

The **Methodist** Church

Radcliffe-on-Trent

Trustees' Annual Report to the Charity Commission, Financial Review, and Other Information for the Year ended 31st August 2024

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Annual report for the year ended 31st August 2024

Contents

1. INTRODUCTION3

2. AIMS AND PURPOSES3

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES.....3

4. REVIEW OF THE YEAR4

5. PLANS FOR 2024/20255

6. FINANCIAL REVIEW6

6.1 INCOME TRENDS..... 6

6.2 EXPENDITURE TRENDS 6

7. RESERVES POLICY6

8. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT.....7

9. RISK MANAGEMENT7

10. SAFEGUARDING8

11. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION9

12. DECLARATIONS.....9

13. ACCOUNTS10

APPENDIX A – CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP 15

Trustees' Annual Report

1. Introduction

Welcome to the annual report of the managing trustees of Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church. Methodism has been present in Radcliffe since the late 18th century when residents were inspired to form a Methodist society after a visit by John Wesley to the local area. Today we are a community of people of all ages who love to follow Jesus and enjoy worshipping and working together. We are active in our village community, sharing good news about Jesus, caring, serving and joining in. We are committed to doing this together with other Christians in Radcliffe wherever possible.

2. Aims and purposes

We are part of the Methodist Church in Great Britain and as such share the same purposes, i.e. the advancement of:

- The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
- Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church

In doing this in Radcliffe-on-Trent we seek to live out our Mission Statement which is :

As God's Methodist family in Radcliffe-on-Trent we commit as individuals and as a church :

- To follow Jesus and share the good news of God's love for all, united in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- To grow in faith and care for all.
- To give generously and share our resources wholeheartedly to meet spiritual and social needs in our village and wider community.

3. Objectives and activities

The main activities of the church are:

- The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members- alike.
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
- Provision of services to local schools, care homes and other institutions as appropriate and when able.

4. Review of the year

Radcliffe Methodist Church continues to be a vibrant church community. We try to celebrate the good news in public ways, so many can join in from the wider community, as well as sustaining our worship which is the heart of all we do. We share worship, purpose and encouragement, working under God with the 9 local Methodist Churches in this circuit and ecumenically.

The year ended 31st August 2024 was another busy one. We celebrated our Harvest Festival in September and received donations of food totalling 133kg which was given to the Meadows foodbank. In October we celebrated the 130th anniversary of the church building with a special flower festival. The church was decorated with vibrant displays created by members of the church and the community. At Christmas amongst other services and activities, we provided served hot chocolate and Christingles for all children on the Friday before Christmas before celebrating our Christingle service. The church was completely full for the Carol Service.

In March, on Mothering Sunday weekend, we offered flowers to members of the community. At Easter we took part in the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, and our Easter Cross was on display and decorated with flowers to be used at the Easter Day services. In May the Christian Aid plant stall raised money out in the village and Friday coffee mornings each week help many elderly, lonely and isolated people. The Memory Cafe continues to meet the needs of many people, especially those who live with memory loss, and their carers. It is a source of help and mutual support. The end of the year saw special summer holiday events, with 3 fun days packed with activities for people of all ages.

Besides our Sunday services our regular activities include Little Angels toddlers group on a Wednesday, a Friday Coffee Morning and Prayer meeting every week that includes communion once a month, Community Café monthly on a Saturday, Soup lunch monthly on a Thursday and a House Group monthly on a Wednesday evening. We have also raised funds for a number of local, national and international charities. We ran a short course in Advent to look at the nativity story, and ran a monthly course focussed on prayer from January to August 2024.

One of the exciting developments during the year was the restarting of the Sunday School alongside morning services. We are grateful to those who have made this possible.

In January we confirmed that the new Minister for the church for next year would be the Reverend Naomi Sparey. Plans were made to welcome her when she starts her duties in September. In August the Reverend Mark Roberts held his final services as Minister for the church, and he now returns to his duties elsewhere in the circuit.

More information can be found about the life of the church and its ongoing activities on the church's website:

(<http://www.radcliffemethodist.org.uk>)

5. Plans for 2024/2025

Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church is looking forward to an exciting year during which we will discern our future priorities following the recent arrival of our new minister, Rev'd Naomi-Rachel Sparey. As we do so, we will continue with many of last year's programmes and events.

As with all Christian churches, our core vocation is to worship God and to enable the congregation's growth in faith. This transformation in ourselves enthuses us to care for our village, local area and for the world. We will continue to offer spiritual care to the community through events such as our popular Christingle and carol services, and pastoral services including baptisms, weddings and funerals. We offer pastoral care to church members through a system of pastoral visitors, and this year will develop our pastoral provision by holding a community memorial service for people bereaved within the last year (or longer).

Building on last year's opening of the Sunday School, we seek to develop our children's work including offering all-age worship opportunities. Our new minister is delighted to have been invited by our ecumenical partners to join the school assembly rota.

We will continue to build links with the local community through engaging in village events including the carnival and this year will hold a Christmas Fayre for the community. We intend to maintain our weekly social activities as detailed above.

6. Financial review

6.1 Income trends

Total income has increased during the year from £92,409 in 2022-2023 to £98,053 this year.

Income from standing order donations and the weekly collection have decreased by about £600, but this was offset by a legacy of £5,000.

Income from lettings has increased from £7,526 to £13,470 due to more demand following the reduction in hall capacity in the village and further recovery after the pandemic.

We expect the income from lettings to increase only slightly again next year, because there are not many free timeslots remaining.

We moved £15,000 from the current account to the savings account this year to take advantage of higher interest rates, but these look likely to fall in the coming year, thus reducing the interest we shall receive.

6.2 Expenditure trends

The major cost to the **General Fund (Unrestricted)** is the assessment paid to the Nottingham South Methodist Circuit. This was kept at £51,276 for the year, which was the same as last year. Next year our contribution is increased in line with the request from the Circuit. A significant amount of the Circuit assessment is used to pay the District assessment, stipends and related costs to Ministers.

We are on a fixed tariff with a new energy supplier until August 2025. This was negotiated 5 years ago and is consequently well below current market rates. However, when our contract ends, we expect an increase in energy costs. This is likely to be significant in 2025/26 year. The overall utility bill was slightly down this year due to a delayed bill from British Gas that came due in the year 2022-23.

The increase in the cost of living and a forecast rise in the employer's national insurance is likely to increase our general expenditure in the coming year.

7. Reserves policy

It is the church's policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted general funds, if possible, that equates to six months' general expenditure. This year we have reviewed our reserve amount and increased it from £40,000 to £43,000. The demographics of the donors, and the very generous donations of a small number of donors, makes the General Fund susceptible to sudden loss of income. The church also needs to be able to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

As of 31st August 2024, the church had the following balances.

£59,236 in the CFB account, of which **£43,000** is kept as reserves and **£16,236** is savings.

£22,298 in the NatWest current Account.

£2,395 is with TMCP (Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes).

8. Structure, governance and management

- Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church is part of the Nottingham South Methodist Circuit of the Methodist Church in Great Britain, which is part of the Methodist Nottingham and Derby District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.
- The governing document for the church is the Methodist Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)
- Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual Conference (CPD).
- Day to day management of the church is undertaken by the Church Leadership team along with the Minister.
- The members of the Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church Council meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of church office holders, the Minister and representatives appointed by the church at the Annual General Meeting. The Minister is appointed by the Methodist Conference; the Circuit representative is appointed by the Circuit Meeting; the Church representatives are appointed by the Church Annual Meeting; the Treasurer, Secretary and Church Stewards are appointed by the Church Council; the Safeguarding Co-ordinator is appointed by the Church Council and the Lay Worker is appointed by the Circuit Meeting. The full list of Church Council members and key lay employees is shown as Appendix A to this report.

The internal organisations linked to this church are;

- Little Angels (Carer & Toddler Group)
- Radcliffe Community Cafe
- Youth Group
- Food for Thought
- Card Stall

Trustee Training:

- A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the church and the role of Trustees is given to the Church Trustees at various meetings and / or training sessions.
- "The Essential Trustee" produced by the Charity Commission (publication CC3) has formed part of trustee training.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

9. Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Trustees with professional advice taken as required. There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded. Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

10. Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

The Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation guidance and recognised good practice.

Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches. Radcliffe on Trent Methodist Church commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

11. Administrative information

Full Name of Charity/Church:-Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church

Registration Charity Number:-1159370

Date of registration:-26th November 2014

Main communication address:

- Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church Shelford Road Radcliffe-on-Trent Nottingham NG12 2AG

Treasurer

- The Finance Team is made up of three people, Stephany Fogg, Peter Watson and Rebecca Patterson, who oversee the day to day financial management and accounting for the Church. Stephany Fogg is the named contact as Treasurer.

Independent examiner

- John O'Brien, Chief Executive, Community Accounting Plus. Units 1 and 2, North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL.

Bankers

- Natwest Bank, 52 Rectory Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 6FF
- **Investment Bankers** Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, 9 Bonhill St, London EC2A 4PE.
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ

12. Declarations

The Trustees Annual Report was approved by the Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church Council on 24th October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Signature



Name : NAOMI - RACHEL SPARROW

Position :-Chair of the meeting

:-Signature



-Name : MARGARET SIBBELS

Position :-Secretary to the meeting

13. Accounts

**CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS**

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

Nottingham South	Circuit	Circuit no.	22
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1159370

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. Naomi Sparey

Church Stewards:

Chris Boon	Hilary Greenhalgh
Ann Mills	Jan Sanderson
Jean Smith	

Treasurer:

Stephany Fogg, Rebecca Patterson, Peter Watson

Annual report for the year ended 31st August 2024

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Radcliffe-on-Trent
Methodist Church

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	78,509		78,509	75,939
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2,718	124	2,842	1,445
a4	Lettings	13,470		13,470	7,526
a5	Other receipts	1,072	2,160	3,232	7,499
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	95,770	2,284	98,053 (a7)	92,409
SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	51,276		51,276	51,276
b3	Donations	2,861	2,689	5,550	3,295
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	4,817		4,817	7,140
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	7,351		7,351	8,499
b6					
b7	Other payments	13,995		13,995	18,027
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	80,300	2,689	82,989 (b9)	88,236
SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	15,470 (405)	15,064	4,173
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	65,828	3,038	68,866 (c6)	64,693
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	81,298 2,632	83,930	68,866
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	81,298 2,632	83,930 (c8)	68,866 (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)			£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			846	1,557
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			846	1,557
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST
2024

Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church 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 Community Café	3,134	3,078	56		369	425
e2 Little Angels	1,864	1,035	829		1,194	2,023
e3 Youth Group	17,530	17,699	(169)		10,115	9,946
e4 Traidcraft					13	13
e5 Food for Thought	3,473	1,887	1,587		2,014	3,601
e6 Tuesday Fellowship					12	12
e7 Card Stall	1,841	1,430	411		284	695
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	27,841	25,127	2,714		14,002 (e11)	16,715 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	98,053 (a7)	82,989 (b9)	15,064	(c7)	68,866 (c6)	83,930 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	125,895	108,117	17,778		82,867 (x)	100,645 (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		25,051	22,298
f3 Bank Deposit Account			
f4 Central Finance Board		41,518	59,236
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		2,297	2,395
f6 Other funds			
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts		68,866 (c6)	83,930 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)		14,002 (e11)	16,715 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH		82,867 (x)	100,645 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,819,380	1,868,503
g3 Other Assets	6,209	6,407
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities	-732	(810)

Name of Church ...Radcliffe on Trent Methodist Church..... No...1159370..

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 ...  Date... 12-2-25

Name and address of treasurer: Stephany Fogg

19 Bailey Lane, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottingham Post Code: NG12 2DA

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 24th October 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev'd Naomi Sparey..... Date ... 11/02/2025..

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church

Charity Number 1159370

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages ... to 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 ...Radcliffe on Trent Methodist Church..... No...1159370..

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 examinerJohn O'Brien.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner MSc, FAIA, FCIE

Name of firm (where appropriate)CA Plus.....

Address ...Units 1 & 2 Northwest

41 Talbot Street, Nottingham,..... Post Code ...NG1 5GL.....

Date27/02/2025.....

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Annual report for the year ended 31st August 2024

Appendix A – Church Council membership

The Church Council members during the financial year to 31st August 2024, unless otherwise stated, were:

Position	Name	Dates
Minister:	Rev Mark Roberts	
Church Stewards:	Annabelle Luce	
	Jean Smith	
	Ann Mills	
	Hilary Greenhalgh	
	Jan Sanderson	
Church Representatives and other members of the Church Council:		
Church Council Secretary:	Margery Siggs	
Pastoral Secretary:	Christine Anderson	
Lead Treasurer:	Stephany Fogg	
Property Steward:	Rick Sanderson	
Property Secretary:	Peter Watson	
	Helen Hancock	
	Dave Morley	
	Stuart Jones	
	Roger Allton	
	Margaret Ann Dickie	
	Jane James	
	Gill Shirtcliffe	
	Elaine Upton	
	Neville Bemrose	
	Marion Petch	
	Gwyn Farmer	
	Stuart Mason	
	Sue Wakefield	
	Alan Wakefield	
	Jon Hancock	From 2 nd June 2024
	Lisa Jones	From 2 nd June 2024
Youth Group Leader	Mark Greenhalgh	
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Yvonne Ellison	
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Christine Morley	
Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Peter Watson	
Charity Commission Registrar	Peter Watson	
Circuit Representative	Steve Nicholson	
Children's Representative	Andy Morley-Tyson	