

LORD STREET WEST UNITED CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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
Barry Edwards
Maria Edwards
Timothy Hall
Gillian Hill to 16 July 2025
Ruth Lane
Lesley Meredith
Karen Phillips
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:

- a) Ex officio Trustees, being the ministers of the Local Ecumenical Partnership for the time being
- b) Thirsty six Elected trustees are elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting; and
- c) 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 2024, Lord Street West United Church celebrated public worship every Sunday at 10.45 except on four Sundays when we had joint services with the other churches in the Southport and Formby Team Ministry and on one Sunday when we had a joint service 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 2024, on the unrestricted funds, payments exceeded receipts by £33,798. 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 £343,274 at 31 December 2024, comprising General Fund of £50,000, Legacy Fund of £199,814 and Sunter Fund of £93,460. The Sunter Fund has been designated to pay for the Lay Worker.

The restricted funds of £7,980 comprised the Benevolent Fund of £366, Roof Fund of £6,351, 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 £6,962, receipts of £4,686, payments of £2,843, contributions to the church of £2,100 and closing balances of £6,705.

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 8 September 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rev P Evans', written in a cursive style.

Rev P Evans
Chair

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Lord Street West United

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 December 2024

Southport	Circuit	Circuit no.	18/19
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1163996

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 Patrick Evans

Church Stewards:

Hilary Ambrose

Dorothy Anderson

Barry Edwards

Ruth Lane

Lesley Meredith

Wendy Wright

Treasurer:

Ian Wright

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	24,331		24,331	23,318
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	7,844		7,844	9,495
a4	Lettings	44,316		44,316	54,207
a5	Other receipts	30,569	2,311	32,880	24,322
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	107,060	2,311	109,371 (a7)	111,342

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	31,363		31,363	31,670
b3	Donations				2,130
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	24,569		24,569	28,807
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	34,228		34,228	41,842
b6	Lay Worker	16,971		16,971	20,071
b7	Other payments	33,727		33,727	51,763
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	140,858		140,858 (b9)	176,283

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(33,798)	2,311	(31,487)	(64,941)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		375,072	5,569	380,641 (c6)	442,982
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	341,274	7,880	349,154	378,041
c4	Transfers and adjustments		2,000	100	2,100 (c7)	2,600
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	343,274	7,980	351,254 (c8)	380,641 (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		405	753
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		405	753
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (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 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 Flower Fund	395	559	(164)		1,117	953
e2 Monday Fellowship	864	309	555	(600)	428	383
e3 West End Players	1,972	1,131	841	(943)	5,159	5,057
e4 West End Players Juniors	556	112	444	(557)	258	145
e5 Youth Club	899	732	167			167
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	4,686	2,843	1,843	(2,100)	6,962 (e11)	6,705 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	109,371 (a7)	140,858 (b9)	(31,487)	2,100 (c7)	380,641 (c6)	351,254 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	114,057	143,701	(29,644)		387,603 (x)	357,959 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 December 2024**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	14,872	10,804
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	179,957	139,804
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	185,812	200,646
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	380,641 (c6)	351,254 (c8)
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	6,962 (e11)	6,705 (e12)
g TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	387,603 (x)	357,959 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 January 2024	At 31 December 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	2,787	2,807
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	15,504,746	17,365,317
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 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 *I Wright* Date: 7th May 2025

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 2024 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 8th September 2025.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Patrick Evans*

Name of the Chair of the meeting *REV. PATRICK EVANS* Date *8/9/25*

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 2024 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 J

Name of independent examiner MICHAEL DEERK SALT

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCA

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 24 WALBURY AVENUE SOUTHPORT

Post Code PR8 2TA

Date 08/09/2025

* delete or circle as appropriate