

TRINITY CHURCH ABINGDON - ACCOUNTS - YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST 2024

Charity Reg. No. 1148634

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24		2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
INCOME				EXPENDITURE			
Collections	£44,741.35	£47,777.83	£49,229.70	Circuit Assessment	£44,140.00	£44,093.00	£44,741.00
Fundraising	£1,555.44	£1,171.07	£783.90	Insurance	£9,501.51	£9,208.76	£9,650.01
Gift Aid	£10,489.23	£11,297.17	£11,803.51	Cleaning	£7,657.76	£6,839.88	£6,160.00
Lettings	£10,535.00	£10,328.20	£10,329.50	Utilities	£9,495.76	£14,042.81	£13,658.54
Weddings and Funerals	£4,028.00	£1,795.00	£3,855.00	Repairs & Maintenance	£14,971.10	£6,629.96	£13,418.31
Interest	£1,891.03	£10,679.93	£6,559.42	Conduit Centre	£8,037.79	£8,264.12	£10,837.82
Other Income	£8,590.13	£9,301.36	£18,594.10	Administration & Miscellaneous	£9,591.25	£11,553.29	£9,954.08
Legacies	£0.00	£12,000.00	£1,000.00	Gifts and Charities	£612.50	£723.20	£667.58
				Conduit Centre Project	£2,933.98	£0.00	£0.00
	£81,830.18	£104,350.56	£102,155.13		£106,941.65	£101,355.02	£109,087.34
				Surplus/Deficit	-£25,111.47	£2,995.54	-£6,932.21

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24		2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
INCOME				EXPENDITURE			
Collections for Charities and Gifts	£7,461.44	£14,385.89	£14,362.93	Charities and Gifts	£7,224.66	£14,038.91	£15,287.92
External Salaries	£29,271.03	£27,935.29	£31,606.47	External Salaries	£29,271.03	£27,935.29	£31,606.47
Toddler Group Grant	£4,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	Toddler Group	£900.00	£1,442.68	£1,552.62
Evergreen Club Grants & Donations	£4,137.91	£0.00	£0.00	Evergreen Club	£692.69	£944.48	£737.76
	£45,370.38	£42,321.18	£45,969.40		£38,088.38	£44,361.36	£49,184.77
				Surplus/Deficit	£7,282.00	-£2,040.18	-£3,215.37

Evergreen Club Fund:	Brought forward	£2,525.74
	Income	£0.00
	Expenditure	-£737.76
	Carried forward	£1,787.98

Toddler Group Fund:	Brought forward	£2,157.32
	Income	£0.00
	Expenditure	-£1,552.62
	Carried forward	£604.70

Charity Funds Carried forward:

Mines Advisory Group £441.00

TRINITY CHURCH ABINGDON - ASSETS AT 31st AUGUST 2024

Charity Reg. No. 1148634

CASH ASSETS

Methodist Central Finance Board Accounts:

Deposit Account	£60,140.26
Legacy Fund	£22,650.47
URC Manse Fund	£34,723.70
	<u>£117,514.43</u>

HSBC Current Account: £4,570.74

£122,085.17

Of which:

Unrestricted Funds £119,251.49

Restricted Funds

Evergreen Club Fund	£1,787.98
Toddler Group Fund	£604.70
Charity Funds	£441.00
	<u>£2,833.68</u>

£122,085.17

Represented by:

Methodist Central Finance Board Deposit Account:

Brought forward	£65,120.11
plus Interest	£3,651.15
plus transfer from Current Account	£40,000.00
less transfer to Current Account	-£5,000.00
less Assessment	-£44,741.00
	<u>£59,030.26</u>

Methodist Central Finance Board Legacy Fund

Brought forward	£22,580.52
plus Interest	£1,179.95
plus transfer from Current Account	£0.00
	<u>£23,760.47</u>

Methodist Central Finance Board URC Manse Fund

Brought forward	£32,995.38
plus Interest	£1,728.32
	<u>£34,723.70</u>

HSBC Current Account:

Brought forward	£11,536.74
plus Surplus/less Deficit	-£6,966.00
	<u>£4,570.74</u>

£122,085.17

INVESTMENT ASSETS

Unrestricted Funds

Richard Frank Cox Trust held by the Trustees for
Methodist Church Purposes £1,720.26

Restricted Funds

Spring Road Trust Funds (URC) invested in:
a) COIF (Trinity Church/URC Fund) Income Units £23,221.49
b) Black Rock Income Units £8,757.36
c) Spring Road Charities Trust Fund (sale of 2
Withington Court) held in COIF Charities Deposit F £173,774.69
Other URC Investments held as COIF Income units £5,408.34
£212,882.14

SIGNED: 

DATE: 01 October 2024

T W KYFFIN (Treasurer)

Independent Examiners Report

I have examined the accounts and records for Trinity Church, Abingdon for 2023/24 and am satisfied that there are no issues that need addressing.

SIGNED: 

DATE: 24 October 2024

C O'HARA (Independent Examiner)

Trustees Annual Report - Trinity Church, Abingdon

Year ended 31st August 2024

Administrative Information

Trinity Church, Abingdon, is a Local Ecumenical Project with the participating denominations being the Methodist Church of Great Britain and the United Reformed Church. The appropriate authority for each participating Church is The Wantage and Abingdon Circuit of the Methodist Church (one of 23 Circuits comprising the Northampton District) and The Wessex Synod of the United Reformed Church.

The Minister of the Church and Chair of Trustees was Rev Ian Griffiths until 31st August 2024; Rev Georgina Bondzi-Simpson became Chair of Trustees on 1st September 2024. At the end of the reporting year there were 11 Trustees. We have Stewards who ensure that services run smoothly and Elders who provide pastoral support for the Church members and those with a connection to the Church. There are 80 Church members, although many more people from the local community attend our services and use our facilities.

The Constitution of Trinity Church was signed on 1st March 2012 and Trinity Church, Abingdon achieved charitable status and was entered onto the Register of Charities with the Registered Charity Number 1148634 on 17th August 2012.

Mission Statement

The Mission Statement of Trinity Church states that we aim 'to serve God, serve the community and serve each other'.

Meetings

Over the last year there were 8 Trustees Meetings and 4 Church Meetings including the Annual General Meeting.

During autumn 2023, the Trustees were kept informed about the stationing process. In November, Rev Georgina Bondzi-Simpson visited Trinity and All Saints churches in Abingdon and subsequently accepted the invitation to join the Wantage and Abingdon Circuit subject to the approval of the Methodist Conference in July.

At the same time, Ian and Tabitha Griffiths similarly accepted an invitation to be part of the Newport and Lower Wye Circuit in South Wales, subject to the approval of the Methodist Conference in July. Services were held to mark the end of Ian's ministry at Trinity and in the Circuit and to offer Ian and Tabitha best wishes for their new ministry in South Wales.

The Trustees shared information and had some discussion about practical arrangements for the arrival of Rev Georgina Bondzi-Simpson, both in terms of church improvements and in relation to updates on the work needed in the manse. A Welcome Service was held for Rev Georgina Bondzi-Simpson on 30th August.

During the year the Trustees reviewed and approved the following policies and procedures:

- Policy for Funerals
- Policy for the interment of ashes on the Church site
- GDPR Policy
- Lone Working Policy
- Health and Safety Policy

Worship

Church services are held each Sunday morning, commencing at 10:30am.

Average attendance at weekly Church services was 51 with numbers ranging from 32 to 116. A number of members are unable to attend on a regular basis due to health and mobility issues.

A Working Together Group with members from Trinity Church and All Saints Church has been established to foster closer collaboration between the two churches as we share a minister and a deacon. There were several joint services with All Saints Church during the year, at Trinity and at All Saints.

The Harvest Festival was held on 24th September 2023 with food gifts going to Abingdon Foodbank and cash donations to Asylum Welcome.

The Church celebrated its anniversary on Sunday 26th November. A Civic Service was held on Sunday 10th December at which the Mayor was present; this was led by Deacon Selina Nisbett, the Mayor's chaplain. The annual Christmas Gift Service was held on 3rd December and an afternoon Carol Service on 17th December. There was an afternoon Christingle Service on 24th December led by Deacon Selina Nisbett with donations to Action for Children, and donations at the Christmas morning service led by Rev Ian Griffiths were for Crisis Skylight Oxford.

At Easter, the Maundy Thursday Evening service was shared at Abingdon Baptist Church. Deacon Selina Nisbett led the Good Friday morning service at Trinity, which was a joint service with All saints Church. Our Easter morning service at Trinity was led by Revd. John Anderson.

Public Benefit

The church and Conduit Centre premises are regularly used by local organisations and individuals for a wide range of events and activities. The Church supports a number of local, national and international charities by donating to their causes and appeals.

Trinity Learning

The Church continues to support schools' outreach through Trinity Learning. Trinity Learning was originally set up as a Church project but was so successful that in 2019 it was established as a separate Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Registered Charity No 1182742) with a separate Board of Trustees. The Church provides office and meeting space for the charity.

The Trustees were delighted that 'Experience Easter' was hosted in the Church once again. 500 children from nine different schools took part online or at Trinity Church.

Financial Information

About 60% of the Church income comes from freewill giving (and associated Gift Aid) from Church members and supporters and a further 10% from letting of the premises. Well over 90% of freewill income comes from donations via standing order with only 7% being cash donations at services. Members responded very generously to an appeal during 2023 to review their freewill contributions; on average people increased giving by 14%.

General inflation and increasing utility costs have significantly impacted expenditure. With ageing buildings, it is anticipated that major repairs will become more frequent and more expensive.

Overall, on unrestricted funds, there was a deficit of almost £7,000 in 2023/24. The Trustees and Church members continue explore the feasibility of making greater use of the premises and thus increasing the income we generate. This may require some modifications to the buildings.

The Church's restricted funds fall into 4 categories:

- The Church manages the payroll for 3 external charities – the salaries are reimbursed by the external charities so the receipts and salary payments are restricted.
- The Church manages grants received from The Charity of Richard Belcher for work associated with the Toddler Group (a parent & toddler group) and the Evergreen Club (a club for the elderly). The grants were given specifically to support these organisations so these funds are restricted.
- The Church handles donations to charities from members of the congregation and church groups. As these donations are made for the specific charities, they are restricted.
- There are funds held in investments relating to the Spring Road Trust and related funds. These are funds, previously held by the URC, where only the income from the funds can currently be used, so they are restricted.

The Church continued to support local, national and international charities, donating over £8,200 during the year, as follows:

• Trinity Learning	£2,365.00
• Action for Children	£482.50
• Methodist Mission in Britain Fund	£232.00
• Methodist World Mission Fund	£357.00
• Methodist Church Fund	£188.00
• All We Can	£188.00
• Council for World Mission	£158.00
• Commitment for Life	£100.00
• The Abingdon Bridge	£200.00
• Asylum Welcome	£340.00
• Crisis Skylight Oxford	£3,250.00
• British Red Cross Libya/Morocco Appeal	£300.00
• URC Retreat Group	£20.00
• Historic Churches Trust	£25.00
	£8,205.50

Tom Kyffin
Church Treasurer
November 2024