

Ministers Report, Rev Denise Williamson for AGM. January 26th 2025

It has been a year of change for Trinity and myself as the church accepted me as their new Minister on August 31st 2024. Your welcome to myself, my husband Simon and son Sam has been so warm and genuine and we already feel 'at home' in Staffordshire and Leek.

I am very grateful for the support of Church Secretary Maureen Wiskin and Circuit Steward Phil Mann as they have guided me through the 'unique' characteristics of Trinity. Many thanks also to

Rev Steve Faber and the URC team at West Midlands Synod and Rev Robert Mountford, District Ecumenical Officer for their help and advice along the way.

Both denominations of the LEP have a wealth of traditions, experience, guidance and resources and Trinity is blessed by having full access to them all. We need to draw on those resources to inspire and challenge us for the future.

Last year the church baptised one child into the church of God and the fellowship of Trinity. Sadly we bade farewell to 12 much loved members and held a memorial service for 2 others who had worshipped and served at Trinity in the recent past. Special mention of sister in Christ Jenny Kirkham who passed away suddenly and unexpectedly in July 2024. Her funeral service was led by Rev Richard Pope and it proved to be a time of celebration of her life and mourning for her loss for all the town of Leek - most of whom tried to gather inside the church! Everyone at Trinity pulled together to accommodate so many visitors.

Trinity continues to play an important role in the life of Churches Together in Leek and District being the venue for many of the events such as the Switching on of the Christmas Lights and the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We continue with our close links with St Edwards Leek sharing regular services and hosting the Christmas Day Lunch. New Anglican ministers at All Saints and St Paul's and St Luke's in Leek will bring fresh ideas to our work of witnessing to the love of God for the town and all its people.

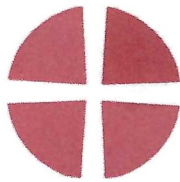
Worship services are well attended and since September a greater variety of preachers have been welcomed to the pulpit. Christmas Services were particularly well attended and it was a joy to share worship with many different people at this time. Trinity hosted the 'Hope Journey' for children from Beresford School. It was great to have so many young people filling the church and interested in the real story of Christmas. Many thanks to Marian Aston (Circuit Steward and Mark Hatcher (Circuit Youth leader) who led this work across the whole Circuit.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet people at the Wednesday Coffee Mornings. Sometimes questions about life and faith are brought up and sometimes its just a friendly chat and a word of encouragement that can help someone. Acceptance and listening are vital.

A change of Minister often leads a church to step back and think about where they are and to think about the future. This has been the case already in the church. There is a desire to reach out to the community more effectively and discussion is already underway about having a Lay Worker to help us with this. More will be shared at the AGM/CGM at the end of January and at the next Church Meeting in February.

For some being a church in a very central location in the town is a disadvantage because we have no immediate settled community around us. Or we could see it as an advantage - we are at the heart of a still busy market town with stall holders, retailers and businesses all as our 'neighbours'. Working with other partners building on the good relationships that we have already, can we reach out and serve the communities that we are a part of?

Our church has many positives or treasures to build upon in its work: already it has many links with the community it seeks to serve; it has a good number of people willing to help and volunteer for



A united
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of
**The Methodist
Church
and
The United
Reformed
Church**

Trinity Church,
(Methodist United Reformed)
Russell Street,
Leek, Staffs.,
ST13 5JF

Telephone: 01538 398483
Email: trinitychurchleek@uwclub.net
Registered Charity Number: 1171597

**Trinity Church, Leek
Accounts for the year
September 1st 2023 to
August 31st 2024**

Pages 1-7

Trinity Church Leek: Receipts and Payments Accounts - Year Ending August 31st 2024

2022-23 RECEIPTS		2022-23 PAYMENTS		2023-24
£52,971.93 Collections S/O etc A01,2,3	£53,872.63	£55,000.00 Assessments (Tfr to CFB) x0	£55,000.00	
£13,105.96 Tax reclaimed A04	£12,617.09	£0.00 Sunday Club M04	£0.00	
£0.00 Job Retention Scheme-HMRC A05	£0.00	£710.04 Ministry under COVID T09	£324.00	
£6,230.68 Special Appeals F01-15, excl F10	£7,654.88	£276.00 Minister's Pastoral Support Fee M12	£322.00	
£72,308.57 Subtotal		£0.00 First Aid Training Elders M12	£0.00	
£1,306.99 Insurance Settlement A19	£0.00	£55,986.04 Subtotal	£55,646.00	
£5,000.00 Circuit Refund ref URC rebate A20	£0.00	£5,350.00 Donations from Church Funds D01-5,7,9	£5,300.00	
£0.00 HM Courts Repay B12	£0.35	£6,230.68 Special Appeals G01-15 excl G10	£7,654.88	
£6,306.99 Subtotal		£915.98 Donations Equiv to Gift Aid Due D08	£875.61	
£4,897.38 Coffee Mornings B02	£4,965.89	Meals during Holidays re: Fisher Fund G18	£425.13	
-£279.45 Meals (net) C05/6	-£762.50	£12,496.66 Subtotal	£14,255.62	
£7,305.51 Lettings B01	£6,550.00	£7,263.80 Repairs/Renewals R01,2	£7,952.05	
£11,923.44 Subtotal		£32,071.40 Major Work R03	£0.00	
£2,846.21 Films A11	£2,905.34	£990.00 Organ tuning R04	£684.00	
£716.00 Donations (funerals) A12	£675.50	£737.57 Cleaning+Sanitary Provision T04,T05	£612.78	
£1,325.00 Funerals/Weddings net Fees/Tax A13/17	£1,100.00	£41,062.77 Subtotal	£9,248.83	
£263.01 Sundries, sale of plants, cards, toddlers A15,16,C11	£15.00	£14,424.00 Wages: Staff & Cover & Tax S01-7 (excl S03)	£19,294.40	
£2,230.00 Boiler Donations from Congregation C12	£0.00	£14,424.00 Subtotal	£14,054.14	
£15,866.00 URC Grant for new boiler F17	£0.00	£9,788.00 Gas/Elec U01/2	£705.96	
Fisher Fund Grant for Holiday Meals F18	£500.00	£604.38 Water rates U03	£511.97	
£2,031.41 RSC (services) B10	£5,136.19	£556.94 Telephone B/B U04	£6,213.95	
£15,000.00 RSC (Rent) B09	£15,000.00	£5,941.23 Insurance (inc copier ins) U05	£1,108.37	
£18.53 Book stall net C01/2	-£1.44	£889.28 Licences U06	£143.86	
£40,296.16 Subtotal		£143.86 Subscriptions (URC Trust Church Fees) U07		
£130,835.16 SUBTOTALS	£25,330.59	£17,923.69 Subtotal	£22,738.25	
	£110,228.93	£190.00 Office Expenses T01	£0.00	
Funds reported separately 2022-23 p2		£1,829.37 Paper, Printing, Copier Lease T02,6,7	£2,593.44	
-£24.80 Fund t/A18, t/S03 taxes-funerals/staff	£523.80	£2,019.37 Subtotal		
£20.00 Fund r (Refugee Benevolent Fund) F10	£0.00	£864.77 Sundries T03	£3,609.89	
£85.78 Fund b b/B04 Benevolent interest	£104.44	£625.04 Worship materials inc AAW M02,3,10	£153.12	
£0.00 Fund y M05,M07,M09 Youth work	£0.00	£0.00 Visiting Minister expenses	£0.00	
£80.98 SubTotal	£628.24	£100.00 CTLD M11	£200.00	
£1,200.00 Legacy A08	£9,987.15	£758.37 Tea, Coffee, Cups for Trinity C07	£747.02	
£0.00 TFR from Cap Reserve for organ	£0.00	-£145.93 Flower fund net C09/10	£204.71	
£14,000.00 TFR from TMCP Glayds Harrop CO	£0.00	£2,202.25 Subtotal		
£0.00 TFR from CFB (shortfall in assessment transferred)	£13,250.00	£0.00 Minors & Minders Closures to CFB	£0.00	
£15,200.00 SUBTOTAL		£1,500.00 Additional Transfer to CFB	£0.00	
£0.00 Minors & Minders Closure	£0.00	Transfer to Leek Building Society	£9,936.81	
	£23,237.15	Subtotal		
	£0.00			
		£147,614.78 Total payments in year	£138,628.09	
£146,116.14 Total Income for Year	£134,094.32	£90.40 Fund t (Tax, Pension, Nat Ins) Y/TAX	£371.14	
£15,839.34 Balance b/f from prev yr (General a/c)	£14,259.72	£653.46 Fund b (b/B05) Benevolent	£100.00	
£54.97 Balance b/f from fund t (Tax)	-£60.23	£487.60 Fund r (Refugees Benevolent Fund G10)	£0.00	
£902.51 Balance b/f from fund b (Benevolent	£334.83	£308.41 Fund y (M05, Youth Outreach)	£211.16	
£1,233.70 Balance b/f from fund y (Youth)	£925.29	£14,259.72 C/F from n (General	£9,097.71	
£467.60 Balance b/f from fund r (Refugees Benevolent)	£0.00	-£60.23 C/F from t (Tax)	£92.43	
		£334.83 C/F from b (Benevolent)	£339.27	
		£925.29 C/F from y (Youth)	£714.13	
		£0.00 C/F from r (Refugees Benevolent)	£0.00	
		Total C/F in NatWest a/c (n,b,t,y) =		
£164,614.26 Grand Total of Income	£149,553.93	£164,614.26 Grand Total of Payments	£10,243.54	
			£149,553.93	

Account c: CONTINGENCY FUND (Central Finance Board, CFB) (*)

Balance brought forward Sept 1 st 2023	£81,368.83	Assessment > Circuit (D/D) Code (N02)	£55,000
Interest CFB (A06)	£4,014.08		
Transfer from Nat West General 29/11/2023	£7,000.00		
Transfer from Nat West General 31/01/2024	£3,750.00		
Transfer from Nat West General 1/03/2024	£10,000.00	Balance c/f 31/08/2024	£72,132.91
Transfer from Nat West General 25/04/2024	£4,000.00		
Transfer from Nat West General 17/05/2024	£4,000.00		
Transfer from Nat West General 30/05/2024	£4,000.00		
Transfer from Nat West General 19/07/2024	£9,000.00		
	£127,132.91		£127,132.91

Account l: CAPITAL RESERVE FUND (Leek United Building Society)

Balance brought forward Sept 1 st 2023	£28,660.13	No TFRs to NATWEST 2023-2024	
Interest Added (A7)	£677.80		
Transfer from Nat West General 1/05/2024	£9,936.81	Balance c/f at 31/08/2024	£39,274.74
	£39,274.74		£39,274.74

Account m: CHURCHES MUTUAL CREDIT UNION (CMCU)

Balance Brought Forward Sept 1 st 2023	£5,034.30	No withdrawals 2023-2024	£0.00
Dividend Credited	£12.58		
		Balance c/f at 31/08/2024	£5,046.88
	£5,046.88		£5,046.88

Funds within NatWest bank account = n (general), t (tax), b (benevolent) y (youth)

Fund t TAX TO HMRC (Designated)

Start balance 1/9/2023	(£60.23)		
Tax on Funeral Fees (t/A18)	£355.00	Payments to HMRC (TAX) + NEST from t/TAX	£371.14
Tax + NEST pension+NI(Staff Wages) (t/S03)	£168.80	Balance c/f at 31/8/2024	£92.43
	£463.57		£463.57

Fund b BENEVOLENT FUND (Restricted)

Start balance 1/9/2023	£334.83	Withdrawals 2023-2024 b/B05	£100.00
Interest from TMCP (b/B04)	£104.44	Balance c/f at 31/08/2024	£339.27
	£439.27		£439.27

Fund y YOUTH EVENTS FUND (Designated)

Start balance 1/9/2023	£ 925.29	Holiday Clubs/Youth Events M05	£211.16
		Balance c/f at 31/08/2024	£ 714.13
	£ 925.29		£ 925.29

(*) Our assessment to the Methodist Circuit and URC Synod is transferred from our general account (a/c n) to the Methodist Central Finance Board (CFB) (a/c) during the course of the year, from where it is debited by the Staffordshire Moorlands Circuit (£55,000).

TMCP Trinity Church Assets: as at 1st September 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

(Note: the 2024 values are taken from the TMCP summary sheets, for the year ending 31st August 2024)

	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	Sept 2020	Sept 2021	Sept 2022	Sept 2023	Sept 2024
TMCP Trust 22109 (Gladys Harrop) (cash)	£41,107.25	£41,374.42	£41,647.63	£36,694.20	£21,705.07	£ 8,191.41	£8,630.85
TMCP Trust 6255 (Edward Norman Birch) (cash)	£55.49 Cash	£55.49 Cash	£55.49 Cash	£55.49 Cash	£55.55 Cash	£55.49 Cash	£55.49 cash
TMCP Trust 725(Emily Morton) Cash:Inv in CFB Mixed Fund:	£921.03 £1,918.28	£921.03 £1,942.06	£921.03 £1,907.80	£921.03 £2,215.69	£921.03 Cash £2,117.14	£921.03cash £2,026.08 invest	£921.03 cash £2,183.05 invest
TMCP Trust 725A (George Hammersley) (cash)	£383.02 Cash	£385.50 Cash	£388.04 Cash	£388.50	£389.27	£400.65 cash	£421.14 cash
TOTAL Invested	Cash £42,466.79 Invest £1,918.28	Cash £42,736.44 Invest: £ 1,942.06	Cash £43,012.19 Invest: £1,907.80	Cash £ 38,059.22 Invest: £2,215.69	Cash £23,070.92 Invest: £2,117.14	Cash £9,568.58 Invest £2,026.08	Cash £10,028.51 Invest £2,183.05

Cash Assets are held in the Trustees Interest Fund.

The Emily Morton Investment part is in the CFB Mixed Fund

Insurance Provision from the Insurance Statement on the Renewal document

	Sept 2019	Sept 2020	Sept 2021	Sept 2022	Sept 2023	Sept 2024
Insurance Value of buildings	£6,210,706	£6,583,349	£6,978,350	£7,536,618	£8,441,013	£9,453,935
Church Contents	£247,761	£260,150	£273,158	£289,548	£324,294	£363,210
Organ	£490,728	£515,265	£541,029	£573,491	£642,310	£719,388
AV Equipment	£23,941	£25,139	£26,396	£27,980	£31,338	£35,099
Employers' Liability	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000
Public Liability	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000
Products Liability	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000	£10,000,000
Trustee's and Officers indemnity	£500,000	£500,000	£500,000	£500,000	£500,000	£500,000
Personal Accident Cover (Ages 5-85)		£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000

There are no outstanding liabilities at the year-end August 31st 2024.

The indexation on the insurance is 12% this year

**Treasurer's Report for Trinity Church, Leek (Methodist and United Reformed)
to the Charity Commission, Sept 1st 2023-Aug 31st 2024 (Charity Number: 1171597)**

General: This year has seen has been a deficit between Receipts and Payments of £4,533.77 with a number of challenges. Offertory's have increased from 2022-23 by £ 900.70 due to a couple of very generous one off donations, whilst, unfortunately, we also note the sad deaths of several long standing church members. The dedication of Church Members in ensuring their Offertory envelopes reach Trinity is an enormous help. Bookings of our Lower Hall and Foyer space have reduced by £ 755.51 from last year. Saturday coffee morning's continue to be extremely popular with a number of Fridays also booked. We also have a Yoga group who use the premises on a regular basis and the occasional ad hoc booking. With the extraordinary situation we continue to be in with the volatility of the energy market and the prevalence of outside charity organisations reducing their available spend this will continue to be a struggle

Our own regular coffee mornings which provide a social environment as well as income, have remained stable this year with £4,966 raised and our regular film clubs have provided excellent return once again of £2,905 Our normal practice of making appeals at Festival times took place at Harvest, Christmas and Easter and several people also made donations directly to our supported Charities as well as via Trinity. (See Page 7 for details)

Receipts: Our Offertory continued to be sufficient for Trinity to pay its pledged Assessment to the Methodist Circuit, which, as Trinity is an LEP (Local Ecumenical Partnership), transfers Ministerial costs to the United Reformed Church for our Mission and Ministry. Giving for special appeals throughout the year was paid out directly to the recipient charities. The Gift Aid reclaimed from HMRC was down by about £ 488

A Legacy payment of £9,987.15 was received from the estate of one of our late members

Payments: Our Ministry has continued to be enhanced by producing printed materials, which are made available. These are all referenced under the tab 'Ministry under COVID', the decrease of £386 from last year is due to less spend on postage, as more people have returned to Church and also more mailings are hand delivered. We were able to maintain our assessment to the Methodist Circuit of £55,000.

There was no 'Major Work' required this year, whilst 'Repairs & Renewals' includes various maintenance work, in addition to the regular costs, the biggest of which were £2,386.82 for roofing repairs, £1,303.20 for Lift Remedial work and £680 for re-decoration of the Church Office

One of the main problem areas this year has been the 'Wages' which show an increase of 4,870 on last year. The Church Administrator went off on long term absence leave, during which we had to continue paying some salary, in line with her contract, Statutory Sick Pay and Accrued Holiday pay.

'Gas/Electric' costs have increased by £4,266 from last year, when we had part of the year without any heat whilst the boiler was being replaced. The New Boiler is proving more economical. We continue to experience a marked increase when our contracts renew. We are currently on fixed term contracts for Gas until July 2026 and Electricity until October 2027

Other Utility costs and the insurance premium show only minimal increases this year.

The additional spend on 'Sundries' was as a result of Occupational Health Assessment costs and HR advice regarding the Church Administrator to bring the matter to a conclusion

We had to use of £3,313 from our reserves during the year. The final £13,250 Quarterly Assessment payment was paid from the Central Finance Board account, whilst the bulk of the Legacy payment £9,936 was transferred to Leek Building Society

Donations: Planned Tithed giving of £5,200 (10% of direct giving) to pre-agreed charities as well as our Festival giving is summarised on page 7.

Conclusion: We have managed to maintain our Assessment but had to reduce our tithed giving slightly as we have lost a number of long standing church members

Energy costs will, of course, continue to be a challenge, and maintenance of our building continues to be an increasing cost with a couple of substantial repairs already booked in for in 2024/25 which may require some more transfers from our reserves. In addition, there are other areas we know will need renovating shortly and the Quinquennial inspection is due in the upcoming year

Robin McDuell (Church Treasurer). December 2024

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Trinity Church, Leek

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Trinity Church, Leek, on pages 1-4 for the year ended 31st August 2024

Responsibilities and basis of report.

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with these records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination'.

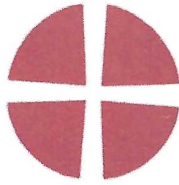
I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Oliver Newey ACA

Signed:



Date: 17/01/2025



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Telephone: 01538 398483
Email: trinitychurchleek@uwclub.net
Registered Charity: 1171597

Trinity Church Accounts 2023-2024

The accounts on Pages 1 to 4 were presented to, and approved by, the

Church Meeting held on ____26th January 2025____

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Rev Denise Williamson (Chairperson) D-E Williamson

Mrs Maureen Wiskin (Church Secretary) Maureen Wiskin

Date: 26-1-25

Allocation of central church funds (tithed giving) to charities 2023-2024

D01	Methodist Mission in Britain Fund	£600
D01	Methodist World Mission Fund	£750
D02	Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust (LWPT)	£200
D02	MHA	£500
D02	Action for Children	£500
D03	URC Commitment for Life	£1,500
D04	Leek Town Centre Youth Project (@21)	£150
D05	Leek Foodbank	£250
D05	Asha	£200
D07	A Rocha UK	£550
	TOTAL	£5,200

Charitable Monies in Transit, 2023-2024 (Money raised for specific appeals)

Event Income	Credit
F01 Harvest Gift Aid slips sent to Christian Aid directly	£874.00
F02 Christmas Appeal	£1,604.40
F03 Easter Appeal	£998.18
F05 Christian Aid (Individuals also contributed online)	£948.00
F06 MHA Appeal	£150.00
F07 Action for Children (Xmas/AforC envs)	£1,262.30
F08 Special Appeals (Unicef Gaza Appeal)	£ 353.00
F11 ASHA	£119.50
TOTAL:	£6,309.38

Paid Away to:>	Debit
G01 Harvest (Christian Aid)	£874.00
G02 Gingerbread Centre (Christmas)*	£802.20
G02 Mercy Ships (Christmas)*	£802.20
G03 Macari Foundation (Easter)*	£499.09
G03 Transform Trade (Easter)*	£499.09
G05 Christian Aid	£948.00
G06 MHA *	£150.00
G07 Action for Children*	£1,262.30
G08 Special Appeals (Unicef Gaza Appeal)*	£353.00
G11 ASHA*	£119.50
TOTAL:	£6,309.38
D08 *Also donations equivalent to Gift Aid paid to Recipients marked *	£875.61