright for the filming and streaming of church services at Trinity.

Pastoral Visitors

No report

First Steps

Diane Potter

There were 2 children baptised at Trinity during the year 2024 – 2025

Property Report

Janet Wintle, Property Steward

Whilst general maintenance has continued to be carried out e.g. servicing of both the gas boilers (Link and Worship Area), the lift, the Fire Alarm and the Fire Extinguishers other significant work has also been carried out this calendar year.

Following an accessibility audit commissioned by District it was determined that extra lighting was needed on the front and back stairs leading to the upper hall. This was upgraded with large LED lights on the turning on both staircases. This makes a huge amount of difference to the level of light especially in the winter months.

The edges of the stairs on both staircases have been marked so that people with reduced sight will find it easier to see the edges.

It is our intention to finish this work with further hand rails where only one rail is present.

The lighting in the Vestibule has had a major update with LED lights fitted into the ceiling. Further power points have been fitted in the vestibule too.

New blinds have been fitted in the Worship Area.

New speakers have been purchased for the Worship Area.

In 2026 the Church Quinquennial is due to take place. Once again, the surveyor will bring up the need to repaint the building. This must become a priority for Trinity. Whilst there are no problems at the moment this could easily escalate. We have a problem with bees nesting in the walls of the main Church, (we've already had pest control out in the early summer).

This was successful but by the end of the summer the bees were back entering from a totally different place. Repointing should solve this problem.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Property and Finance committee for all their help this year. Without their support this would be a very difficult job.

Lettings continue to improve. For the first time since Covid the Japanese Students returned to Trinity during August. We are hoping that this relationship will continue next year.

The National Trust continue to meet in the Worship Area during the winter months. We provide refreshments for them in the Link which contributes to the Link Coffee fund enabling a substantial donation to be made to the Church. I was approached by Next Chapter a domestic abuse charity based in Colchester and Chelmsford asking if we would donate a meeting space once a month. This was agreed and they now meet in the Link monthly. Art classes continue in the Link twice a month. These are well attended and hopefully will continue.

14th Chelmsford Scout Group

David Fenton (Group Leader Volunteer)

The Scout Group remains active, albeit with lower section numbers. This is partly due to not having a Beaver Colony during 2020/2021 due to Covid and the knock on effect upon Cub / Scout sections.

Unfortunately for a number of different reasons, we lost several leaders involved with the Beaver Colony as one went travelling with their family for a year, one transferred to another group to run their own section and another started university. This has left the section short and for part of the year the Beavers & Cubs held combined meetings which seemed to work satisfactorily.

Both the Cub & Scout sections held full programmes taking part in a number of District activities where there were sufficient numbers to make up a team. We had several members represent The Group in the Scout & Guide Gang Show at The Civic Theatre in May.

Both Cubs & Scouts held summer camps, albeit shorter than normal, at Mersey Island and Thriftwood, Brentwood respectively.

With older Scouts moving on, the Troop is now relatively young and for the first time we have more girls than boys. One of our former Scouts was part of an Explorer Expedition to Ghana in the summer where they helped to rebuild a local school as well as seeing the sights.

It has been a very busy time for the Action group

Discussions took place about the following

- 1 Our Mission statement – this will be reviewed every year.
- 2 New rotas for the door stewards – How do we encourage more people to sign up for this.
- 3 How to attract new members – our target was set far too high, and we need to be more realistic in our aims. Our new target is 15 in the next year.
- 4 How do we attract new members – University, nearby flats, word of mouth. We have to look at all ways of achieving this.
- 5 Use of our kitchen for the community – maybe contact outside organisations to see if they are interested.
- 6 Coffee after church – The long table system in the Link seems to be working well, but it was discussed that coffee at the back of the church once a month would be considered again. This can all be in place before the service takes place.
- 7 Café services – We thought the last one was a success and we need to plan more for the future.
- 8 The calendar of events for 2026. Please look at the notices and the Trinity calendar for these.

Actions that were taken from these meetings are as follows:

- 1 Credit card machine purchased for the Church
- 2 Psalm 91 – Emergency code introduced to the congregation
- 3 Carols on the forecourt – 3 Saturday's with good response from the public. A big thank you to all that attended. Perhaps next year we can see many more of you attending. Mince pies were provided.
- 4 The big sing was held on the 14th of December. This was a joint effort from TMD and the congregation. With refreshments afterwards.
- 5 Our Christmas Buffet was held on Friday 19th of December. This was a big success even though the numbers attending were considerably down from last year. Big thank you to Janet and her team who supplied a fabulous buffet. Gerald for playing a selection of carols. Thank you also to Karen for the publicity, quiz, raffle and prizes. Perhaps next year there will be more people attending and enjoying fellowship.
- 6 The Christingle service took place on Saturday 20th of December. This was another success. Thanks to all that attended and made this event happen.
- 7 Additional loft insulation installed.
- 8 New heaters installed in the upstairs hall. The old ones along with the very old curtains were removed and disposed. We will be looking at new blinds or curtains in the near future.

As you can see, we are not just a talking shop. We try to keep the church moving forward and making it successful were new people that walk in for the first time feel comfortable and welcomed and **RETURN**.

If you have any suggestions that you consider will help the church in any way, please contact me and I will take them forward to the group.

House Groups

Writtle House Group

No report

Admirals House Group

Janet Cassels

We continue to meet once a month on the morning of the third Thursday. This year's topics have included a bible study, a person in the Bible who inspires us, current affairs, our favourite religious painting, charities we support and why, a talk from Jim Lowe and lunch at Mary Stevenson's. Our numbers are small and new members are always welcome.

Springfield House Group

Eric Smart

During the past year, we have met regularly and covered a number of topics. We normally meet once a month on Thursday afternoons at 14.00. There are 12 members of our group, but attendance has been adversely affected by illness of some members. When some have not been able to attend, they have always been mentioned in our opening prayers.

During the past year we have enjoyed the presence of our minister, Rev Asif, on two occasions. At the first he talked about the Christian Church in Pakistan and his involvement with it and on the second occasion, he took us on a journey looking at various religious sites. We studied two books of the bible – Jude and Amos, the latter posing some challenges but also making us realise how the world today is so closely reflected in its words. On a lighter note, we spent one session sharing religious jokes and funny stories and they were presented in abundance. We devoted one session to the subject of prayer, spending a good deal of time, praying for the many areas of conflict, distress, displacement, famine, homelessness and poverty. That was a hard session but one we all felt the need for. Following on from these topics, we decided to have one afternoon where we could simply pose questions about current situations and events and everyone was very vocal about their personal feelings when responding. On another occasion, we all shared our favourite Bible verses and explained why they were so. In a similar vein, we each brought along a piece of music that was meaningful to the person who played it and it was a truly emotional and enjoyable experience for all.

We spent a wonderful sunny afternoon in Oaklands Park, where we had a gentle stroll stopping on three occasions for a short prayer to express appreciation of nature and God's creation. This was followed by a very pleasant afternoon tea in the park café. And our final get-together was when nine of us shared a lovely lunch together, finding plenty to talk about in the run up to Christmas.

If you would like to join us in the coming year, we would be delighted to welcome you. Please call 01376 812889 for any information.

Over the last year, we have been rather unsuccessful in trying to recruit new members. But we have continued to meet 6 times over the year and have been blessed with between 12 and 16 attendees each evening. We have all been shocked and saddened at the loss of our treasurer, Doug Hubble, who passed away at the end of last year, following a period of ill health in hospital. We grieve his loss and miss him terribly.

Our first meeting of the new year was attended by 15 members and we were addressed by my son-in-law, Emi Polito. His work is involved in the scrutiny of video evidence to assist with the conviction of criminals. This was a hugely illuminating talk and there was no shortage of questions from our members. In November, we held our AGM prior to having, what we might call, a maths lesson! Jeff Green, one of our own members and retired maths teacher, put us through our paces and gave us some significant challenges along the way. We all responded pretty well but were not sure that any of us had achieved an A*!!!

Now in 2025, in January, we were delighted to have our new minister, The Rev Asif, to come along and tell us about the state of Christianity in Pakistan. There were some delightful stories and some that were quite worrying. But we took heart that there were members of the church there who are thoroughly committed to spreading the love of Jesus and the word of God. In March the mood was very different to January, and we had Jane Ribeiro, a tutor at RADA. We heard about how students are helped along their paths to achieve their aims in the world of music and dramatic art. This was very uplifting as have us all hope for the next generations. In May, we were due to entertain Mark Smith from Chelmsford City Council. Unfortunately, he was unavailable on the evening but sent one of his colleagues, Emelia, who gave us great information on how recycling is tackled by the council, what they do to encourage householders to recycle and gave us all tips on what we could do as individuals. This was useful in our endeavours in church to consider our position on ECO going forward. The in July, ladies' night, a local GP, James Mackin, opened our eyes to how a GP surgery is run. It was nothing short of fascinating and certainly changed our opinions on how we had thought surgeries worked these days.

We remain extremely grateful to all those who worked hard to provide us with delicious suppers before our talks and I would like to express my personal thanks to Dave Pitt for not only continuing as Invitations Secretary but taking on the role of Treasurer following Doug's passing. I should mention that, in March, we were sorry to lose Rev Mark as one of our regular attendees. He has moved to Bath into a hospital chaplaincy role and we wish him every success.

Lastly, if you are reading this and thinking that you might like to join us, please do not hesitate to get in touch. You will be most welcome!"

Well, what a year it's been! This being our sixtieth year, many events were organised over and above our normal productions. But let me home in on the productions first. Our very ambitious production of Chess took place in November in the church and we had good audiences at each performance but with a 12 piece orchestra, we were presented with some challenges. Having Helen Wilson and Mark Clements jointly directing, these were generally overcome and we are grateful to them both for the time and effort they put into every rehearsal and producing an end product to be proud of. Our traditional Christmas concert was a great success and thanks to Jan Moore who put this together for us. Soon after that, rehearsals for Carousel were underway and our production in May at the Chelmsford Theatre was a great success artistically but less so financially losing around £6,300. This was a severe blow, but it was encouraging to note that all bar one item on the expenditure side came in below budget, and it was low box office takings that contributed significantly to the deficit. Our sincere thanks go to Debbie Marks, our director, and Gerald Hindes, our MD, for all their hard work in getting such a super production onstage. Please let me thank all those who contributed in any way towards the production, and not least of all, Wiley, who took on the role of stage manager for the first time.

Our Social and Fundraising team tried to organise an event, some small and some very elaborate, every month. Some were just simple things to take place at rehearsals, but we must congratulate them on a wonderful celebratory gala dinner at Little Channels for our 60th birthday. I think I can safely say that all who attended had a thoroughly good time and we were delighted to entertain 3 of our Founder Members, Ken Rolf and Anton and Veronica Archer. We had a very successful and well-attended quiz night which generated some very welcome funds into the kitty. These activities need to be well supported as income from them is needed to plug the gap on show losses and I thank all of you who continue to support what is organised.

2025, being our 60th anniversary, we thought it appropriate to return to our roots which were firmly planted in G&S. Consequently, we ran a one day workshop where individuals spent the whole day singing G&S melodies and choruses, culminating in a performance to which the public were invited. Wow! It was so impressive and enjoyable and we are deeply indebted to Jan Moore, who organised the event, and Felicity Gage who put people through their paces and conducted them on the evening. It certainly made me wonder why we have moved away from such fabulous shows like Pirates, Gondoliers, Iolanthe and The Mikado! What do you think?

Now I need to express thanks. I must, first of all, thank Rev Asif for agreeing to be our President whilst he is the minister for Trinity and we are always happy to see him at any of our committee meetings. And talking of committee, it would be extremely remiss of me not to say a huge thank you to my fellow committee members, all of whom have worked very hard throughout the year. We have welcomed Lauren Russell onto the committee during the year and we hope she will be with us for some time to come. I would not normally single out any member of the committee for special thanks but I do want to do so now. Emma, Jill and Helen have joined me and have been tireless in the contributions they have made to some major tasks undertaken by the committee. Thanks so much. And Jan Moore, too, has given me continuing personal support throughout the year. We are now well into Godspell, and we hope and pray that we will deliver both an artistic and financial success.

As always, we are deeply indebted to Trinity for allowing us the use of their premises albeit at some cost, but we are so appreciative that we have somewhere to call home.

AGM Treasurers Report for year end 31st August 2025

Bank account

At the end of this financial year, we had £8,804.19 in our bank account.

Overall, we had a surplus in the financial year of £8,985.19.

This is due to a refund from Circuit of £10,693.00. If you remove that amount, we made a loss of £1,707.81. But this also includes £2,972.00 for new blinds in the worship area. I had budgeted for a loss of £6,000 but due to our reserve accounts still attracting high interest rates which put us in a much better position.

Reserve funds.

CFB General £125,065.42

TMCP £30,003.89

Less Reserve policy amount (6 months) £50,000.00

Total remaining £105,069.31

Offerings

We received £43,084.83 this year, which is over budget by £3,504.83. **Up £765.13 on the previous year.**

Property Lettings

Lettings raised £18,970.25. Under budget by £3,029.75. (On an increased budget) Down on the previous year by £1,043.43.

We have been attracting new lettings and hope we continue to do so.

Thank you once again Janet and Nick for all your efforts, they are very much appreciated by us all.

General

Bills continue to increase yearly. We **must** look to reducing our consumption of Gas & Electricity, making sure that lights are turned off and heating when not in use. Re the use of the Hall. We have moved bookings from the hall to the Link where we can reduce the costs to us. This only left large groups like the scouts that will use it. This kept our heating bills to a minimum. We intend to increase the loft insulation and install new heaters very soon. Which hopefully will reduce our Electricity bills.

Circuit

Our contribution to Circuit was £56,364.00 (£4,697 monthly) This will decrease next year to £49,450.00 (£4,120.83 monthly) This is mainly due to only having two Ministers in the Circuit next year.

General Comments

This has been another challenging year. With our ever-increasing costs, to maintain any sort of status quo we must look at all income streams to generate more. There will be tough times ahead especially on our finances. As we seem to be under pressure from all sides.

We **MUST** be careful how we spend the reserves as we are not able to replace them at any time soon.

I don't know what the future holds for Trinity, but rest assured that the people looking after the Church are doing a wonderful job in sometimes difficult circumstances.

Nigel Murrell, Treasurer

Trustees of the Church

Minister

Rev Asif Karam

Stewards

Jeff Green

Janet Cassels

Christine Elles

Tony Bender

John Cullum

Church Representatives

Judy Molyneux

Nigel Murrell

Janet Wintle

Linda Hoskyn

Eric Smart

Kay Burton

Tony Bender

Diane Potter / Hilary Walden

Diane Potter

Sheridan Pengelly

Jeff Green

Janet Cassels

Russell Burton

Karen Murrell

Val Scott

Church Council Secretary

Treasurer

Property Steward

Pastoral Secretary

Action Group Chair

Worship & Nurture Chair

Mission & Outreach Chair

Safeguarding Officers

Office representative

Circuit representative

Circuit representative

Circuit representative

Congregational representative

Congregational representative

Congregational representative

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

TRINITY METHODIST, CHELMSFORD	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

Beds, Essex & Herts	Circuit	Circuit no.	34/9
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1144627

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

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Asif Karam

Church Stewards:

Jeff	Green
Christine	Elles
Tony	Bender
Janet	Cassels
John	Cullum

Treasurer:

Nigel Murrell

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	54,196.30		54,196.30	54,049.21
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	6,408.87		6,408.87	6,306.27
a4	Lettings	18,970.25		18,970.25	20,013.68
a5	Other receipts	29,005.53		29,005.53	47,504.48
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	108,580.95	-	108,580.95 (a7)	127,873.64

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	56,364.00		56,364.00	53,004.00
b3	Donations	350.00		350.00	200.00
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	9,865.50		9,865.50	18,431.50
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	13,554.14		13,554.14	16,413.43
b6				-	
b7	Other payments	18,919.58		18,919.58	15,927.32
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	99,053.22	-	99,053.22 (b9)	103,976.25

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
		£	£	£	£	
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	9,527.73	-	9,527.73	23,897.39
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	155,012.83		155,012.83 (c6)	131,115.44	
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	164,540.56	-	164,540.56	155,012.83
c4	Transfers and adjustments			-	(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	164,540.56	-	164,540.56 (c8)	155,012.83 (c6)

SECTION D		£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	667.06	401.51
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	2,824.66	6,277.91
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	2,282.12	6,012.36
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)	667.06

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Mens Supper Club	659.00	413.90	245.10	-	104.48	349.58
e2 Coffee Shop	786.76	773.89	12.87	-	392.90	405.77
e3 Tea at Two		553.73	- 553.73	-	553.73	-
e4 Trinity Music & Drama	39,143.05	44,360.50	- 5,217.45	-	16,116.96	10,899.51
e5 Trinity Events	-	-	-	-	140.00	140.00
e6 Trinity Care Club	180.00	367.47	- 187.47	-	187.47	-
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	40,768.81	46,469.49	- 5,700.68	-	17,495.54 (e11)	11,794.86 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	108,580.95 (a7)	99,053.22 (b9)	9,527.73	(c7)	155,012.83 (c6)	164,540.56 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	149,349.76	145,522.71	3,827.05	-	172,508.37 (x)	176,335.42 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	-	-
f2 Bank Current Account	9,353.39	9,471.25
f3 Bank Deposit Account	-	-
f4 Central Finance Board	112,699.35	125,065.42
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	32,960.09	30,003.89
f6 Other funds	-	-
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	155,012.83 (c6)	164,540.56 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	17,495.54 (e11)	11,794.86 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	172,508.37 (x)	176,335.42 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,575,585.00	4,735,665.00
g3 Other Assets	192,164.00	198,887.00
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Name of Church Trinity Methodist Church No. 1/44827

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer Nc M Date 28/11/25

Name and address of treasurer Nigel Murrell

10A Tower Aveune, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 2PW

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 27/5/26.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Asif Karam

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Asif Karam Date 27/5/26
CHIEF
FLEECIE

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

Charity Number 1144627

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the TRINITY METHODIST (CHELMSFORD) Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 1 to 3 As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Name of Church TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH (CHELMSFORD) No

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustee Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Statement of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) as at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner Chris Regan

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner MATT, ATT

Name of firm (where appropriate) Chris Regan Limited

Address Citigate House R/O 199 Baddow Road

Chelmsford, Essex CM2 7PZ

Date 27/11/2025

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1144617

Accounts

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
RAINSFORD ROAD, CHELMSFORD
CM1 2XB



ANNUAL REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2023 – AUGUST 2024

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Trustees' Annual Report for year ended 31 August 2024

Governing Documents and Objectives

Trinity Methodist Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trusts of 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 the 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.

Trinity Methodist Church has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our church and to the wider local community.

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference.

The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers in this Circuit.

Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. Trinity is part of the Chelmsford Circuit which is part of the Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex District.

The District passes control down to circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and circuit stewards. At local church level authority is delegated to the Church Council as the decision-making body. The policies of the Church Council are implemented by the minister in pastoral charge supported by church stewards. In addition to this, the Church Council is required to ensure all property and financial reports are submitted to the Circuit in a timely fashion.

Trustees of the church who served during the year are listed at the end of this report.

Church Membership

By the end of Church Year 2024 there was a positive feeling that recovery post pandemic was continuing. Numbers in worship have been maintained and there are a number of people coming to Trinity to explore if it might be their church when they relocate. It has been good to remember that whatever challenges we face the church continues its work of witness and praise to God.

Membership has declined slightly in the year to 127 members. The main reason for this being the death of members slightly outweighing new members joining, of which there have been an encouraging number - new worshippers have joined our fellowship from other churches/circuits and countries. We have continued to provide opportunity for fellowship through our House Groups, special Sunday services and seasonal Bible study sessions.

Staffing

Ministerial input remains the same in the Circuit since the previous year: Presbyters Mark Pengelly and Barry Allen are the employed ministers in the Circuit, with Rev Sue King voluntarily helping with Halstead Methodist. Our student in training of the last three years, Heather Simmonds, began an appointment in the Southend Circuit. From the new Church Connexional year (Sept 2024), Rev Asif Karam, who will join the Circuit and be based mainly at Trinity, working in Chelmsford. The Circuit continues to employ part-time workers for Safeguarding, Administration and Financial control, although the Safeguarding officers post was vacant since January (2024). By the end of the church year a newly recruited Circuit Safeguarding Officer had been appointed. Staff in the Church office continue to support the work of Trinity. We have two worship Leaders who assist preachers in the leading of worship. The number of volunteers in the life of Trinity is very large and they are an essential part of the life of the Church.

Training

Creating Safer Space Safeguarding training has continued to meet the requirements of our Safeguarding Policy: a renewed effort to deliver Safeguarding training post pandemic has been successful, both online and face to face. All Church stewards have received Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training in this year.

Support

One of the Circuit Stewards attends our Church Council meetings, held three times each year. They take note of issues raised at these meetings and report back to the Circuit Leadership Team which offers encouragement and guidance as necessary.

Representatives from the Church council attend the Circuit Meeting.

Plans for the Forthcoming Year

In the 2024-25-year Trinity is exploring continued working with the other Methodist Churches in the city, with the possibility of forming a single governing body, based on three sites of the existing churches. A harvest Arts and Crafts weekend, held jointly with the other churches, is a new development that will offer a new kind of harvest celebration. What was a Steering Group is now re-named the Action Group, and this group continues to focus on developing the life and mission of the Church with fresh ideas. Trinity looks forward to welcoming Rev Asif Karam from September and will host the Welcome Service for him, which will be lead by the District Chair. This appointment allows Rev Mark Pengelly to spend more time with the other Churches in the city and at Halstead, as Rev Sue King steps down.

Trustees

Expenses: it is the policy to reimburse trustees and others involved in the administration of church affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties.

Apart from ministers no trustees were in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the church, although certain traveling and administration costs were re-reimbursed as set out in financial statements.

Recruitment

We follow the Connexional 'Safer Recruitment' guidelines and whilst the appointment of trustees is determined in accordance with Methodist procedures it is the aim to ensure that the Church Council has a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters.

Training for stewards and council members is available at circuit level.

Responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently,
- prepared accounts on a cash and receipts basis,
- followed applicable accounting standards,
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him/her aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

Reserves Policy

The policy ensures that adequate funds are held to meet the day to day expenditures of the church. However, this always acknowledges that the continued payment of the church assessments, as agreed prior to the start of each financial year, will be sufficient to cover the main costs of the church including the circuit assessment. In September 2011 the Reserves Policy was set to require that the church maintains sufficient reserves to be held to cover 6 months expenditure, to pay the circuit assessment and church expenditure.

At the end of this financial year we had £135,591.94 in reserves (£143,276.93 Legacies). The previous year we had £203,349.83 (£163,728.14 Legacies) as reserves. We have met our 6 Months policy requirement.

Activities

Our mission is to proclaim the love of God, in Jesus, to all people by: being a place of welcome, worship and nurture; belonging, learning and growing together; serving the community in whatever way we can

Safeguarding

Hilary Walden

Diane and Hilary have begun to work with the new Circuit Safeguarding Officer.

Records are updated regularly. Safeguarding training has been offered and completed by those who are new to their roles or who need to renew their training.

Pastoral Visitors

Hilary Walden

Pastoral Links have continued to offer friendship and a link to the rest of Trinity activities. Pastoral Links were glad to meet our new minister Rev. Asif in the autumn when he shared his ideas about the role of Pastoral Links. Tickets of membership have been distributed by Pastoral Links to their groups of members.

First Steps

Diane Potter

There were no children baptised at Trinity during the year 2023 – 2024

Property Report

Janet Wintle, Property Steward

Having had major difficulties getting the lift repaired we have now changed our maintenance company and we now have a working lift. We are very pleased with this company who seem to know what they are doing.

All Risk Assessments have been updated and are now on the Church's website.

We are continuing to do regular maintenance and thanks must go to Nigel who during the warmer months is continuing his painting of the rooms.

We continue to try to improve our Eco standing and we are working towards our Silver Award. An Eco notice board can now be found outside the Link Kitchen.

The external pointing is still outstanding. This is due to financial costs although having been noted in the last 2 Quinquennial reports this is now getting urgent.

Lettings are slowly picking up but are nowhere near pre pandemic. Part of the reason is lack of car parking space especially in the evening. Our hire prices are very competitive and it is hoped that this year lettings will improve again.

Many thanks to all on the Property Committee for their commitment and hard work this year.

The Action Group has been very active since the end of the last Connexional year. During the year we changed the name of the group from Steering Group to Action Group, which more accurately reflects our work. We give thanks for the time given by Pam French and Ian Armstrong who both stood down from the group during the year. Rev Mark will continue to be a member of the group and we look forward to working with our new minister also, Asif.

Things which we introduced or reintroduced during the year were

- Name Badges
- Church Singers
- Job Descriptions for all volunteer roles in the church
- A Friendship service
- Readings from the pews (not really taken up by readers)
- Upgraded the look of the entrance Vestibule
- A credit card machine for digital giving
- Prayer Walk for the 4 churches (now 3)
- Major review of our 'Welcome Process'
- Provided training for new computer operators
- Instigated a review of our sound system – with outcomes to be agreed shortly.
- Provided a working party to clear the vestry in preparation for our new minister
- Provided a working party to tidy and clear the bottom committee room
- Masterminded the Arts & Crafts weekend for the 3 churches
- Initiated a new notice board in The Link for ECO tips

We have provided representation at the 4 (now 3) churches meetings and contributed positively to their initiatives.

The largest piece of work undertaken this year has been the preparation of a draft of a new Mission Statement, which was unanimously accepted by Church Council and forwarded to the circuit for their consideration. The work required to respond to this Mission Statement is now being considered and advanced by this group. The work falls into three categories i.e. Growing Membership {incorporating Outreach & Fellowship and Worship & Nurture}, ECO and EDI.

In the coming months we hope to instigate a team of Litter Pickers, make more use of our wall hangings and consider elements of training for different volunteers. We also look forward to hearing of other tasks from any members of the congregation which the group may address and advance.

This group meet 3 times a year under the leadership of Kay Burton.

Topics covered by this group include:

- ❖ **Consideration and planning of worship** at special times of year eg Christmas and Easter. At each meeting plans are made for worship events for next few months
- ❖ **The music** in church is regularly reviewed and different styles of music and worship are encouraged.
- ❖ **House Groups:** These are reviewed at every meeting. House Groups are to be encouraged to re-start or new ones to be initiated. Three of the original House Groups continue to meet and efforts have been made to start a group of younger members possibly meeting on Sunday afternoons.
- ❖ **Children and Young People:** This is on the agenda for every meeting and any issues discussed and problems resolved. It is considered an important part of the remit. Uniformed groups are to be encouraged to attend AAW. It was felt important that children feel known and welcomed in church.
- ❖ **Welcome to Trinity:** A good amount of time and thought has been spent on reviewing the current welcome process in an effort to ensure that new members and visitors feel as welcome as possible. A few amendments were made to the plan put forward by the Action Group. Welcome cards to be given to visitors. It was felt that a warm welcome but no pressure was the ideal. More use to be made of WhatsApp, Facebook etc.

House Groups

Writtle House Group

Jeff Green

The Writtle House Group has continued to meet monthly, following an annual programme consisting of presentations and discussions on various subjects, both spiritual and contemporary. We have been fortunate to have welcomed a numbers of guest presenters. We have around fourteen members; from this number, two couples, being former members who have left the area, join us regularly by Zoom.

Admirals House Group

Janet Cassels

We continue to meet once a month on the morning of the third Thursday. This year's topics have included a bible study, prayer walk, Good Samaritan then and now, current affairs, a Christian perspective on protesting, a talk from Jim Lowe and lunch at Mary Stevenson's. Our numbers are small and new members are always welcome.

Springfield House Group

Eric Smart

The group met less frequently than normal due to illnesses. The day of the week varies depending on member availability. Topics discussed this year included Women of the Bible, Heroes and Villains, Art in Religion, Use of Colour in Religion, Popular Hymn Writers as well as the exploration of some books of the Bible. We have been fortunate to secure three new members and would welcome others if they feel so inclined. Currently, we have 12 members who normally attend.

Men's Supper Club

Eric Smart, Chair

The Supper Club has met six times during the year with an average attendance of 15. We were sorry to lose Brain and Brian Whitfield from our membership but were pleased to welcome Dylan as a new member.

We have had a most enjoyable year at the Men's Supper Club with a wide variation of topics being covered by our speakers who were all most informative and entertaining. In October we welcomed John Frankland who gave a most interesting talk about the Revd. William Potter, an aeronautical pioneer based here in Essex. What he did was right on our doorstep and we knew nothing of him before. In November, we held our AGM, where we identified that we would be able to make a small donation to the church. Then, into 2024, we heard from Susan Ronaldson about her rowing across the Atlantic with two friends and what an exciting talk that was! March saw Major Ian Mountford of the Salvation Army tell us about the Army's operations, and we learned a lot! A friend from Moulsham Lodge, Jim Lowe, gave us a most entertaining delivery about things that happened in Chelmsford over the years which most people know nothing about. We know now! At our ladies' night in July, we were disappointed that our scheduled speaker from the Muslim Community let us down. But with some ingenuity, we decided to have a members' evening and had a lively discussion where we most certainly put the world to rights on all sorts of topics. So, all in all a very varied year

We have had very enjoyable suppers at each of the meetings and I am grateful to those who undertook cooking duties. We are also especially grateful to Dave Pitt for handling the invitations for each of the meetings and Doug Hubble for handling the finances. Val Scott was also very kind in preparing our programme cards. I am very keen to hear of any speakers whom we might approach for future meetings.

14th Chelmsford Scout Group

David Fenton (Group Leader Volunteer)

The Scout Group remains active in all sections but numbers are still lower than before Covid 19. Numbers in the Beaver Colony have increased over the last 12 months which bodes well for the future.

The planned changes across the Scout Association are still being implemented and will not be complete until late 2024. These are mainly governance changes and do not affect weekly running of the section.

During the year both Cubs and Scouts have taken part in various District activity days and competitions including the Handicraft Competition, Festive Hike and the Swimming Gala. The Cub Pack held a summer camp weekend and the Scout Troop had a summer camp at Hallowtrees, Ipswich.

The Cub Pack and Scout troop took part in the Scout & Guide Gang Show at Chelmsford Theatre in May and several of the Leadership Team were involved in putting on the show together.

In line with national transitions Governance of the Group now rests with a Trustee Board rather than an Executive Committee but the responsibilities are largely similar.

We are now looking forward to numbers continuing to increase through the last quarter of 2023 and 2024.

Our first event of our new year was the very successful Night at The Oscars Concert, ably produced by Helen Wilson with Gerald Hindes as MD. The whole company did a fantastic job with this.

Committee-wise, this has been a pretty hectic year. With the loss of Janet and Judy from the committee, some considerable experience went with them. However, as you will recall, we found a number of people who were willing to come on to the committee and were equally enthusiastic and energetic. We started by creating a job description to match every role on the committee as well as every production job which regularly requires to be filled. I am pleased to confirm that every committee member has a role which is clearly defined and I am doubly pleased to report that these jobs are now all being done very well. I thank all of them for their hard work and commitment. We have also updated our policies and procedures with a new version of the members' Handbook being issued to all members.

Following on the heels of last year's AGM, we performed alongside Chelmsford Male Voice Choir in a Christmas concert. This was very well supported bringing in some very welcome revenue to the society. As auditions had already taken place for My Fair Lady by then, we went straight into rehearsals in January. I was delighted to direct the show with some very able helpers – Helen as Assistant and Gerald as MD and of course, Julie as choreographer. The show was an ambitious choice but we were blessed with an extraordinarily good strong cast and, whilst we didn't sell as many tickets as we would have liked, we turned out a loss that was £2,000 less than we had budgeted for. It is interesting to note that of the four major amateur societies who perform at the Chelmsford Theatre, we lost less than all of the others. But, a loss is a loss and we must look for ways to ensure that where losses are budgeted for in the future, we raise funds in other ways to offset these. We entered into a new hiring regime with the theatre this year and whilst I do want to mention the considerable costs involved in the hiring – some £14,000, we have established a very good working relationship with the staff and management and hope that this will continue.

Alison Carmichael has done a sterling job in organising a number of social events throughout the year – our Christmas social, our big fundraising quiz, regular visits to other local groups productions (usually with a meal) and our very successful garden party hosted by Jan & Gerald Moore. May I thank all of you who supported us in these endeavours,

Jan Moore has been very diligent in providing members with a regular Newsletter and I have been pleased to issue my briefing for members following every committee meeting. Some people have said how much they appreciate this as they feel fully informed of all that's going on in the society.

Lastly, we were sad to see Rev Mark Pengelly relinquishing his role as our President due to his moving from Trinity. He has been a marvellous support to the society and we have appreciated all that he has done during his tenure in office. However, we are pleased to welcome Rev Asif Karam as our new President and look forward to working with him for the next few years.

The Mission and Outreach Group is responsible for informing the Church about a variety of matters concerning the mission and outreach activities of Trinity and making decisions on these where necessary.

For the period of the Annual Report, Zoom meetings were held on the 13th September 2023, 17th January 2024 and the 19th June 2024. Attendance at these ranged from between six to ten Trinity members.

- **Action Group and Mission Matters:**

- a) A Mission Statement/Plan outlining a future vision for Trinity was prepared and approved and work on a Circuit wide Plan underway.
- b) Decided to set up three groups who will be focusing on Growing the Membership, EDI issues and improve Trinity's ecological position. The Eco group will seek to enrol young people and the Growing Membership Group is preparing a Plan to achieve membership growth.
- c) The Action Group which meets regularly believes radical measures are required by local Methodists to meet the challenges of the future. The sound system is to be upgraded and Welcome Procedures upgraded and expanded.
- d) Eric Smart has created a job description list for when volunteer vacancies occur and all Volunteers are now required to undertake EDI, Safeguarding and Affirmative Training.

- **One World Project :**

A new project **LET THERE BE LIGHT** which supports an orphanage in Kenya was approved this year. Sheila Mukumba will again lead this and replaces the scheme of bicycles for Zimbabwean Ministers, a very successful fund-raising project which provided an extra 20 cycles in Dec.23. The orphanage scheme intends to raise £5000 over three years and sought Council approval to increase this to £8000 to provide solar panels in place of firewood stoves as local wood sources were becoming scarce.

- **Eco-Church:**

Trinity is seeking to move to a silver level Eco Church status which is difficult given the age of the building. A blister basket for pill medication packs has been provided and is well used. An audit of Trinity's building, worship/services conducted and community engagement in relation to various environmental criteria is being conducted by Eric S. and Sheridan P.

- **Churches Together In Chelmsford:**

The CtiC online newsletter continues to provide a comprehensive list Church events, job vacancies, bible studies and Christian courses in the Chelmsford area. In July 24 CtiC ran a series of activities with partner Churches using the High Street as main focus. A CtiC Big Sleepover was organised on the 10th November 23 prayers for Church unity made on the 18th-25th January.24 and their AGM held on the 28th January 24.

- **Christian Aid 2024:**

Jeff Green banked the envelopes for this year's collection for Trinity and a combined service. Together with a retiring collection from **My Fair Lady** a total of £1070.70p was raised. Other amounts were donated online.

- **Prison Fellowship and Angel Trust:**

Chelmsford Prison remains under pressure from staff shortages and overcrowding. Most Chaplaincy places are now filled though. The prayer line system is well used and Services which can attract 70 prisoners and Bible studies have resumed. The local Angel Trust scheme provided

over 100 Christmas presents for prisoners children this year and the local Prison Fellowship grew in membership.

- **JMA & Samaritan Purse Boxes:**
Some 38 shoeboxes for the SM scheme were collected and dedicated in November 2023. The JMA scheme which has two new supporters raised £ 171.26p with an extra £45 in donations.
- **Bible Studies:**
Mike Fogg ran a Bible course on Revelations via Zoom and in person in September 2023 which was well attended and from February 24 on Romans. Guy Goodall has been running Bible courses from Christchurch URC throughout the year.
- **Foodbank:**
David Exell regularly informs Trinity of current requirements at Foodbank. Last year has seen a substantial rise in demand on the Foodbank. It has plenty of volunteers working there though. Food collected from the 2023 Harvest Festival was donated to the Foodbank.
- **Supper Clubs:**
 - a) The Men's Supper group continued to be fairly well attended event with speakers booked for all of them. Six were held this year drawing over a dozen attendees. Their AGM was held in November 23.
 - b) The Friendship Club continued to provide meals after services attracting approx. 25 persons on a monthly basis.
 - c) The Ladies Circuit Tea group which books speakers was well attended and has continued throughout the year attracting 20 plus attendees at four meetings.
- **Coffee/Tea Meets:**
Due to poor support the tea social has discontinued and the coffee social just for special fund raising such as the McMillian Charity.
- **Chancellor Bowling Club:**
Jeff Green reported that although the merged group has worked well the Club is having mixed success and suffers from a lack of members.
- **Action for Children:**
The collection boxes organised by Anthea Tyler raised over £600 this year. Anthea has informed us she intends to stand down from this in 2024 and her replacement is sought.
- **Methodist Homes for Aged:**
A special MHA service was planned for the 9th June but due to unavailability of the preacher did not go ahead. A coffee morning was held on the 7th June though and a collection made at the Sunday service. Barbara Armstrong our Trinity representative has informed us she intends to stand down from this role this year and that therefore a replacement is sought for this role.
- **Uniformed Youth Groups:**
David Fenton reported that whilst Scout numbers remain low the Cubs and Beavers numbers are good and that the Beavers have a new leader. With major change taking place in the structure and organisation of Scouting a Trustee Board has replaced the Executive Committee and he is now a Group Leader Volunteer.
- **Trinity Music and Drama:**
A Music from Movies Concert was held in October 23, a Joint Concert with Chelmsford Male Voice Choir in December 23 and My Fair Lady in May 24. All three were very successful.

AGM Treasurers Report for year end 31st August 2024

Bank account.

At the end of the financial year there was £8,686.33 in our bank account.

Overall, we had a surplus in the financial year of £23,631.84.

This is due to a legacy of £25,000 we received. If you remove that amount, we made a loss of £1,368.16. This is much less than expected due to increased interest rates on our reserve accounts, Utility bills not hitting as hard as I thought and careful management from all the areas concerned.

We also had to spend about £4 to 5K on repairing the lift. If you factor that out, we made a surplus in the year. But as always there are unexpected costs.

Reserve funds.

CFB General fund £112,699.35

TMCP £32,960.09

Less Reserve policy amount (6 months) £55,000

Total remaining £90,659.44

Offerings

We received £42,330.70 this year, which is only £269.30 under budget. Which is £1,265.60 down on the previous year.

Property Lettings

Lettings raised £20,013.68. Over budget by £13.68. Up on the previous year by £2,946.68.

Lettings are slowly increasing. Let's hope they continue to do so, and we can attract even more.

Thank you once again Janet and Nick for all your efforts, they are very much appreciated by us all.

General

Bills continue to increase yearly. We must look to reducing our consumption of Gas & Electricity, making sure that lights are turned off and heating when not in use. Re the use of the Hall. We have moved bookings from the hall to the Link where we can reduce the costs to us. This only left large groups like the scouts that will use it. This kept our heating bills to a minimum.

The accounts have been audited and signed off on the 19th November 2024.

Circuit

Our contribution to Circuit was £53,004 (£4,417 monthly) This will increase next year to £56,364 (£4,697 monthly) An increase of just over 6%.

General Comments

This has been another challenging year. With our ever-increasing costs, to maintain any sort of status quo we must look at all income streams to generate more. There will be tough times ahead especially on our finances. As we seem to be under pressure from all sides.

We MUST be careful how we spend the reserves as we are not able to replace them at any time soon.

I don't know what the future holds for Trinity but rest assured that the people looking after the running of the Church are doing a wonderful job in sometimes difficult circumstances.

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

TRINITY METHODIST, CHELMSFORD	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

Beds, Essex & Herts	Circuit	Circuit no.	34/9
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1144627

If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev. Mark Pengelly

Church Stewards:

Jeff	Green
Christine	Elles
Tony	Bender
Janet	Cassels
John	Cullum

Treasurer:

Nigel Murrell

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	54,049.21		54,049.21	55,475.06
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	6,306.27		6,306.27	4,261.23
a4	Lettings	20,013.68		20,013.68	17,067.00
a5	Other receipts	47,504.48		47,504.48	20,658.83
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	127,873.64	-	127,873.64 (a7)	97,462.12

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	53,004.00		53,004.00	53,004.00
b3	Donations	200.00		200.00	200.00
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	18,431.50		18,431.50	20,984.10
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	16,413.43		16,413.43	17,438.68
b6		-		-	-
b7	Other payments	15,927.32		15,927.32	19,622.06
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	103,976.25	-	103,976.25 (b9)	111,248.84

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8) 23,897.39	-	23,897.39	- 13,786.72
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	131,115.44		131,115.44 (c6)	144,902.16
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2) 155,012.83	-	155,012.83	131,115.44
c4	Transfers and adjustments			- (c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4) 155,012.83	-	155,012.83 (c8)	131,115.44 (c6)

SECTION D		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)				
d1	Balance brought forward from last year			401.51	1,340.16
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			6,277.91	4,755.24
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			6,012.36	5,693.89
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)		667.06	401.51

TRINITY METHODIST, CHELMSFORI Church

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Mens Supper Club	399.00	454.28	- 55.28	-	159.76	104.48
e2 Coffee Shop	939.65	842.90	96.75	-	296.15	392.90
e3 Tea at Two	-	-	-	-	553.73	553.73
e4 Trinity Music & Drama	6,274.28	12,849.27	- 6,574.99	-	22,691.95	16,116.96
e5 Trinity Events	-	-	-	-	140.00	140.00
e6 Trinity Link Care Club	665.00	717.00	- 52.00	9.00	248.47	187.47
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	8,277.93	14,863.45	- 6,585.52	9.00	24,090.06 (e11)	17,495.54 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	127,873.64 (a7)	103,976.25 (b9)	23,897.39	(c7)	131,115.44 (c6)	155,012.83 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	136,151.57	118,839.70	17,311.87	9.00	155,205.50 (x)	172,508.37 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	7,262.27	9,353.39
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	93,452.70	112,699.35
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	30,400.47	32,960.09
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	131,115.44 (c6)	155,012.83 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	24,090.06 (e11)	17,495.54 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	155,205.50 (x)	172,508.37 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 01-Sep-23	At 31-Aug-24
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	-	-
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,420,808.00	4,575,585.00
g3 Other Assets	185,664.00	192,164.00
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	-	-
g5 Other Liabilities	-	-

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Name of Church Trinity Methodist, Chelmsford No 1144627

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer *N C Murrell* Date *4/10/2024*

Name and address of treasurer Nigel Murrell

10A Tower Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 2PW

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Trinity Methodist, Chelmsford

Charity Number 1144627

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Trinity Methodist, Chelmsford Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 1 to 3 As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Name of Church Trinity Methodit, Chelmsford No 1144627

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give 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.

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/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 Chris Regan

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner MAAT, ATT

Name of firm Chris Regan Ltd

Address Citigate House R/O 197 199 Baddow Road

Chelmsford, Essex Post Code CM2 7PZ

Date 19/11/24

Trustees of the Church

Minister

Rev Mark Pengelly

Stewards

Jeff Green

Janet Cassels

Christine Elles

Tony Bender

John Cullum

Church Representatives

Judy Molyneux

Nigel Murrell

Janet Wintle

Hilary Walden

Eric Smart

Kay Burton

Tony Bender

Diane Potter / Hilary Waden

Diane Potter

Sheridan Pengelly

Jeff Green

Janet Cassels

Russell Burton

Karen Murrell

Val Scott

Church Council Secretary

Treasurer

Property Steward

Pastoral Secretary

Action Group Chair

Worship & Nurture Chair

Mission & Outreach Chair

Safeguarding Officers

Office representative

Circuit representative

Circuit representative

Circuit representative

Congregational representative

Congregational representative

Congregational representative

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1144617

Accounts

**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
RAINSFORD ROAD, CHELMSFORD
CM1 2XB**



**ANNUAL REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2022 - AUGUST 2023**

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Trustees' Annual Report for year ended 31 August 2023

Governing Documents and Objectives

Trinity Methodist Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trusts of 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 the 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.

Trinity Methodist Church has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our church and to the wider local community.

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference.

The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers in this Circuit.

Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. Trinity is part of the Chelmsford Circuit which is part of the Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex District.

The District passes control down to circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and circuit stewards. At local church level authority is delegated to the Church Council as the decision making body. The policies of the Church Council are implemented by the minister in pastoral charge supported by church stewards. In addition to this, the Church Council is required to ensure all property and financial reports are submitted to the Circuit in a timely fashion.

Trustees of the church who served during the year are listed at the end of this report.

Church Membership

By the end of Church Year 2023 we were feeling the effects of the pandemic less, although it had still affected our Sunday congregations. During this period we concluded our online worship services with less people joining them.

We continued to adapt our worshipping life and many of groups and committees working online in various ways. It has been good to realise that whatever challenges we face the church continues its work of witness and praise to God. Membership has dropped slightly to at 134. We have once again been blessed with new worshippers joining our fellowship from other churches/circuits and countries.

However, growth is not simply a matter of numbers but one of spirituality. We have continued to provide opportunity for fellowship through our House groups, special Sunday services and seasonal study evenings

Staffing

Ministerial input remains the same in the Circuit since the previous year: Deacon Ramona Samuel finished her time of service in the Circuit at the end of the Church year. Presbyter Mark Pengelly is now the only employed minister in this part of the Circuit. We have also been a placement church for a presbyter in training, Heather Simmonds. Her ministry has been much appreciated. The Circuit continues to employ part time workers for Safeguarding, Administration and Financial control. Staff in the Church office continue to support the work of Trinity, and have gradually been able to resume duties on site. We have two worship Leaders.

Training

Creating Safer Space Safeguarding training has continued to meet the requirements of our Safeguarding Policy: a renewed effort to deliver Safeguarding training post pandemic has been successful, both online and face to face.

Support

One of the Circuit Stewards attends our Church Council meetings, held three times each year. They take note of issues raised at these meetings and reports back to the Circuit Leadership Team which offers encouragement and guidance as necessary.

Representatives from the Church council attend the Circuit Meeting.

Plans for the Forthcoming Year

In the 2023-24 year Trinity seeks to engage with a growing number of people who slowly return post pandemic. Trinity continues to have conversations with the other Methodist Churches in the City and these present both challenges and exciting opportunities. A steering group to implement the ideas and visions of an Away Day has been established and will continue to work under the name of Action Group.

Trustees

Expenses: it is the policy to reimburse trustees and others involved in the administration of church affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties.

Apart from ministers no trustees were in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the church, although certain travelling and administration costs were re-imbursed as set out in financial statements.

Recruitment

We follow the Connexional 'Safer Recruitment' guidelines and whilst the appointment of trustees is determined in accordance with Methodist procedures it is the aim to ensure that the Church Council has a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters.

Training for stewards and council members is available at circuit level.

Responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently,
- prepared accounts on a cash and receipts basis,
- followed applicable accounting standards,
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Responsibilities cont.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him/her aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

Reserves Policy

The policy ensures that adequate funds are held to meet the day to day expenditures of the church. However, this always acknowledges that the continued payment of the church assessments, as agreed prior to the start of each financial year, will be sufficient to cover the main costs of the church including the circuit assessment. In September 2011 the Reserves Policy was set to require that the church maintains sufficient reserves to be held to cover 6 months expenditure, to pay the circuit assessment and church expenditure. At the end of this financial year we had £123,853.17 in reserves (All Legacy Money). The previous year we had £135,591.94 (All Legacy Money) as reserves. We have met our 6 Months policy requirement.

Activities

Our mission is to proclaim the love of God, in Jesus, to all people by: being a place of welcome, worship and nurture; belonging, learning and growing together; serving the community in whatever way we can.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding officers continued to ensure that DBS certificates were renewed when appropriate and advertised and facilitated the take up of safeguarding training for those needing to renew the Methodist church's training scheme - Creating Safer Spaces.

The safeguarding officers were available to offer advice, ensured the annual renewal of the safeguarding policy for the church and updating of

Pastoral Visitors

Hilary Walden

There were some resignations among the pastoral visitors.

Pastoral Visitors agreed it was more appropriate to be named as Pastoral Links to more accurately reflect how pastoral care is given.

First Steps

Diane Potter

Three children were baptised and welcomed into the church.

Music and Drama 2022-2023

Janet Wintle Chairman

This has been a very successful year for Music and Drama. After many years of absence we returned to a concert at Christmas , this time teaming up with Chelmsford Opera. Thanks to Gerald for all his work in this.

Our May show at the Chelmsford Theatre was the very popular Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. This was a massive show for the group but everyone who came to see it loved it .

Before the show we held a very successful quiz at Beulieu Community Centre . Many thanks to Eric for organising.

We are starting to look forward to My Fair Lady in May 24. Our cast is ready and rehearsals begin in January.

Worship and Nurture

Janet Cassels

This group meet 3 times a year under the leadership of Kay Burton.

Topics covered by this group include:

Consideration and planning of worship at special times of year eg Christmas and Easter. At each meeting plans are made for worship events for next few months. The arrangements at back of church are seen as a success

It was decided that Trinity would continue to meet at 9.30 each Sunday with communion being held once a month and after singles lunch.

Church anniversary services: It has been decided that due to the difficulty in arranging preachers this may have a different format in future.

The music in church is regularly reviewed and different styles of music and worship to be encouraged. It was felt that the band performing on AAW was a success and should continue when members are available.

Housegroups: These are reviewed at every meeting. Housegroups are to be encouraged to re-start or new ones to be initiated. Three of the original housegroups continue to meet and efforts are going to be made to start a group of younger members possibly meeting on Sunday afternoons.

Sunday Club: Children and Young people are on the agenda for every meeting and any issues discussed and problems resolved.

The Outreach and Fellowship Group was renamed Mission and Outreach during the year to cover changes and its altered role in relation to activities at Trinity. Responsibility for Special Services has been transferred to the Worship and Nurture Group. All three meetings held over the year (on the 13th September 2022, 24th January and 20th June 2023) had the attendance of between six to ten Trinity members and were conducted online.

Mission Work. A successful Away Day was held on the 1st of October 2022 at Roxwell Village Hall using the theme 'To Proclaim the Love of God to All People'. Some of the ideas from this where attendees had looked at ways to grow Trinity's membership by improving its appeal to newcomers and develop its Mission activities for the future were implemented and discussed at the new Steering Group. It was proposed Trinity members support the Circuit wide programme Homes for Ukrainian families whereby funds raised would contribute to housing deposits. A new element of the service named **Mission Matters** was introduced whereby Trinity members spoke briefly about the various Mission type causes, projects and activities they are involved in proved a popular spot in the weekly services.

Steering Group. The Steering Group set up to raise the profile of Trinity has held monthly meetings and instigated a range of changes to the layout of the Church Hall and refurbishment. To date it has identified areas where there is a volunteer shortfall and created a jobs list. It has been ensuring that volunteers undertake EDI and Affirmative training. The Affirmation scheme though is to commence when all the EDI training has been completed this year.

Trinity is required to produce a Mission statement and plan by 2024 outlining the future of the Church as part of a Circuit Mission and Vision strategy. The Group will use the Methodist Church website for the tools to carry this out.

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Most of those attending services now wear name badges to help newcomers, who should also receive a welcome leaflet.

One World Project. The fundraising project to buy 20 bicycles for Zimbabwean Methodist Ministers and run by Sheila Mukumba was highly successful reaching its target 1 ½ years early. Therefore, it was decided to undertake a new target of 40 bicycles and then start looking for a new project that would likely begin in September 23.

Eco-Church. Report prepared for Feb. 23 Church Council by Sheridan P. set out how Trinity can move to Silver level Eco Church from its current Bronze level. A combined service for the four Chelmsford Churches based on an Eco theme was held on the July 25th 2023.

CtiC. Both Chelmsford and Essex Churches Together held their AGM's in the later part of 2022. The Bradwell Pilgrimage was also held on the 1st July of that year. A prayer cycle rota has been set up by CtiC for all the Churches in the Chelmsford area to be involved with. Various City based projects such as Made for More continued throughout year and included a G Exhibition at the Cathedral which had the purpose of raising concern for the global environment.

Christian Aid. A sum of £490 was collected after the performance of **Chitty Bang Bang** by the M&D group in 2023. Additional Christian Aid collections were made through the series of Coffee meets and during Christian Aid week itself which are made either online or through the CAW envelopes available.

Prison Fellowship and Angel Trust. Prison Fellowship members are helping out with the **12 weeks to go scheme**. The prayerline system is well used and Bible studies have resumed at Chelmsford Prison. Staffing problems here continue and the Chaplaincy is stretched with loss of both Chaplains and the Chief Chaplain. Some 146 Xmas gifts were distributed to prisoners' children through the local Angel Trust scheme for Xmas 2022.

Bible Study and Educational Courses. Mike Fogg ran a well attended online and face to face Bible course prepared by the Bible Society in late March/April 23 called **Journey through The Bible**. Another 10 week course on Romans is to be held starting in 28th Feb. 2024.

JMA & Samaritan Purse Boxes. Some 38 boxes and 8 footballs were collected and dedicated at a November 2022 Service. Five JMA collectors received badges and awards and one new collector came forward at the same time. Julia Henderson has agreed to continue with both schemes ordering the necessary resources.

Whitechapel, Chess and Homeless. Keith and Jenny Essam made visits taking clothes and gifts to the Whitechapel Mission before Christmas again.

Equality and Inclusion. Ramona S. as Church representative attended a District meet on EDI on the 1st October 2022. Steering Group looked at how Trinity can register as an **Inclusive Church** which may be difficult. EDI training for all Volunteers covered by scheme it is hoped will be completed in the start of 2024.

The Men's Supper Club AGM was held in November of 2022. They continue to hold regular meetings some five to six times throughout the year with an average attendance of ten.

The Singles' Lunches which are held every month and run by Jenne and Keith Essam are well attended and have been renamed the Sunday Friendship Club. These are followed by a 2. pm Holy Communion service. Extra helpers for these are welcome.

Care Group. The numbers attending the Care Group which meets on alternate Wednesdays are fairly small by comparison.

Ladies Circuit Lunch Club. Heather Simmons gave a talk to the Ladies Circuit Lunch Club and their programme for 2023 has been organised. These are just for tea gatherings now due to the shortage of cooks.

A Celebration Buffet Lunch was held for the King's Coronation on the 7th May 2023 after the Sunday Service.

Coffee/Tea Meets. Tea for Two attracted small numbers but the Friday morning Coffee event held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays was doing very well and raising money for various charities.

Chancellor Bowling Club. Due to declining members Trinity Bowls Club united with the Hall Street Group. It was reported that the 20 bowlers forming this new group had a good season from April 2023 becoming top of the league.

Action for Children. Anthea Tyler continues to represent Trinity for Action for Children collection boxes. A sum of £598.11p was raised by 26 box holders in 2021.

MHA. A special service and collection related to MHA activities was to be held the 2nd week of June. Collections were made at July coffee mornings and the Church service on the 16th July. Donations tend now to be made online rather than through envelopes.

Uniformed Youth Groups. Though the Uniformed Groups restarted their activities at Trinity following the pandemic their numbers were reported to be historically low and about half their former number. However, a number of new leaders have come forward to help with the Beavers and Cubs. The Scouts also attended their first post pandemic Summer camp in Kent in 2022.

Trinity Music and Drama. There was a successful **Christmas Concert** provided on the 10th Dec. 2022 and a performance of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang held in May 2023.

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Trinity Music and Drama. There was a successful **Christmas Concert** provided on the 10th Dec. 2022 and a performance of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang held in May 2023.

The Scout Group remains active in all sections but numbers generally are lower than before Covid 19 which resulted in a 25% drop nationally in membership across both young people and adult volunteers. We did not have a Beaver Colony during 2020/2021/2022 which effectively meant the loss of whole two year cohort but happily the Colony started again in September 2022 under the leadership of Martina McGettigan who previously assisted with the Cub Pack. She has now passed the reins onto Charlotte Oscroft who has joined the leadership team.

Scouting generally is going through a planned transition nationally which will not be fully implemented until 2024 but which affects all levels including governance, leader names, volunteer training and activities.

During the year both Cub and Scouts have taken part in various District activity days and competitions. The Cub Pack attended the County Cub Mega Camp at Skreens Park and Scouts held a Winter Camp at Riffhams, Little Baddow and had Summer Camp at Hallowtree Scout Camp near Ipswich. Scouts also completed the Plainsman Hike, which is completed over two days.

The Group Executive Committee has not met since Covid 19 and although most members remain in post we currently lack a Chair. As part of the transition the Group Executive will disappear and governance will be undertaken by a Trustee Board.

Trinity Steering Group

Eric Smart Chair

Following the covid pandemic, a number of people in the congregation wanted to see what could be done to try to get us back to normal – or at least recognise the new normal. The steering group was set up with representatives from leading organisations and stewards – eleven people in all. With the minister on sabbatical, the group made some decisions which did not need to be rubber stamped by him before progressing.

The group undertook a number of ‘quick fixes’ including introducing a 3-monthly printed calendar of events, organise free lunchtime concerts once a month, suggested a reduction to YouTube services and encouragement to return to Trinity, set up training sessions for church members on IT issues and usage, purchase a card reader to accept card donations in church, rearrange seating in the church to encourage congregation to move forward, attempted to resurrect the choir in the form of Trinity Singers (this subsequently developed into a singing group comprising members of the 4 Chelmsford Churches), reinstated the welcoming door stewards rota, introduced weekly coffee mornings, looked into forming a litter-picking group and agreed to upgrade the entrance vestibule. These were the things we agreed at our first meeting.

At the next few meetings we agreed to introduce a bookcase for book exchanges for a donation in aid of charity, instigate contact with church hirers in an endeavour to recruit church members and introduce rolling slides before services advising the congregation of upcoming events.

Trinity Steering group cont:

Following the church Away Day in January, the group looked at issues arising from EDI guidelines and again, did some quick fixes in response – particularly addressing needs of disabled church attendees. We also considered things that could be introduced following the renewed Mission Statement prepared at the Away Day. To assist with becoming more inclusive, attendees were going to be asked to say the Lord's Prayer in their own language.

A significant step was taken in March 2022 when we introduced Mission Matters into our weekly services. This was presented by many different members of the congregation who highlighted activities they carried out, outside of church, but with a church connection. Some also talked about their faith journeys and how that had affected them. There was a wonderful response to this and ran for well over a year.

We re-introduced the wearing of name badges to assist with identities for the benefit of newcomers. Currently we are preparing job descriptions for all activities undertaken by Trinity members. We have just introduced bible readings from the pews and will shortly conduct a Friendship service where members are asked to bring a friend to church.

The group continues to meet, with the blessing of the church Council and will be devoting some time to the Affirmations Scheme.

Housegroups

Admirals Housegroup

Janet Cassels

We continue to meet once a month on the third Thursday. We cover a wide range of issues including a visit to food bank when David had us working for our keep, great leaders, favourite quotes, current good news and impact of social media on our lives not forgetting lunch party at Mary's. Numbers vary according to circumstances but we enjoy getting together and catching up on Trinity news

Springfield House Group

Ian Armstrong

We are a group of around 10 and meet monthly in members' homes, usually on a Tuesday afternoon from 2-4pm. Our meetings usually take the form of discussions and cover a wide range of subjects which have included Women of the Bible, famous hymn writers and the background to their hymns, the use of colour in different religions, and examining different books of the bible seeing how different translations present information. We try not to become too serious and encourage members to have their say, but everyone is free to take part or to listen as they choose. We hope that we get to know each other better and are enabled to relax in each other's company.

Writtle Housegroup

Jeff Green

We have continued with our, by now, established pattern of meeting face to face but having a Zoom opportunity for those who have now moved from the area. In this way, we maintain good fellowship with friends near and far.

Our meetings are on Thursday evenings, once each month. We have a mixed programme involving study, discussion and learning, often with an outside speaker.

The club met 6 times during the year with an average attendance of 15 members. Sadly, we record the passing of our erstwhile member, Don Whelpdale and the loss of Rev Brain due to his stationing move to Scotland. We wish him, his wife Sheila, and his family the best of luck in his new appointment. But on the positive side, we have gained a new member Brian Greatrex and he is very welcome. We continue to be on the outlook for new members.

Looking back to October for our first meeting, we found ourselves being forced to have a members' evening as our intended speaker was struck down with covid. The theme for the evening was 'My Home Town' and every member present outlined the place in which they were born and grew up. Ironically, not one member was born in Chelmsford, and all were incomers to the city. But this made for a most entertaining and informative evening where members' memories were tested, and many had rekindled fondness for their birthplace.

Following our AGM in November, Gerald, our church organist, gave us a piano recital, playing some of his favourite pieces and this was a very pleasant diversion from our normal type of talk. His efforts were warmly applauded.

In January, Amanda Harris, Dental Hygienist of the Year in 2019, gave a most interesting and instructive talk on how we could all look after our teeth in a better way. We trust that her advice continues to be followed.

Men's Supper Club cont.

In May, Gale Fogg gave us an insight to her work with Citizen's Advice. She has been a volunteer for many years and had a wealth of experience to share with us. May saw Gale's husband, Mike, one of our circuit's lay preachers, deliver a talk on 'Dodgy Scales and Delivering The Mail, which was full of historical information about South Woodham Ferrers. His talk was illustrated with many slides which added an extra dimension to his presentation.

In July, in our endeavour to explore other faiths, we were privileged to welcome Tarsem Sehda, a member of the Sikh community in Southend. He enlightened us to what his faith means to him and how he practices it. This was our annual ladies' night, and, without exception, we were bowled over to discover that the fundamental principles of Sikhism and Christianity were so closely aligned. We were truly indebted to Tarsem for his insightful talk.

As usual, some members gave of their time and effort to cook some wonderful suppers for us to enjoy and we express our grateful thanks to them all.

Treasurers AGM Report end of year August 2023.

As we have now finished the financial year 2022 to 2023, I can report on our finances for that period.

Bank account.

We have £6,860.76 in our bank account.

Reserve funds.

CFB General fund £93,452.70

TMCP £30,400.47

Total £123,853.17

Our policy states that we must keep 6 months money in reserve at all times, that is £55,000.

Total After the 6-month reserve fund deduction

£68,853.17

Offerings

We received £43,596.30 in offerings this year.

Property Lettings

Lettings raised £17,067.00 this year. This is an increase of £2,850.75 from the previous year.

As you can see lettings have started to slowly increase, let's hope that it continues to do so.

We have let 6 car parking spaces to local businesspeople. They each pay £80 per month (rising to £85pcm from September 2023). A total of £5,760.00 for the year. This will help in the general running costs of the church.

We must still look for other ways to increase the lettings figure going forward, otherwise our reserve figures will continue to fall.

Thank you once again Janet and Nick for all your efforts, they are very much appreciated.

General

This has been a very challenging year. I predicted a £20,000 deficit but we managed to reduce that to £12,848.07. This deficit is mainly due to installing new guttering at a cost of £13k. In reality if we exclude the guttering then we broke even for the year. This is good news but as always there are still a few very expensive repairs we need to make, such as brick work pointing.

You are all aware, the cost of utilities have increased enormously. The church is no exception to this. We moved as many bookings as we could from the upstairs hall to the link. As to heat the hall is very expensive. This I believe saved us a lot of money. During the year we intentionally built up a substantial balance in the electricity account, this helped us to keep our bills under control. Also, we had the government subsidy.

Circuit

Our contribution was £53,004 the same as the previous year. It will remain the same for 2023 – 2024.

Future

The next financial year, I think will also be challenging.

We have set a budget for lettings of £20k. even with this there will be a predicted **deficit of £17k.**

We must increase our income in all areas. Increased lettings, fundraising and welcoming new people into our congregation to generate more income. We have the space in our building to achieve the lettings issue as long as we have a vision to do so. We must be more imaginative in the way we operate and cannot just sit on our hands and do nothing.

We still have expensive issues with our building. Unless we generate more income, the financial future looks uncertain for us at Trinity.

Our future is uncertain, but this is the same for all of our Chelmsford churches.

We must make some difficult decisions going forward.

Nigel Murrell

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

TRINITY METHODIST, CHELMSFORD	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

Beds, Essex & Herts	Circuit	Circuit no.	34/9
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1144627

If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev. Mark Pengelly

Church Stewards:

Pam	French
Jeff	Green
Gillian	Harrington
Christine	Elles
Lance	Molyneux
Tony	Bender

Treasurer:

Nigel Murrell

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
		£	£	£	£	
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	55,475.06	-	55,475.06	56,250.81	
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	4,261.23	-	4,261.23	392.71	
a4	Lettings	17,067.00	-	17,067.00	14,216.25	
a5	Other receipts	20,658.83	-	20,658.83	16,166.50	
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	97,462.12	-	97,462.12 (a7)	87,026.27	
SECTION B						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	53,004.00		53,004.00	63,582.00	
b3	Donations	200.00		200.00	200.00	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	20,984.10	-	20,984.10	7,308.61	
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	17,438.68	-	17,438.68	7,992.78	
b6			-	-		
b7	Other payments	19,622.06	-	19,622.06	18,901.76	
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	111,248.84	-	111,248.84 (b9)	97,985.15	
SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	- 13,786.72	-	- 13,786.72	- 10,958.88
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		144,902.16	-	144,902.16	(c6) 155,861.04
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	131,115.44	-	131,115.44	144,902.16
c4	Transfers and adjustments			-	-	(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	131,115.44	-	131,115.44	(c8) 144,902.16 (c6)

SECTION D			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	1,340.16	1,059.73
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	4,755.24	5,943.85
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	5,693.89	5,663.42
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)	401.51	1,340.16

RINITY METHODIST, CHELMSFOR Church

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Mens Supper Club	474.00	401.74	72.26	-	87.50	159.76
e2 Coffee Shop	931.62	831.15	100.47	-	195.68	296.15
e3 Tea at Two	-	-	-	-	553.73	553.73
e4 Trinity Bowls Club	-	841.61	- 841.61	-	841.61	-
e5 Trinity Music & Drama	47,473.87	42,796.20	4,677.67	-	18,014.28	22,691.95
e6 Trinity Events	-	-	-	-	140.00	140.00
e7 Trinity Link Care Club	890.00	1,100.22	- 210.22	-	458.69	248.47
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	49,769.49	45,970.92	3,798.57	-	20,291.49 (e11)	24,090.06 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page totals column)	97,462.12 (a7)	111,248.84 (b9)	- 13,786.72	(c7)	144,902.16 (c6)	131,115.44 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	147,231.61	157,219.76	- 9,988.15	-	165,193.65 (x)	155,205.50 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	9,310.22	7,262.27
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	93,435.18	93,452.70
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	42,156.76	30,400.47
f6 Other funds		
f7 TOTAL - Church accounts	144,902.16 (c6)	131,115.44 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	20,291.49 (e11)	24,090.06 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	165,193.65 (x)	155,205.50 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,853,502.00	4,420,808.00
g3 Other Assets	177,876.00	185,664.00
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
 f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
 g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church Trinity Methodist, Chelmsford No 1144627

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer *NcMM* Date *21/9/2023*

Name and address of treasurer 10A Tower Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex

..... Post Code CM1 2PW

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Mark Pengelly*

Name of the Chair of the meeting Revd. Mark Pengelly Date *13/12/2024*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Trinity Methodist Church

Charity Number 1144627

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trinity Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 1 to 5. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Name of Church Trinity Methodist No1144627

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give 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.

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/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 Chris Regan

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner MAAT, ATT

Name of firm (where appropriate) Chris Regan Ltd

Address Citigate House R/O 197 - 199 Baddow Road

Chelmsford, Essex Post Code CM2 7PZ

Date 31/10/2023

Trustees of the Church

Minister

Rev Mark Pengelly

Stewards

Pam French

Jeff Green

Gillian Harrington

Christine Elles

Tony Bender

Lance Molyneux

Church Representatives

Val Scott

Nigel Murrell

Hilary Walden

Kay Burton

Tony Bender

Diane Potter

Janet Wintle

Sheridan Pengelly

Ian Armstrong

Russell Burton

Roger Fairclough

Karen Murrell

Eric Smart

Church Council Secretary

Treasurer

Pastoral Secretary

Worship and Nurture Chair

Mission and Outreach Chair

Office representative

Property Steward

Circuit representative

Congregational representative

Congregational representative

Congregational representative

Congregational representative

Congregational representative

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1144617

Accounts

**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
RAINSFORD ROAD, CHELMSFORD
CM1 2XB**



ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2021- AUGUST 2022

CONTENTS

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Trustees Report	3 - 10
Accounts	11-15
Reference and administrative information	16

Trustees' Annual Report for year ended 31 August 2022

Governing Documents and Objectives

Trinity Methodist Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trusts of 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 the 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.

Trinity Methodist Church has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our church and to the wider local community.

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference.

The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers in this Circuit.

Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. Trinity is part of the Chelmsford Circuit which is part of the Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex District.

The District passes control down to circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and circuit stewards. At local church level authority is delegated to the Church Council as the decision making body. The policies of the Church Council are implemented by the minister in pastoral charge supported by church stewards. In addition to this, the Church Council is required to ensure all property and financial reports are submitted to the Circuit in a timely fashion.

Trustees of the church who served during the year are listed at the end of this report.

Church Membership

The period covered in this report was seriously affected by the COVID Pandemic. For some of 2021 there were no services or events on the premises. We continued to adapt our worshipping life and many of groups and committees working online in various ways. It has been good to realise that whatever challenges we face the church continues its work of witness and praise to God.

Membership has dropped slightly to at 135. We have once again been blessed with new worshippers joining our fellowship from other churches/circuits and countries.

However, growth is not simply a matter of numbers but one of spirituality. We have continued to provide opportunity for fellowship through our House groups, special Sunday services and seasonal study evenings.

Staffing

Ministerial input remains the same in the Circuit since the previous year: Deacon Ramona Samuel and Presbyter Mark Pengelly being the ministers. The Circuit continues to employ part time workers for Safeguarding, Administration and Financial control. Staff in the Church office continue to support the work of Trinity, and have gradually been able to resume duties on site. We have two worship Leaders.

Training

Creating Safer Space Safeguarding training has continued to meet the requirements of our Safeguarding Policy: since March 2020 such training has not been available. Online courses have now been made available

Support

One of the Circuit Stewards attends our Church Council meetings, held three times each year. They take note of issues raised at these meetings and reports back to the Circuit Leadership Team which offers encouragement and guidance as necessary.

Representatives from the Church council attend the Circuit Meeting.

Plans for the Forthcoming Year

In the 2022-23 year Trinity is sincerely hoping to return to more worship and meetings without the complications of COVID. To this end we are planning an away day whereby we can review and look forward to the things that will continue to provide hope and faith to those within and beyond our community. We hope it will be a time of inspiration and renewal for us given the complications we have faced in the last 2 years.

Trustees

Expenses: it is the policy to reimburse trustees and others involved in the administration of church affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties.

Apart from ministers no trustees were in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the church, although certain travelling and administration costs were re-imbursed as set out in financial statements.

Recruitment

We follow the Connexional 'Safer Recruitment' guidelines and whilst the appointment of trustees is determined in accordance with Methodist procedures it is the aim to ensure that the Church Council has a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters.

Training for stewards and council members is available at circuit level.

Responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently,
- prepared accounts on a cash and receipts basis,
- followed applicable accounting standards,
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him/her aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

Reserves Policy

The policy ensures that adequate funds are held to meet the day to day expenditures of the church. However, this always acknowledges that the continued payment of the church assessments, as agreed prior to the start of each financial year, will be sufficient to cover the main costs of the church including the circuit assessment. In September 2011 the Reserves Policy was set to require that the church maintains sufficient reserves to be held to cover 6 months expenditure, to pay the circuit assessment and church expenditure.

At the end of this financial year we had £135,591.94 in reserves (£143,276.93 Legacies). The previous year we had £203,349.83 (£163,728.14 Legacies) as reserves. We have met our 6 Months policy requirement.

Activities

Our mission is to proclaim the love of God, in Jesus, to all people by: being a place of welcome, worship and nurture; belonging, learning and growing together; serving the community in whatever way we can.

Trinity provides training and support to its members and the wider church community to enable them to carry out the mission of the Church. It supports other charities in the UK and overseas, financially and with prayer.

Trinity seeks ways of engaging with the local community and several members of the congregation serve as school governors, members of local charities and community care and support projects.

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Trinity Methodist Chelmsford	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2022

Circuit	Circuit no	34/9
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1144627

If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev. Mark Pengelly

Church Stewards:

Carol	Kellingray
Gillian	Harrington
Sheila	Mukumba
Lance	Molyneux
Tony	Bender
Christine	Elles

Treasurer:

Nigel Murrell

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
	Note				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	56,250.81		56,250.81	55,572.98
a3	Bank and CFB / TMCP interest and Investment income	392.71		392.71	216.66
a4	Lettings	14,216.25		14,216.25	3,060.00
a5	Other receipts	16,166.50		16,166.50	18,684.42
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	87,026.27		87,026.27 (a7)	77,534.06
SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	63,582.00		63,582.00	63,582.00
b3	Donations	200.00		200.00	300.00
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	7,308.61		7,308.61	7,370.00
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	7,992.78		7,992.78	10,177.93
b6				-	
b7	Other payments	18,901.76		18,901.76	12,533.66
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	97,985.15		97,985.15 (b9)	93,963.59
SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	- 10,958.88	- 10,958.88	- 16,429.53
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		155,861.04	155,861.04 (c6)	172,290.57
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	144,902.16	144,902.16	155,861.04
c4	Transfers and adjustments			- (c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	144,902.16	144,902.16 (c8)	155,861.04 (c6)
SECTION D					
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)			£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year			1,059.73	622.00
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			5,943.85	2,672.73
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			5,663.42	2,235.00
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)		1,340.16	1,059.73

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Mens Supper Club	205.50	187.92	17.58	-	69.92	87.50
e2 Coffee Shop	707.26	634.58	72.68	-	123.00	195.68
e3 Tea at Two / Ladies Group	139.50	16.00	123.50	-	430.23	553.73
e4 Trinity Bowls Club	1,138.71	923.31	215.40	-	626.21	841.61
e5 Trinity Music & Drama	37,699.15	39,087.35	- 1,388.20	-	19,402.48	18,014.28
e6 Trinity Events	-	-	-	-	140.00	140.00
e7 Trinity Link Care group	640.00	1,439.87	- 799.87	-	1,258.56	458.69
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	40,530.12	42,289.03	- 1,758.91	-	22,050.40 (e11)	20,291.49 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	87,026.27 (a7)	97,985.15 (b9)	- 10,958.88	(c7)	155,861.04 (c6)	144,902.16 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	127,556.39	140,274.18	- 12,717.79	-	177,911.44 (x)	165,193.65 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	12,584.11	9,310.22
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	51,289.73	93,435.18
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	91,987.20	42,156.76
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	155,861.04 (c6)	144,902.16 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	22,050.40 (e11)	20,291.49 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	177,911.44 (x)	165,193.65 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,380,440.00	4,853,502.00
g3 Other Assets	160,539.00	177,876.00
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
 f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
 g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church Trinity Methodist Chelmsford..... No. 1144627

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer *Nc MM* Date *1/12/22*

Name and address of treasurer - Nigel Murrell

10A Tower Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex Post Code CM1 2PW

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *My Pezelly*

Name of the Chair of the meeting *MARK F. PENGELLI* Date *15/2/2023*

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

Charity Number 1144627

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trinity Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages 1 to 5. 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

Name of Church Trinity Methodist Church, Chelmsford No

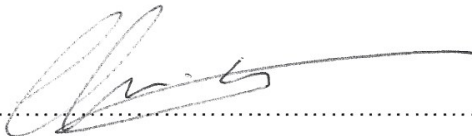
Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to be concerned 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.
- [the [the

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

I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner Chris Regan

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner MAAT, ATT

Name of firm (where appropriate) Chris Regan Ltd

Address Citygare House R/O 197-199 Baddow Road

Chelmsford, Essex Post Code CM2 7PZ

Date 22/11/22

Sep-21

Trustees of the Church

Minister

Rev Mark Pengelly Chair

Stewards

Gillian Harrington

Carol Kellingray

Sheila Mukumba

Pam French (Aug. 2021 – April 2022)

Roger Fairclough “ ”

Tony Bender (April 2022 - present)

Christine Elles “ ”

Lance Molyneux “ ”

Church Representatives

Val Scott

Church Council Secretary

Nigel Murrell

Treasurer

Hilary Walden

Pastoral secretary

Kay Burton

Worship & Nurture Group

Tony Bender

Outreach & Fellowship Group

Diane Potter

Office representative

Janet Wintle (from April 2022)

Property Steward

Sheridan Pengelly

Circuit Representative

Ian Armstrong

Congregational representative

Russell Burton

Congregational representative

Jeff Green

Congregational representative

Karen Murrell

Congregational representative

Eric Smart (from April 2022)

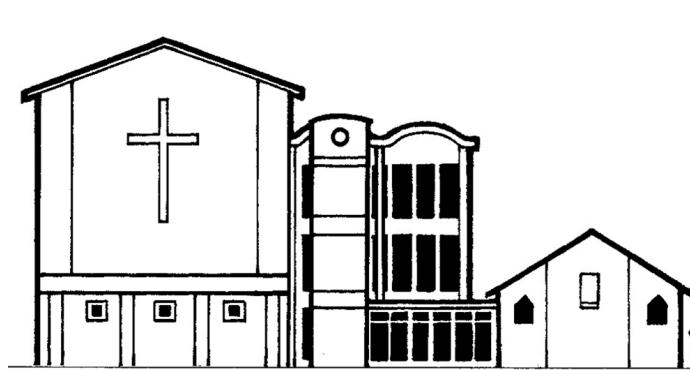
Congregational representative

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1144617

Accounts

**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
RAINSFORD ROAD, CHELMSFORD
CM1 2XB**



ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2020- AUGUST 2021

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Trustees' Annual Report for year ended 31 August 2021

Governing Documents and Objectives

Trinity Methodist Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trusts of 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 the 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.

Trinity Methodist Church has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our church and to the wider local community.

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference.

The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers in this Circuit.

Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. Trinity is part of the Chelmsford Circuit which is part of the Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex District.

The District passes control down to circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and circuit stewards. At local church level authority is delegated to the Church Council as the decision making body. The policies of the Church Council are implemented by the minister in pastoral charge supported by church stewards. In addition to this, the Church Council is required to ensure all property and financial reports are submitted to the Circuit in a timely fashion.

Trustees of the church who served during the year are listed at the end of this report.

Church Membership

The period covered in this report was seriously affected by the COVID Pandemic. For much of the year there were no services or events on the premises, when the entire country and much of the world was in lockdown. During this period the church adapted its worshipping life and many of groups and committees working online in various ways. It has been good to realise that whatever challenges we face the church continues it's work of witness and praise to God.

Membership remains at 137. We have once again been blessed with new worshippers joining our fellowship from other churches/circuits and countries. However, growth is not simply a matter of numbers but one of spirituality. We have continued to provide opportunity for fellowship through our House groups, special Sunday services and seasonal study evenings. Over the course of the year we have moved to a one Presbyter / one Deacon team of five churches sharing the mission of God in the City

Staffing

Ministerial input remains the same in the Circuit since the previous year: Deacon Ramona Samuel and Presbyterian Mark Pengelly being the ministers. The Circuit employed a new part time safeguarding officer to support local Church safeguarding officers. Staff in the Church office continue to support the work of Trinity. Before the pandemic lockdowns the church office was open three mornings a week, staffed by volunteers. We have two fully accredited Local Preachers, and two worship Leaders. Since lockdown office volunteers have continued to support the life of the church from home, including the provision of hard copy notices and service sheets for those not online, as well as emailed information for those who are.

Training

Creating Safer Space Safeguarding training has continued to meet the requirements of our Safeguarding Policy: since March 2020 such training has not been available. Online courses have now been made available. Following the installation of new projection equipment members of the AV team have been further trained in operating the sound and digital projection systems.

Support

One of the Circuit Stewards attends our Church Council meetings, held three times each year. S/he takes note of issues raised at these meetings and reports back to the Circuit Leadership Team which offers encouragement and guidance as necessary.

The church property committee has undertaken a risk assessment and all electrical appliances have been PAT tested.

Representatives from the Church council attend the Circuit Meeting.

Plans for the Forthcoming Year

The pandemic has brought into question almost everything that our church has done, and many things have had to have a radical rethink of approach. This includes pastoral care, severely affected by the inability to have face to face encounters; with the closing down of our buildings worship has gone online (mainly YouTube); all of the fellowship meetings ceased to meet on the premises after March, and even in the summer when some restrictions were eased there was very little opportunity to meet. Latterly some fellowship and study opportunities re-established themselves using Zoom.

In the coming year Trinity will hope to re-establish many of its meetings and worship and to re-think how we offer ministry when so much has been restricted. Innovation and thinking differently have been inspired by the Spirit.

Trustees

Expenses: it is the policy to reimburse trustees and others involved in the administration of church affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties.

Apart from ministers no trustees were in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the church, although certain travelling and administration costs were re-imbursed as set out in financial statements.

Recruitment

We follow the Connexional 'Safer Recruitment' guidelines and whilst the appointment of trustees is determined in accordance with Methodist procedures it is the aim to ensure that the Church Council has a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters. Training for stewards and council members is available at circuit level.

Responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently,
- prepared accounts on a cash and receipts basis,
- followed applicable accounting standards,
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him/her aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

Reserves Policy

The policy ensures that adequate funds are held to meet the day to day expenditures of the church. However, this always acknowledges that the continued payment of the church assessments, as agreed prior to the start of each financial year, will be sufficient to cover the main costs of the church including the circuit assessment. In September 2011 the Reserves Policy was set to require that the church maintains sufficient reserves to be held to cover 6 months expenditure, to pay the circuit assessment and church expenditure.

At the end of this financial year we had £160,487.89 in reserves (£136,714.94 Legacies). The previous year we had £203,349.83 (£163,728.14 Legacies) as reserves. We have met our 6 Months policy requirement.

Activities

Our mission is to proclaim the love of God, in Jesus, to all people by: being a place of welcome, worship and nurture; belonging, learning and growing together; serving the community in whatever way we can.

Trinity provides training and support to its members and the wider church community to enable them to carry out the mission of the Church. It supports other charities in the UK and overseas, financially and with prayer.

Trinity seeks ways of engaging with the local community and several members of the congregation serve as school governors, members of local charities and community care and support projects.

Treasurers Report end of year August 2021.

As we have now finished the financial year 2020 to 2021, I can report on our finances for that period.

Bank account

We have £11,524.69 in our bank account.

Reserve funds

CFB General fund £50,712.03

CFB Lift Fund £577.70

TMCP £91,987.20

Total £143,276.93

£134,110.81 is from legacy money. Our true reserve figure is £8,588.42 (Not including the lift fund)

We are over the required 6 months reserves that our policy requires (£60,000) if you include the legacy money.

Lift fund amount is £577.70. This is now 0.00 as we have had to pay several bills for the lift to be fixed.

Offerings

We have only received £43,271.26 in offerings this year. Last year we received £46,017.05. We are £2,745.79 down from the previous year. This is mostly due to the church being closed due to Covid-19.

Property Lettings

Lettings raised only £3,060.00 this year. Last year £15,935.61 Down £12,875.61 down from last year. This is mostly due to the church being closed due to Covid-19. We must **urgently** look for ways to increase this figure going forward, otherwise our reserve figures will decrease rapidly.

Thank you once again Janet and Nick for all your efforts, they are very much appreciated

General

This has been a very challenging year. I predicted a £25k deficit but we managed to reduce that to £14k. This was mainly due to reduced utility charges, contracts stopped and lastly a Grant of £6,437.93 for covid issues. Obviously on our income side our lettings plummeted to only £3,060.

We must look to reducing our consumption of electricity & gas i.e., making sure that lights are turned off when not in use. We should urgently look at replacing the old electrical heaters in the upstairs hall, these are old and inefficient. Although there will be an initial outlay, we will very soon recoup this with reduced electricity charges.

Circuit

Our contribution was £63,582.00 the same as the previous year

Treasurer's Report continued,,,,,

Future

The next financial year, I think will be even more challenging. We all agreed to continue paying the same assessment to circuit as the previous year. £63,582. We set a budget for lettings of £15k. even with this there will be a predicted **deficit of £24k.**

We must increase our income in all areas. Increased lettings, fundraising and welcoming new people into our congregation to generate more income. We have the space in our building to achieve the lettings issue as long as we have a vision to do so. We must all be more imaginative in the way we operate and cannot just sit on our hands and do nothing.

We have major and expensive issues with our building. Unless we generate more income, the financial future looks uncertain for us at Trinity.

Nigel Murrell

**CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS**

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Trinity Methodist Chelmsford	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2021

Circuit	Circuit no	34/9
---------	------------	------

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number	1144627

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev. Mark Pengelly

Church Stewards:

Carol	Kellingray
Eddie	Cassels
Pam	French
Roger	Fairclough
Gillian	Harrington
Sheila	Makumba

Treasurer:

Nigel Murrell

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

**Trinity Methodist
Chelmsford** Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	55,572.98		55,572.98	58,160.77
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income and TMCP	216.66		216.66	1,161.67
a4	Lettings	3,060.00		3,060.00	15,935.61
a5	Other receipts	18,684.42		18,684.42	9,837.25
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	77,534.06	-	77,534.06 (a7)	85,095.30
SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	63,582.00		63,582.00	63,582.00
b3	Donations	300.00		300.00	300.00
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	7,370.00		7,370.00	4,861.52
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	10,177.93		10,177.93	16,766.28
b6				-	
b7	Other payments	12,533.66		12,533.66	40,869.04
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	93,963.59	-	93,963.59 (b9)	126,378.84
SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	- 16,429.53	-	- 16,429.53
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		172,290.57		172,290.57 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	155,861.04	-	155,861.04
c4	Transfers and adjustments				- (c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	155,861.04	-	155,861.04 (c8)
SECTION D					
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)			£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year			622.00	2,180.28
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			2,672.73	2,749.56
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			2,235.00	4,307.84
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)		1,059.73	622.00

Name of Church Trinity Methodist Church..... No.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer *N C Murrell*..... Date *6/4/22*.....

Name and address of treasurer Nigel Murrell.....

10A Tower Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex..... Post Code CM1 2PW.....

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on *6/4/22*.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting - Mark Pengelly.....

Name of the Chair of the meeting *Mark Pengelly*..... Date *6/4/22*.....

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

Charity Number 1144627

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trinity Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 1 to 5. 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Trinity Methodist Chelmsford Church

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
c1 Mens Supper Club	70.00	170.00	- 100.00	-	169.92	69.92
e2 Womans fellowship	121.47	153.34	- 31.87	-	31.87	-
e3 Coffee shop	174.23	225.00	- 50.77	-	173.77	123.00
e4 Ladies Group	-	200.00	- 200.00	-	630.23	430.23
e4a Trinity Bowls Club	1,849.71	1,223.50	626.21	-	-	626.21
e5 Trinity Music & Drama	2,408.92	3,532.59	- 1,123.67	-	20,526.15	19,402.48
e6 Trinity Events	-	-	-	-	140.00	140.00
e7 Trinity Link Care Club	-	-	-	-	1,258.56	1,258.56
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	4,624.33	5,504.43	- 880.10	-	22,930.50 (e11)	22,050.40 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	77,534.06 (a7)	93,963.59 (b9)	- 16,429.53	(c7)	172,290.57 (c6)	155,861.04 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	82,158.39	99,468.02	- 17,309.63	-	195,221.07 (x)	177,911.44 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	10,906.01	12,584.11
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	69,522.84	51,289.73
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	91,861.72	91,987.20
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	172,290.57 (c6)	155,861.04 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	22,930.50 (e11)	22,050.40 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	195,221.07 (x)	177,911.44 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,298,764.00	4,380,440.00
g3 Other Assets	157,546.00	160,539.00
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
 f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
 a1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church Trinity Methodist Church Chelmsford No


Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner Chris Regan

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner MAAT, ATT

Name of firm (where appropriate) - Chris Regan Ltd

Address CityGate House R/O 197-199 Baddow Road

Chelmsford Essex Post Code CM 7PZ

Date 1/3/2022

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20

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Pam French

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Congregational representative

Jeff Green

Congregational representative

Joyce Lees

Congregational Representative

Tony Lees

Congregational Representative

Karen Murrell

Congregational representative

Gwen Mumby

Congregational representative

Janet Wintle

Congregational representative

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1144617

Accounts

**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
RAINSFORD ROAD, CHELMSFORD
CM1 2XB**



ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2018 - AUGUST 2019

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Trustees of the church who served during the year are listed at the end of this report.

Church Growth

Trinity began the year with 187 members. 4 members died, 2 people transferred out and 2 were recorded as having moved away or ceased to meet leaving 179. We have once again been blessed with new worshippers joining our fellowship from other churches/circuits and countries.

However, growth is not simply a matter of numbers but one of spirituality.

We have continued to provide opportunity for fellowship through our House groups, special Sunday services and seasonal study evenings. Over the course of the year we have moved to a one Presbyter / one Deacon team of five churches sharing the mission of God in the City

Staffing

There have been changes in staff over the last year with the arrival of Deacon Ramona Samuel as the Chelmsford team family worker. The church office is open three mornings a week, staffed by volunteers. We have two fully accredited Local Preachers, and two worship Leaders.

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Training has continued on meeting the requirements of the Creating Safer Space and DBS Safeguarding.

Members have been trained in operating the sound and digital projection systems

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The church property committee has undertaken a risk assessment and all electrical appliances have been PAT tested.

Representatives from the Church council attend the Circuit Meeting.

Plans for the Forthcoming Year

We shall continue to do those things which we do well and follow the Spirit's guidance into new ways of being Good News in our local community and beyond. We will continue to develop and take opportunities to grow our work with families. We will continue to be a place of welcome, worship and service, where all are welcome.

We shall continue to endeavour to deepen our relationship with our covenanted partner churches, Chelmsford Cathedral and The Church of the Ascension.

Trustees

Expenses: it is the policy to reimburse trustees and others involved in the administration of church affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties.

Apart from ministers no trustees were in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the church, although certain travelling and administration costs were re-imbursed as set out in financial statements.

Recruitment

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Our mission is to proclaim the love of God, in Jesus, to all people by: being a place of welcome, worship and nurture; belonging, learning and growing together; serving the community in whatever way we can.

Trinity provides training and support to its members and the wider church community to enable them to carry out the mission of the Church. It supports other charities in the UK and overseas, financially and with prayer.

Trinity seeks ways of engaging with the local community and several members of the congregation serve as school governors, members of local charities and community care and support projects.

Groups for young people

14th Chelmsford Scout Group

David Fenton – Group Scout Leader

The Scout Group remains strong with good numbers in each of the three sections. The leadership team has been strengthened by the addition of two former Scouts, James Allen and Rachel Murray. We also have a number of former Scouts helping with Beavers and Cubs as Young leaders.

The Group Executive Committee headed by Chair Anthony Thomas continues to ensure The Group remains on a sound financial footing and complies with The Scout Association requirements.

Each section continues to provide a varied programme with much centred on The Centenary Challenge during 2019. The group supports many District & County activities and is well represented in The Scout & Guide Gang Show held at The Civic Theatre.

A number of The Troop attended Winter Camp, in February with six enjoying Summer Camp near Ipswich

The Trinity Quiz Night in January was well attended with funds raised going to The Group and to support one of the Young Leaders who attended the World Jamboree in the USA

Brownies & Rainbows

Sue Williams

Rainbows

Numbers were low but gradually increased through the year.

We started work on the new programme, which was completely in use by the end of the year. Rainbows have completed a couple of challenge badges and 3 of their new skills builder badges. Rainbows now have interest badges they can work on at home, there are 12 to choose from.

Brownies

Numbers have stayed steady at around 15.

We started work on the new programme, which was completely in use by the end of the year. Brownies have completed a couple of challenge badges and 3 of their new skills builder badges. Brownies interest badges have all changed and there are 18 to choose from, from the 6 themes. Brownies went on a Christmas themed residential, where Penguin (Nicola Williams) was working on her Brownie holiday license. In the summer the Brownies went on a Taskmaster themed residential.

Children and Young People
Sunday Club

John Cullum

Our staffing levels have remained at six, with two staff attending each week. Throughout most of the year the monthly All Age Worship service meant that each pair of staff covered only one Sunday each month. However, All Age Worship was dropped from the plan towards the end of the year. (I understand that this decision is now being reviewed).

Some of the staff have been in post for many years and younger helpers would now be very welcome.

Attendance by our young people tends to change from week to week and so there is little opportunity to develop themes from one week to another.

However, we try to provide some interesting sessions, although this can be difficult when there is a large differences in the children's ages.

It is good that some of the older children now attend the main service with their parents. Sadly, we have lost some children at this transition stage.

There are also groups for adults

Music and Drama

Janet Wintle

We began our year by supporting Gerald Hindes and Chelmsford City Opera in their concert production of Patience which took place at St John's Church in Moulsham Street. Immediately after this we started rehearsals for our concert "Lest We Forget " We raised over £1000 for our chosen charities " Royal British Legion and Help For Heroes "

Straight after Christmas we began rehearsing for our May production of Oliver at the Civic Theatre. We welcomed new people to the group and we hope that they will continue to perform with us. Oliver was very well received by cast and audience alike and has been nominated for a NODA award (Results will be known 8th March)

We were very pleased to take part in the Mayor's Charity Concert in March 2019 at the Civic Theatre along with other amateur societies from Chelmsford, helping to raise money for the Mayor's chosen charities

Ladies Group Report for the AGM

Kay Burton

Ladies group continues to meet on Wednesday evenings but the starting time has been altered to earlier at 7-15 pm in order to accommodate the difficulties with parking. However a couple of regular members decided to leave because of the difficulties.

At the Group's AGM in July a decision was made to continue despite the lower numbers, 10-15 people meeting regularly, with a review after 6-9 months. It was also decided to have a longer break after Christmas, not meeting again until the beginning of February. Unfortunately, owing to ill health, the numbers have diminished further at present but it is hoped that the better weather and lighter evenings may improve the attendance.

The meetings consist of a variety of topics with some meetings led by the members and others with differing outside speakers. We have been very grateful for regular input from church members who have such interesting experiences. There continues to be a willingness to support a charity each year and a cheque was given to Rainbow Rural, a local charity which offers support to people with disabilities in a rural setting. Some members spent a very pleasant afternoon on a visit to the farm with tea included, in order to hand over the cheque.

The viability of the group continues to be a topic for discussion but it is hoped to continue until the Summer.

Bowls Club

Phil Roberts

The bowls club meet every Wednesday & Saturday afternoon at 2.15pm from the last Saturday in April until the last Saturday in September & on Tuesday evenings at 6.15pm when we play in the local CMBL league this year we finished fourth in the league.

The club organise competitions for members in Singles, Pairs, 3 Sevens, 2 Woods & the American Tournament. Some members also enter the Singles & Pairs competitions organised by the CMBL league, this year we had little success.

The most important part of our meetings is the break for tea & biscuits, this can take up more time than actually playing bowls.

During this year we sadly lost Peter Hinde who was a long time senior member of the club who held most of the offices during his tenure.

We also had a party of 27 who went to Potters Resort at Hopton on Sea for a few days at the World Bowls Championships in January.

SUPPER CLUB

Eric Smart

The group met six times during the year. The programme which was issued at the AGM was adhered to and whilst it provided entertainment it was informative at the same time.

Numbers remain fairly static but Don Whelpdale and Keith Gannicott do not attend now due to failing health. Sadly, we have lost Peter Hindes, who had been a member of the club for many years – in fact, he was probably our elder statesman. It is particularly pleasing to have Alex Smith with us, he and Maureen having left Trinity some months ago. It would be nice to see some new members join and men from within the congregation, and indeed from outside the church, should be encouraged. We tend to have around 12 – 18 attend each session.

The programme provided varied topics such as communication satellites, the day to day life of a football referee, 'Tools With A Mission', (a charity which provides tools and equipment to third world countries), the life of a vet (our ladies' night) and I gave a talk on my involvement with musicals over the years. As a result of the Tools With A Mission talk, we set aside a day when members of the club, the congregation and other local Methodist church members came and donated a huge amount of tools, knitting machines, gardening equipment and wools and materials, all of which will now be put to good use in Africa. Our members' night gave us all an opportunity to put things forward that irritated us so much that we wanted to remove them into Room 101. The programme for next year is complete and we look forward to talks on the subjects of Jay's Hospice, dental hygiene, the year of being Chelmsford's Mayor and the work of the Wilderness trust.

Our members' evening next year requires us all to bring half a dozen general knowledge questions for all of us to answer in a 'round table' quiz. Our ladies' night continues to be popular and we look forward to having as many female guests with us next year as we did this. I am deeply indebted to Dave Pitt who has tirelessly carried out the job of Invitations Secretary and we thank him for all his efforts. Thanks too, to Eddie Cassels for handling the finances and I'm delighted that he is willing to continue next year. And finally, thanks to all who have undertaken the catering for our meetings. After all, we are the Men's Supper Club and we would have to change our name if the suppers were not a feature. So thanks and please offer your help in this capacity in the coming year.

Incidentally, do let me know of any speakers you may know of who might be interested in coming along to talk to us.

Trinity Women's Fellowship

Joy Petts

Once again we have enjoyed a successful year and the number of members attending meetings has been at an all time high.

We have been pleased to welcome Revd Mike sharing his artistic skills with his paintbrush and Deacon Ramona who talked to us about her early days in the Caribbean and how she became a Deacon. Great fun talking about her cat. It has been good to have visits from other friends at Trinity, Judy Molyneaux on healthy eating for winter, Carol Kellingray with an update on the Food Bank, Frances Couch on her walk of faith and Doreen Holliday once more entertaining with relaxing exercises from an armchair.

We have travelled abroad from our armchairs with Pam French talking about all the wonderful animals she had encountered and then from Barbara and Ian Armstrong on their trip to India. Not to be outdone our own Laurel Fletcher spoke of her various travels abroad.

From outside the church, but from the circuit, Margaret Kliskey spoke of her time in the armed forces and for our open afternoon we enjoyed a talk from a representative of Age UK. Unfortunately not many extra came, but we were able to donate £25 to the charity.

We have had some members' afternoons, when we talked about our jobs on leaving school and, at the end of June, a wonderful tea afternoon at Roxwell by kind invitation of Mary.

Once again thank-you to all who provided cakes and biscuits, made the tea and did the washing-up. Although she could not attend meetings due to family commitments, Jackie Andrease agreed to be in charge of birthday cards..

Our year has been tinged with sadness as we said goodbye to Sheila Rendell and Rita de Keyser who have both sadly passed away. Both remembered with great affection.

Our meeting is now a lifeline to the church for members who can no longer attend morning services at the early time of 9.30am.

Pastoral

Hilary Walden

The Pastoral Visitors team continues its care of members of the congregation. This care and support is extended by lots of others members who are not 'officially' Pastoral Visitors. PVs keep in contact by phone calls, letters, cards, text messages and visits.

The annual BBQ with the pastoral teams of the Covenant churches was extended to all members of the three churches in July 2019, we enjoyed a shared meal at Guy Harlings after a joint service.

Choir

Kathy Ashton

During the past twelve months the Choir members have done their best to lead the singing during the 9.30 am Services, with the help of organists Keith Byatt and Gerald Hinds and pianist Val Scott when they are available.

In February we were very sad to hear that our Organist, Peter Hinds had died. Peter had given many years of service to the music in Trinity and, in addition to playing the organ in Church on many occasions, had conducted Friday evening choir practices after our Choir Mistress, Liz Tiplin, was unable to continue travelling from South London to Chelmsford every week. We miss her too, as do many of the congregation who appreciated the work Liz put in to preparing the singing at the Church services.

At present we have a membership of fifteen people – 9 sopranos, 2 altos, 2 tenors and 2 basses – not an ideal balance but we live in hope of more recruits in the future.

Worship & Nurture Report

Janet Cassels, Secretary

Over the year Worship and Nurture have continued to consider the areas in our remit. These include consideration and organisation of seasonal services and activities, the choir and music for worship, booking a preacher for Church Anniversary and organising events linked to this and support for pastoral visitors.

The group have continued to have oversight of Messy Church and discussed its effectiveness and numbers attending.

Timings of services were reviewed and it was decided that the afternoon communion should be on the same day as singles lunches.

An Away Day to consider how we work with other Methodist Churches in Chelmsford, was organised for 26th January. This was attended by approx 40 people.

It was arranged that Rev Norman Hooks would preach on Church Anniversary weekend.

Music in church continues to be regularly reviewed.

Any person interested in the worship in Trinity is welcome and encouraged to attend the group meetings.

Outreach & Fellowship

Tony Bender

The Outreach Group convenes three meetings each year. For the current year these were held on the 25th Sept. 2018, 22nd January 2019 and 11th June 2019. The number of attendees at these have averaged between nine to 12 people a slight increase on previous years partly reflecting the enlarged activities covered by the Group.

Special Services/Events :

- a) Mission Shaped Church. A series of talks on the developing and future of Methodist worship were held during the summer of 2019 at a number of local Churches.
- b) An Awayday at St. Augustines Church North Springfield was arranged on the 26th Jan. to look at how the Church sees its future Mission.
- c) The new venture of Messy Church has lapsed somewhat due to various difficulties. Suggested it runs alongside Morning Worship replacing the Junior Church.
- d) Harvest Weekend took place on the 6th and 7th Oct. 2018 with a Supper and Quiz night raising funds for All We Can. The harvest gifts from this were distributed to Chess, Safer Places and the Whitechapel Mission.
- e) Missions Weekend. Gary Crook spoke at this service about working in Northern Ireland during the Troubles.
- f) Social Justice Service. The 2nd of these Annual Services was held on the 23rd June 2019 with Tony Lees talking about the role and activities of the Street Pastors.
- g) The Church Anniversary service which was held on the 18th November 2018 and led by the Rev Norman Hooks was well received.

Trinity Excursions

The 1940's Themed Xmas Lunch was successful and attended by 38 persons. A number of excursions run by Karen Murrell, Diane Potter and the office Team that included visits to Anglesey Abbey and Leeds Castle over the 2019 summer period generated a lot of interest, were well supported and enjoyed.

Christian Aid

Collections made for this work again included funds raised at the annual Cathedral Fayre, Hunger lunches and door collections during Christian Aid Week and Trinity Musical Events. Some £770 was raised from the Oliver production, £680 from the Fayre stall and £167.50p from the Hunger Lunches.

Outreach & Fellowship continued.....

One World Project

Trinity finally reached its intended target of £6000 in September raised over three years . The project run by the Kibwezi team in Kenya has manufactured invalid wheelchairs and represented rape victims. A new project is to be shortly identified.

Prison Fellowship/Angel Tree Trust

The new Managing Chaplain Pat Morrow arrived in January 2019. Various local Churches helped fund the Angel Trust Xmas presents for prisoners children whilst the group held five well attended services for the prison population. The Group Chair investigated the possibility of Trinity being a Welcome Church for ex-prisoners.

Chelmsford Foodbank

Trinity members again provided meals over several weeks for 4 Families during the summer 2019.

Whitechapel,Chess and Homeless

During 2018/2019 Keith and Jenne Essam made several visits to the Whitechapel Homeless Centre taking donations from Trinity. Also the local University Muslim community again prepared meals for the homeless using the Link facilities in 2019.

JMA/Shoeboxes

The JMA Collectors who raised £381 in 2018 were presented with their awards at the 4th Nov. Service alongside the dedication of 95 Shoe Boxes.

Action for Children

It was reported that Trinity supporters had raised £623.15p for this cause in 2018 with £206 of this being from the Christmas card collection.

Methodist Women In Britain

The District group had raised £1690.47p by the 2019 Easter service which now goes towards the unfinished Tabitha House Project.

Methodist Housing Association

Collections made through an envelope collection were down this year on previous.

Trinity Link Care Group

Margaret Gannicott

We have continued to hold our regular weekly meetings but our numbers have sadly decreased. We are trying to encourage more people to come along by handing out leaflets. Those who attend participate in the various activities with enthusiasm and our two course lunch cooked each week is much appreciated.

Property

Eric Smart

In 2018/19 we have not applied the same degree of austerity that has been seen over the previous couple of years due to some substantial legacies received. Health and Safety and continuing maintenance of the property have remained as the highest priorities and consequently, such work has been carried out as deemed necessary. The rolling programme of redecoration resulted in the main hall having a major make-over although we pulled back from hanging new curtains, which would have been nice. In addition, the office was redecorated, and a new carpet purchased for the Vestry. A survey has been carried out revealing some inexpensive alterations to make the overall building more welcoming to members, visitors and hirers.

This will be addressed over the next few months. Once again, the annual Spring clean was completed but not without a session time being set aside to complete the work in the Link. We are, as always deeply indebted to the band of helpers from the congregation who give of their time most willingly to get this work completed. David & Joy Petts deserve special mention for their good work in keeping the small bits of garden in good shape.

Although some weeding has taken place around the perimeter of the building, some hard work needs to be done annually to keep the weeds at bay. Two new water boilers have been installed in the kitchens. Car parking continues to be a problem and has impacted negatively on the hiring of the building. However, our lettings overall, have continued to increase. Some minor property related tasks are currently noted and will be actioned over the coming months. May I take this opportunity to thank the hard working property committee, especially Phil Roberts, for all that they do to ensure the satisfactory upkeep of the premises.

Housegroups

Admirals

Janet Cassels

We have 12 members and usually meet on the evening of the last Monday in the month. We have been meeting for over 15 years and our topics are very varied. In the last year we have covered bible studies, newspaper discussions, speakers, including Ramona , CDs of television programmes on faith and not forgetting our summer party! New members would be warmly welcomed. Please contact me.

Housegroups continued...

Galleywood

David Evans

Over the past few years a number of our original members have died, but we now have 8 members who attend most meetings.

We meet once a month and rotate the venue at members houses.

Over the period you mention we have been studying the Methodist Church booklet entitled 'Talking of God Together', which we have now almost finished and we will shortly be deciding what to do next.

I hope this is sufficient for your report,

Springfield

Ian Armstrong

We meet monthly in members' homes on a Wednesday afternoon, usually the second or third week in the month, from 2- 3.30 or 4pm. We are a small group of 6 or 7 and sadly had to say farewell recently to Joyce Gelder on her move to MHA Dovercourt but I am pleased to say that having been to see her last week she seems to be settling in very well and is happy. Our meetings usually take the form of a discussion on various topics and have often involved looking at books of the Bible which have included Nehemiah, Leviticus, Mark, Acts, and a number of Paul's letters as well as Ruth which we looked at last week. We usually come with a miscellany of different Bibles which allows us to compare them to see how translations differ. We have also looked at other topics such as Judaism, Pentecost, The Lord's Prayer, Quakers, the Sermon on the Mount to mention a few. Two meetings ago we had a discussion about the Report of the Marriage and Relationships Task Group.

Although the subject matter may sound heavy or difficult we try hard not to get bogged down and to keep things light. Everyone can take part or just listen as they wish and is free to express their own opinion. In a small way our House Group helps us all to get to know each other better and relax in each other's company. Our next meetings are on 18th March (when we will look at aspects of Lent) at 4 Llewellyn Close and 22 April at 14 Juniper Road Boreham.

Housegroups continued...

Young Group

Gareth Crooks

During 2018/19 the younger house group continued to meet regularly for lunch at Mike & Pam's, taking turns at supplying a main course or dessert. Lunch was deemed the most appropriate time given the number of young children that also came along.

Group numbers hovered around the 8-10, and despite a few children inadvertently ending up in their pond(!), a good time was had by all. Rather than an overall 'theme', discussion focused on contemporaneous matters facing the church, such as the definition of marriage .

First Steps

Diane Potter

1 child was baptised and welcomed into the church.

Treasurers Report end of year August 2019

As we have now finished the financial year 2018 to 2019, I can report on our finances for that period.

Bank account

We have £8,552.00 in our bank account.

Reserve funds

CFB General fund £82,111.80

CFB Lift Fund £1,672.28

TMCP £121,238.03

Total £205,022.11

Approximately **£163,000.00** came from legacies. The true reserve figure is £40,000 (Not including the lift fund)

We are over the required 6 months reserves that our policy requires (£60,000) if you include the legacies but not on the true reserve figure.

Lift fund £1,672.28. This figure is reducing as we pay any cost for any Lift repair and servicing. There will be more bills to follow I am sure.

Offerings

We have only received £51,256.39 in offerings this year. Last year we received £58,117.74. We are £6,861.35 down from the previous year. **We must look for ways to increase this figure.**

Property Lettings

Lettings raised over £36,242.38 this year. Last year £37,281.30. £1,038.92 down from last year. Losing the car park opposite has been a factor in this so, **we must look for ways to increase this figure going forward.**

Thank you one again Janet for all your efforts, they are very much appreciated

General

Bills continue to increase yearly. This year we paid for our services £12,934.16 and increase of £3,768.19 from the previous year. We must look to reducing our consumption of electricity & gas i.e. making sure that lights are turned off when not in use.

Circuit

Our contribution was £63,170.00 an increase of £10,763.00 from the previous year. (We did receive a rebate of £10,917.00 in the previous year).

General Comments

With our ever-increasing costs (e.g. gas & electricity) to maintain any sort of status quo we must look **at all income streams to generate more funds. Especially offerings & lettings as they underpin our church finances, otherwise we will be unable to match our expenses going forward.**

We **MUST** be very careful how we spend the reserves as we are not able to replace them at this time.

The legacy money we have, will be used for the benefit of the church. i.e. the projector in the worship area and lights in the link, more to follow. As agreed at church council.

Nigel Murrell

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2019

	Circuit	Circuit no	34/9
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1144627

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are exempted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Mark Pengelly

Church Stewards:

PAM	French
ROGER	Fairclough
Eddie	Cassels
Gillian	Harrington
Carol	Kellingray
Shelia	Makuma

Treasurer:

Nigel Murrell

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	64,921.06		64,921.06	86,647.13
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	1,415.35		1,415.35	164.93
a4	Lettings	36,742.38		36,742.38	37,281.30
a5	Other receipts	129,365.15		129,365.15	49,375.51
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	232,443.94	-	232,443.94 (a7)	173,468.87

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	63,170.00		63,170.00	52,407.00
b3	Donations	200.00		200.00	600.00
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	22,838.23		22,838.23	13,982.45
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	12,934.16		12,934.16	9,165.97
b6				-	
b7	Other payments	21,338.80		21,338.80	20,133.24
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	120,481.19	-	120,481.19 (b9)	96,288.66

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	-	111,962.75	77,180.21
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	101,611.36		101,611.36 (c6)	24,431.15
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	-	213,574.11	101,611.36
c4	Transfers and adjustments	-	-	-	-
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	-	213,574.11 (c8)	101,611.36 (c6)

SECTION D		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)				
d1	Balance brought forward from last year			1,284.12	3,543.00
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			3,673.91	4,386.89
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			2,777.75	6,645.77
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)		2,180.28	1,284.12

TY METHODIST CHURCH CHELMS Church

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2019 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Mens Supper club	515.00	592.45	- 77.45		230.92	153.47
e2 Womans Fellowship	193.25	199.28	- 6.03		13.00	6.97
e3 Womans Luncheon Club		548.78	- 548.78		548.78	-
e4 Coffee Shop	822.90	1,283.59	- 460.69		1,081.49	620.80
e5 Ladies Group	1,175.10	1,018.13	156.97		658.86	815.83
e6 Music & Drama	8,759.00	4,812.00	3,947.00		13,909.00	17,856.00
e7 Trinity Events	1,320.00	1,379.00	- 59.00		316.00	257.00
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	12,785.25	9,833.23	2,952.02	-	16,758.05 (e11)	19,710.07 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	232,443.94 (a7)	120,481.19 (b9)	111,962.75	(c7)	101,611.36 (c6)	213,574.11 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	245,229.19	130,314.42	114,914.77	-	118,369.41 (x)	233,284.18 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2019

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	-	-
f2 Bank Current Account	18,073.68	8,552.00
f3 Bank Deposit Account	-	-
f4 Central Finance Board	83,537.68	83,784.08
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	-	121,238.03
f6 Other funds	-	-
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	101,611.36 (c6)	213,574.11 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	16,758.05 (e11)	19,710.07 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	118,369.41 (x)	233,284.18 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2018	At 31 August 2019
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	-	-
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,103,853.00	4,235,183.00
g3 Other Assets	150,403.00	155,216.00
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	-	-
g5 Other Liabilities	-	-

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
 f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
 g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of Treasurer

Nigel Murrell

Date

23/2/20

Name

Nigel Murrell

Address

10A Tower Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 2PW

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on

11/2/2020

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

M. F. Pengelly

Name of the Chair of the meeting

M. F. PENGELLY

Date

11/2/2020

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

TRINITY

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2019

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

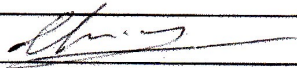
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~*):

- (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;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate

- (3) I have have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

* Please circle as appropriate

Name	Chris Regan
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	MAAT, ATT
Address	CityGate House, R/O 197-199 Baddow Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 7PZ
Date	17/1/2020

Trustees of the Church

Minister

Rev Mike Lewis Chair

Stewards

Pam French

Eddie Cassels

Roger Fairclough

Gillian Harrington

Carol Kellingray

Sheila Mukumba

Church Representatives

Val Scott

Church Council Secretary

Nigel Murrell

Treasurer

Hilary Walden

Pastoral secretary

Kay Burton

Worship & Nurture Group

Tony Bender

Outreach & Fellowship Group

Diane Potter

Office representative

Eric Smart

Property Steward

Ian Armstrong

Circuit Steward

Russell Burton

Congregational representative

Keith Byatt

Congregational representative

Margaret Gannicott

Congregational Representative

Jeff Green

Congregational representative

Joyce Lees

Congregational Representative

Tony Lees

Congregational Representative

Karen Murrell

Congregational representative

Gwen Mumby

Congregational representative

Janet Wintle

Congregational representative

