

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (ACCRUALS BASIS)**

for the year ended 31 August 2023

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit (05/16)

Registered Charity Number 1164581

Introduction

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit is a small but vibrant circuit with churches based around the city of Worcester and the towns of Droitwich, Evesham and Malvern. It contains both rural and urban areas and all in between.

Aims and organisation

As Methodists in South Worcestershire, mindful of 'Our Calling' and the Priorities of the Methodist Church, we seek to serve, enable, inspire and challenge our member churches to engage in God's mission in a changing world by:

- * Providing opportunities to grow together as Spirit-led, grace-filled, Jesus-centered people of God.
- * Assisting our churches in increasing awareness of God's presence and sharing the love of God in our communities.
- * Helping our churches to work for justice and peace for all people, and care for the environment.

Review of the year

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit has fulfilled its objectives during the last year by supporting the churches within the Circuit providing Christian ministry in their localities. We continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, with most churches finding that the lack of lettings during the previous year had a negative effect on their reserves. Congregations are growing again and are increased by those members unable to attend physical church being able to worship online from home.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, our superintendent has been unable to work during the year. During the year Rev Nigel Coke-Woods was acting superintendent between 1/9/22 and 10/4/23, also from 24/7/23 and 15/8/23. During the remaining parts of the year Rev Katherine Pickering was acting Superintendent. Some supernumeraries took on additional work to support the acting Superintendent and provide cover for some staff on long term sick leave. In addition to the Superintendent, the Circuit has supported 3 full-time presbyters and a full-time deacon to exercise pastoral oversight of the 8 churches that now make up the Circuit. In the continued absence of the Superintendent, a part-time presbyter was stationed to the Circuit in June 2023 to take pastoral charge at Evesham Methodist Church until August 2024.

Some churches continue to find it difficult to meet their financial commitments. Following a review of the circuit assessments in January 2023, the Circuit Meeting in March agreed to maintain the assessments for the coming year.

The Circuit provided voluntary support and leadership for the local churches in the form of Local Preachers and Circuit Stewards. There are also many other office holders who support the churches with help and advice on property, finance, worship and work with young people.

Our churches have supported charitable causes, both local and worldwide and several churches have buildings which are used by the local communities where we serve. Churches are seeing a return of community groups to their premises in the post-pandemic era. The Circuit continues to encourage varied work across the Circuit supporting a part-time Family Worker at Droitwich and a part-time Pastoral Worker in Malvern. The circuit has supported Warm Spaces initiatives at circuit churches and made grants to facilitate this work at Droitwich and Somers Park. The church at Broadway closed in June 2023 and the premises are now being prepared for sale. During the year the proceeds of the sale of Norton Methodist Church were added to circuit funds.

Income and expenditure trends

Circuit income mainly arises from the assessment paid by each of the circuit churches. During the year the proceeds from the sale of Norton Methodist Church were also received by the Circuit. Stipend expenditure increased in line with the levels approved by Methodist Conference. Lay salaries have also been increased in line with the higher level of stipends. The Circuit's contribution to the District and Connexion again amounted to 16% of expenditure (16% in 2021-22), of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2023 the net current assets of the Circuit were £449,046, providing over one year's cover for circuit expenditure.

Plans for 2023/24

The circuit entered the stationing process following the decision of one of the circuit presbyters to sit down in August 2024. There was a successful match and a presbyter has been stationed to the circuit for September 2024. The Circuit looks forward to welcoming her.

The circuit continues to await news of the Superintendent minister, as their continued absence is causing concern. With effect from 1st September 2023, The Connexion agreed to fund the presbyter's stipend until the situation is resolved.

Despite the staffing issues, circuit life continues and plans for Outreach and Mission are being revisited and developed. The Circuit is looking to develop missional strategies to use the funds received from the sale of chapels that have closed in recent years.

Trustee's Annual Report on Finance and Governance**Basis of preparation and legal framework**

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

Full Name of Charity: South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1164581

Date of Registration: 26 November 2015

Main communication address: The Circuit Office, Amphlett House, 114 Worcester Road, Droitwich, WR9 8AW

The members of the South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership comprising of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches. Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

Circuit Ministers and Officers*Active Circuit Ministers*

Deacon Corinne Brown

Rev Christopher Collins

Rev Nigel Coke-Woods

Rev Same McBratney (part-time wef July 2023)

Rev Gary Molver

Rev Katherine Pickering

Circuit Layworkers

Miss Anne Rich

Mrs Sarah Jessop

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Heather Lewis

Mr Heath Watton

Mrs Cynthia Merriman

Mrs Christine Parker

Mrs Margaret Saunders

Administrator

Ms Vanessa Hearn

Treasurer

Mr Nicholas Owen acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management accounting during the period 26 October 2022 to 9 August 2023.

Independent Examiner

James Cruse FCA, ACCA - JW Hinks LLP, 19 Highfield Rod, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3BH

Bankers

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church - 9 Bonhill Street, London, EC2A 4PE

CAF Bank Ltd - 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

Investment Bankers

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes - Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ

Aims and organisation

The charity objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around Worcester, Evesham, Malvern and Droitwich for 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 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.

Including, but not exclusively:

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 chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the circuit is the 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 circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership Team, along with the Local Preachers meeting, the Circuit Finance and Property Committees and the Circuit Meeting.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in the Methodist Church' is given to all new Circuit meeting members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Birmingham District and is accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the Circuit: St. Andrews Worcester, Droitwich, Bromyard Road, Ombersley Road, Lansdowne Crescent, Somers Park Avenue, Upper Welland and Evesham.

Risk Management

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared regularly with the approved annual budget to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

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.

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.

The South Worcestershire Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The South Worcestershire Circuit 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.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 4 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

Restricted reserves - the amount shown in the 2022/23 accounts of £54,093 is restricted to the expenditure relating to an Evesham lay worker. During the year no lay worker was employed at Evesham so the balance has accumulated with interest.

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted Funds				Totals this year 2023	Totals last year 2022 (as restated)
		General Funds	Circuit Model Trust	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds		
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Donations and legacies	4	1,968				1,968	-
Assessments on churches	5	300,009				300,009	310,452
From Monetary investments	6					-	-
From Investment properties Rent income	6					-	-
Capital receipts	7		171,888			171,888	-
Grants received	8					-	-
Investments	8	6,144	6,701		370	13,215	1,076
Other	8	25,344				25,344	32,236
Total income		333,465	178,589	0	370	512,424	343,764
Expenditure on:							
Ministerial stipends, NIC & pension	11	180,730				180,730	163,351
Layworker salaries, NIC & pension	11	27,606				27,606	49,205
District Assessment		53,376				53,376	54,672
Methodist Church Fund						-	-
Circuit Events	12					-	-
Telephone, travel & administration		6,505				6,505	4,970
Manse insurance, council tax & water		12,976				12,976	14,832
Maintenance on manse property		6,727				6,727	6,790
Expenditure on other circuit property		6,818				6,818	7,440
Depreciation						-	-
Outreach and mission	13	(16,229)				(16,229)	5,000
Other Expenditure	14	(1,341)	180			(1,161)	6,954
Grants and donations	15	1,730				1,730	33,024
District Advance Fund levy			1,575			1,575	1,613
Total expenditure		278,898	1,755	0	0	280,653	347,851
Net income before investment gains/(losses)		54,567	176,834	0	370	231,771	(4,087)
Net Gains/(Losses) on Monetary Investments	17					-	-
Net Gains/(Losses) on property revaluation						-	-
Net Gains/(Losses) on property disposals	16					-	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) before transfers		54,567	176,834	0	370	231,771	(4,087)
Transfers between funds	23	(12,347)			12,347	-	-
Reclassification of funds - sale proceeds	24					-	-
Reclassification of funds - loan repaid	24					-	-
Net movement in funds		42,220	176,834	0	12,717	231,771	(4,087)
Total funds brought forward		2,025,998	63,006	0	41,376	2,130,380	2,124,467
Prior year adjustment	25					0	10,000
Total funds carried forward		2,068,218	239,840	0	54,093	2,362,151	2,130,380

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

General funds Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrestricted	Designated funds Unrestricted	Restricted funds	Totals this year 2023	Totals last year 2022 (as restated)
£	£	£	£	£	£

Notes

Tangible Fixed Assets

Land & Buildings

Equipment

Investment properties

Investments

Total fixed assets

16	1,913,000			1,913,000	1,913,000
16				-	-
16				-	-
17	105			105	105
	1,913,105			1,913,105	1,913,105

Current Assets

Debtors and Prepayments

Cash at Bank and in hand

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
deposits

Central Finance Board Deposits

Total current assets

18	25,451	1,000		26,451	17,379
19	18,349			54,093	6,809
19		238,840		238,840	63,006
19	115,353			115,353	177,950
	159,153	239,840		54,093	453,086
					265,144

Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 year)

Trade creditors and accruals

Total due in under 1yr

20	4,040			4,040	47,869
	4,040			4,040	47,869

Net current assets (liabilities)

Total assets less current liabilities

	155,113	239,840		54,093	449,046
	2,068,218	239,840		54,093	2,362,151
					2,130,380

Loans and Creditors (due after 1 year)

Provisions for liabilities and charges

Net assets

21					-
	2,068,218	239,840		54,093	2,362,151
					2,130,380

Funds of the Circuit

General funds

Circuit Model Trust Fund

Designated Funds

Restricted funds

Total Funds

	2,068,218			2,068,218	2,025,998
23		239,840		239,840	63,006
23				-	-
23				54,093	54,093
23	2,068,218	239,840		54,093	2,362,151
					2,130,380

Summary of the Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. 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.

Internal Organisations

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Adjustments	Closing balance
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit, which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as Unrestricted. Restricted Funds are held for a narrower purpose. Details of each material fund are disclosed in Note 23 of these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost (except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year), on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the Trustees are reasonable certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at deemed values. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Investment Properties

The Circuit did not hold any investment properties during the year.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors include the payment of the September stipend in August, and other prepayments.

Creditors

Creditors include assessments received in August from circuit churches relating to next year, accrued expenses and trade creditors.

				This year 2023	Last year 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted Designated	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted	Total	Total
4. Donations and legacies received					
Donations:					
Sundry donations	1,968			1,968	-
Total	1,968	-	-	1,968	-
5. Charitable activities - other					
Assessments on churches	300,009	-	-	300,009	310,452
6. Investment Income/Expenditure					
Interest and dividends	6,144	6,701	370	13,215	1,076
Rental income				-	-
Total Income	6,144	6,701	370	13,215	1,076
Expenditure					
Agency fees				-	-
Property maintenance				-	-
Property insurance				-	-
Total Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Net Gain on Investment	6,144	6,701	370	13,215	1,076
7. Capital Receipts					
Sale of Norton Methodist Church		246,480		246,480	-
Connexional Priority Fund Levy		(74,592)		(74,592)	-
Selling Agents fees					-
Legal fees					-
Total	-	171,888	-	171,888	-
8. Other income					
Contributions towards lay employees	7,178			7,178	20,572
Transfer of reserves from closed churches	18,166			18,166	11,664
Total (Grants plus Other)	25,344	-	-	25,344	32,236
9. Payment to Trustees					
(A) Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting				nil	nil
(B) Number of trustees who were paid expenses					
The expenses primarily relate to reimbursement for travel, postage and printing costs				5	5
Total amount paid				3,898	4,031
10. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts					
Independent examiner's fees				1,260	nil
Other accountancy fees				2,280	nil

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit (05/16)

	This year 2023 £	Last year 2022 £
11. Ministerial staff costs	130,726	123,105
Gross stipends and benefits in kind	36,817	31,260
Employer's pension costs	13,187	8,986
Employer's national insurance costs		
Total costs	180,730	163,351
Average number of full-time ministerial staff employed	5.0	3.0
Pensions		
Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit pension scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that the Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.		
The Connexion accounts for the MMPS and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts.		
The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented. Details of the deficit on this scheme can be found in the Annual Report and Accounts of the Methodist Church at www.methodist.org.uk .		
Layworker employees costs	27,242	47,244
Gross wages, salaries	-	-
Employer's pension costs	364	1,961
Employer's national insurance costs		
Total costs	27,606	49,205
Average number of lay workers employed	3.0	4.0
12 Circuit events	-	-
Other events and costs		
Total costs		
13 Outreach and mission	(16,229)	5,000
Outreach and mission - writeback of provision		
Total costs	(16,229)	5,000
14 Other Expenditure	1,898	1,830
Ministers expenses	850	838
Apprenticeship levy	(2,070)	125
Training	(5,600)	2,199
Removal costs and allowances for incoming staff	(439)	1,231
Other	3,540	-
Accountancy and Independent Examiners fees	480	547
Payroll charge	180	184
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Admin charge		
Total costs	(1,161)	6,954
15 Grants and donations paid		
Payments made from Restricted funds		
Paid to individual churches from Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes funds	1,730	33,024
Paid to individual churches from General funds		
Total costs	1,730	33,024

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit (05/16)

16 Tangible Fixed Assets

The Circuit owns five manses in active use:

Deemed values
£

39 Barnes Way, Worcester, WR5 3AP	359,000
29 Waterside, Evesham, WR11 1BU	359,000
14 Corbett Street, Droitwich WR9 7BQ	435,000
39 Victoria Park Road, Malvern, WR14 2JX	390,000
210 Malvern Road, Worcester, WR2 4LL	370,000
	1,913,000

During the year, the Circuit did not own any properties classified as investment properties.

Property Disposals

Details	Carrying	Sale	Revaluation	Gain/(Loss)
None	-	-	-	-

Other Land	Manses	Total
£	£	£

Cost or valuation

Balance brought forward		1,913,000	1,913,000
Additions			
Revaluations			
Disposals			
Transfers between categories			
Balance carried forward		-	1,913,000

Accumulated depreciation

Basis (SL or RB)**	N/A	N/A
Rate		
Balance brought forward		
Charge for year		
Revaluations		
Less: Disposals		
Transfers between categories		
Balance carried forward		

Net book value

Brought forward	-	1,913,000	1,913,000
Carried forward	-	1,913,000	1,913,000

** Indicates the method of depreciation (SL = straight line, RB = reducing balance), and the rate of depreciation. Straight Line is based on the anticipated life of the asset, and Reducing Balance is based on a percentage deduction made each year.

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit (05/16)

17 Investments

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited monthly. These are regarded as medium and long-term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Trust Property, including legacies, Endowments, and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, by providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by Methodist Conference.

Analysis of investment movements

	This year 2023 £	Last year 2022 £
Investments listed on a recognised Stock Exchange		
Investments held in common investment funds		
Securities not listed on a recognised Stock Exchange		
Other investments	105	105
Total	105	105

Change in investment values

Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	105	105
Additions to investments at cost		
Less disposals at carrying value		
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation		
Carrying (market) value at end of year	105	105

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit (05/16)

	This year	Last year
	2023	2022
	£	(as restated) £
18. Debtors and prepayments		
Prepaid stipends	14,644	2,360
Accrued income	2,807	-
Loan due from Droitwich Methodist Church	8,000	10,000
Other debtors and prepayments	1,000	5,019
Total debtors and prepayments	26,451	17,379

19. Analysis of cash at bank		
Bank balance held in CAF Bank	18,349	6,809
Bank balance held in Central Finance Board	169,446	177,950
Bank balance held in TMCP	238,840	63,006
Total Cash and Bank	426,635	247,765

20. Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors		
Accrued expenses	4,040	47,869
Total Current Liabilities	4,040	47,869

21. Movement on Loans						
Source	Purpose of loan	Amount b/fwd £	New borrowings £	Loan interest £	Repaid in the year £	Balance at year end £
None		-	-	-	-	-
Repayment due						Totals
Within 12 months	31/08/2024					nil
Between 1 and 5 years	31/08/2025	31/08/2026	31/08/2027	31/08/2028		nil

22. Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At 31st August 2023 the Circuit has no capital commitments and no contingent liabilities were identified.

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit (05/16)

23. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted Funds

<u>Fund Name</u>	Opening Balance	Prior year adjustment	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Reclassification	Closing Balance	<u>Purpose of the fund</u>
General Fund (excl. Assets)	102,998	10,000	333,465	(278,898)	(12,347)	-	155,218	General Circuit running expenses
Circuit Model Trust Fund	63,006	-	178,589	(1,755)	-	-	239,840	Designated funds set aside for the furtherance of the objectives of the Circuit
Totals	166,004	10,000	512,054	(280,653)	(12,347)	-	395,058	

Restricted Funds

<u>Fund Name</u>								<u>Purpose of the fund</u>
EBW Layworker	41,376	-	370	-	12,347	-	54,093	Evesham layworker
Totals	41,376	-	370	-	12,347	-	54,093	

Total of Unrestricted and Restricted funds excluding property

449,151

Property - manses

1,913,000

Total Funds

2,362,151

Transfers between funds

The reasons for the transfers were as follows:

Re-imbusement of overpayments to previous lay worker.

24. Reclassification of funds

Circuit property is always carried in the General Fund but upon sale the net proceeds are processed through the Circuit Model Trust Fund. This requires an adjustment and any such sales during the year are reflected below at the net sale price.

There were no Bridging loans or property sales during the year.

Details	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total
					-
Endowment Funds					
Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital		Annual income	What the income was used for
None		Totals		nil	nil

25. Prior year adjustment

During the year ended 31 August 2023 it became apparent that a refundable loan of £10,000 provided to Droitwich Methodist Church had been incorrectly treated in the 2022 financial statements as a grant expense rather than a debtor. The comparatives for 2022 have now been amended for this error resulting in an increase to the opening general unrestricted funds as at 1 September 2022 of £10,000.

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit (05/16)

26. Related party transactions

FRS102 requires that charities that have one or more related party transactions must disclose:

- the names of the transacting related parties;
- a description of a relationship between the parties;
- a description of the transactions;
- the amounts involved;
- any other elements of the transactions necessary for an understanding of the accounts;
- the amounts due to or from related parties at the balance sheet date and provisions for doubtful debts due from such parties at that date; and
- amounts written off in the period in respect of debts due to or from related parties.

Name of related party	Relationship	Income from related party in the year £	Payments to related party in the year £	Loans from related party in the year £	Loans to related party in the year £	Amounts owed by/to related party at year end £
<u>This year</u>						
Circuit Methodist Churches		300,009	-	-	-	-
Birmingham District of the Methodist Church		-	53,376	-	-	-
Methodist Property Fund		-	-	-	-	-
Methodist Connexional Grants Team		-	-	-	-	-
Total		300,009	53,376	-	-	-
<u>Last year</u>						
Circuit Methodist Churches		310,452	-	-	-	-
Birmingham District of the Methodist Church		-	54,672	-	-	-
Methodist Property Fund		-	-	-	-	-
Methodist Connexional Grants Team		-	-	-	-	-
Total		310,452	54,672	-	-	-

Note: The circuit churches do collect money for Methodist related projects, which is recorded and sent direct to the Methodist Fund by the circuit-appointed Fund Treasurers. No documents nor money are seen by the Circuit Treasurer and such finance is not included in these circuit accounts.

A separate report is issued each year by the Connexional Team.

DECLARATIONS

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on
and were approved.

13 March 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Ky Pickering

Name of the Chair of the
meeting

Rev Katherine Pickering

Date

13 March 2024

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit (05/16)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31 August

2023

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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 the Independent Examiner's responsibility 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
- state whether particular matters have come to their attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

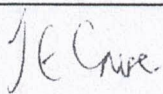
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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:

- (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.

I 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.

Name	James Cruse FCA, ACCA
Signature	
Relevant professional qualification or body	ICAEW & ACCA
Address	c/o JW Hinks LLP, 19 Highfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3BH
Date	13 March 2024

South Worcestershire Methodist Circuit - list of Trustees

Appendix A

Those serving all of 2022/23 and up to present day

Name	Appointed	Name	Appointed
Rev N J Coke-Woods	01/09/2017	P R Wetherall	01/09/2015
Rev P Salter	06/06/2023	D M Cooksey	01/09/2015
H Lewis	06/06/2023	Deacon A B Martin	01/09/2015
A D Martin	07/03/2023	R Foot	01/09/2015
H A V Lewis	07/03/2023	M Austin	01/09/2015
J P Gogarty	07/03/2023	R Lewin-Jones	01/09/2015
R H Barley	01/11/2022	H W Watton	01/09/2015
N W S Owen	01/11/2022	H M Lawrance	01/09/2015
A Thomas	01/09/2022	G C Cox	01/09/2015
Deacon C Brown	01/09/2022	T Higginson	01/09/2015
Rev S D T Froggatt	01/09/2022	D A Lawrance	01/09/2015
P C Hawkeswood	01/09/2022	M D L Davis	01/09/2015
C Proctor	08/03/2022	N J Stephens	01/09/2015
M Saunders	14/09/2021	P M Grimwood	01/09/2015
Rev C J Collins	01/09/2021	J R Merriman	01/09/2015
A V McWhirter	09/03/2021		
K A Evans	23/02/2021		
G Drain	13/10/2020		
S Drain	13/10/2020		
C Merriman	01/09/2020		
R Ingles	17/09/2019		
E A Yelland	17/09/2019		
R A Kane	17/09/2019		
C G Hollies	17/09/2019		
D A Haslam	17/09/2019		
J W De Torre	17/09/2019		
D Capel	17/09/2019		
P Lander	17/09/2019		
A C Capel	17/09/2019		
P Gwilliam	17/09/2019		
V Day	26/02/2019		
Rev K J Pickering	01/09/2018		
J P Curtis	19/06/2018		
S A Watkins	22/03/2018		
Rev G J Molver	01/09/2017		
A Phillips	07/09/2016		
M Wetherall	09/03/2016		
H V Ashford	15/09/2015		
J B Evans	15/09/2015		
A V Rich	01/09/2015		
C J Davis	01/09/2015		
T Libby	01/09/2015		
C J Parker	01/09/2015		