

LORD STREET WEST UNITED CHURCH  
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name: Lord Street West United Church  
Charity's principal address: Lord Street West United Church  
Lord Street West  
Southport  
Merseyside PR8 2BH

Trustees during the year and since the year end:

Hilary Ambrose		
Dorothy Anderson		
Wendy Aspin		
Joan Bennett		
Janet Broster	to 21 May 2023	
Barry Edwards		
Maria Edwards		
Rev Patrick Evans	from 1 April 2024	Minister
Timothy Hall		
Gillian Hill		
Sandra Jackson	to 30 March 2024	
Rachel Kinnings		
Ruth Lane		
Rev Peter Lyth	to 31 March 2024	Minister
Lesley Meredith		
Karen Phillips		
Rev Hilary Smith	to 31 March 2024	Minister
Margaret Smith	to 21 May 2023	
Sylvia Walton	to 21 May 2023	
Ian Wright		
Wendy Wright		
Susan Yelland		

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governing document of Lord Street West United Church is the Constitution adopted on 6 May 2014.

Lord Street West United Church is a charitable unincorporated association.  
Lord Street West United Church is a Local Ecumenical Partnership of the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church.

The charity is administered by a body of trustees consisting of:

- Ex officio Trustees, being the ministers of the Local Ecumenical Partnership for the time being
- Thirsty six Elected trustees are elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting; and
- Not more than six co-opted Trustees appointed by the Trustees



## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The purpose of the charity is to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the principles and practices of the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

In achieving its purpose, the charity engages in a range of activities including:

- a) The celebration of public worship;
- b) The teaching of the Christian faith;
- c) Mission and evangelism;
- d) Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved;
- e) The provision of facilities with a Christian ethos for the local community, including the elderly, the young and other groups with special needs; and
- f) The support of other charities in the UK and overseas.

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During the year ended 31 December 2023, Lord Street West United Church celebrated public worship every Sunday at 10.45 except on five Sundays when we had joint services with the other churches in the Southport and Formby Team Ministry and on two Sundays when we had joint services with the other churches in the Southport Methodist Circuit. Worship is led by our ministers and by ministers and preachers from the Methodist and United Reformed Churches. The music in our worship is enhanced by our choir and organist. JAM Club (Jesus and Me) for children took place at the same time as the morning service.

On Wednesday mornings there was coffee and fellowship at 10.30am followed by a service from 11.15am to 11.45am.

Messy Church, for families, was held on some Saturdays during the year.

Pastoral care is provided by the minister, outreach and pastoral worker and pastoral visitors. Each member has a pastoral visitor, co-ordinated by our pastoral secretary.

Our Outreach and Pastoral Worker also takes Extended Communion to those who cannot attend church and organises Messy Church, Little Fishes, Baby Boogies and Matewatchers.

The work of the church was also carried out through the following church organisations:

Monday Fellowship  
Parent and Toddler Group known as Little Fishes  
Baby Boogies  
Matewatchers  
West End Players  
Youth Club



## FINANCIAL REVIEW

During the year ended 31 December 2023, on the unrestricted funds, payments exceeded receipts by £66,498. The deficit arose largely because of a payment for materials for the hall roofs and an increase in the cost of gas, electricity and water. The largest item of payments are the assessments and contributions paid to the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church, which pay for the costs of ministry and the wider work of the two denominations. The unrestricted funds had balances of £375,072 at 31 December 2023, comprising General Fund of £50,000, Legacy Fund of £229,475 and Sunter Fund of £95,597. The Sunter Fund has been designated to pay for the Lay Worker.

The restricted funds of £5,569 comprised the Benevolent Fund of £355, Roof Fund of £3,951, Fridge Fund of £400 and the unspent balance of a grant received for the youth club of £863.

The church organisations had opening balances of £6,148, receipts of £5,960, payments of £2,546, contributions to the church of £2,600 and closing balances of £6,962.

## RESERVES POLICY

A minimum of £50,000 of unrestricted funds is held to cover six months' assessments, contributions and running costs.

Approved by the Church Council 10 September 2024



Rev P Evans  
Chair

## THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Lord Street West United	Church
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31 December 2023**

<b>Southport</b>	<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Circuit no.</b>	<b>18/19</b>
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**Registered Charity - Charity Registration number**

1163996

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:

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Church Stewards:

Hilary Ambrose	Dorothy Anderson
Barry Edwards	Chris Lane (to 23 October 2023)
Ruth Lane	Lesley Meredith
Wendy Wright	

Treasurer:

Ian Wright

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SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	23,318		23,318	19,866
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	9,495		9,495	2,255
a4	Lettings	54,207		54,207	59,950
a5	Other receipts	21,939	2,383	24,322	96,233
a6	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	108,959	2,383	111,342 (a7)	178,304

SECTION B					
b1	<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	31,670		31,670	36,265
b3	Donations	2,130		2,130	1,990
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	28,807		28,807	23,621
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	41,842		41,842	27,090
b6	Lay Worker	20,071		20,071	18,404
b7	Other payments	50,937	826	51,763	30,083
b8	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	175,457	826	176,283 (b9)	137,453

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(66,498)	1,557	(64,941)	40,851
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		439,070	3,912	442,982 (c6)	397,300
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	372,572	5,469	378,041	438,151
c4	Transfers and adjustments		2,500	100	2,600 (c7)	4,831
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	375,072	5,569	380,641 (c8)	442,982 (c6)

SECTION D					
<b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b>					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		£		£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		753		593
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		753		593
d4	<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID</b>	(d1+d2-d3)			



**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 December 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 Flower Fund	525	429	96		1,021	1,117
e2 Monday Fellowship	652	296	356	(500)	572	428
e3 West End Players	3,107	951	2,156	(1,317)	4,320	5,159
e4 West End Players Juniors	815	9	806	(783)	235	258
e5 Youth Club	861	861				
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	5,960	2,546	3,414	(2,600)	6,148 (e11)	6,962 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	111,342 (a7)	176,283 (b9)	(64,941)	2,600 (c7)	442,982 (c6)	380,641 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	117,302	178,829	(61,527)		449,130 (x)	387,603 (y)
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>				

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 December 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	47,324	14,872
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	222,884	179,957
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	172,774	185,812
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	442,982 (c6)	380,641 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	6,148 (e11)	6,962 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	449,130 (x)	387,603 (y)

**SECTION G****OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 January 2023	At 31 December 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	2,699	2,787
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	13,843,522	15,504,746
g3 Other Assets		
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 Lord Street West United Church No 1163996

## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 December 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 ..... *I. Wright* ..... Date 24th August 2024

Name and address of treasurer Ian Wright

15 Stretton Drive, Southport, Merseyside Post Code PR9 7DR

### Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 10th September 2024.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..... *Patrick Evans* .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting ..... *REV PATRICK EVANS* ..... Date *10.9.24* .....

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

### Lord Street West United Church

Charity Number 1163996

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Lord Street West United Church for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages 2 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.

\* delete or circle as appropriate



Name of Church Lord Street West United Church No 1163996

### 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 M.D. Sale

Name of independent examiner MICHAEL DEREK SALE

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCA - ICAEW

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

Address 24 HARBURY INSURANCE, SOUTHPORT,

MERSEYSIDE Post Code PR8 2TA

Date 11/09/2024

\* delete or circle as appropriate