

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1174328

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2017-08-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Rivercourt Methodist Church
King Street
Hammersmith
London
United Kingdom
W6 9JT

Phone 02087411348

Email treasurer@rivercourt.org.uk

Website www.rivercourt.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 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 THE 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.

Activities: Religious Activities

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Hammersmith And Fulham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£154,382	£144,030	-	-
2023-08-31	£122,647	£130,881	-	-
2022-08-31	£95,961	£94,863	-	-
2021-08-31	£93,755	£92,726	-	-
2020-08-31	£112,341	£160,860	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Ilesinga Vunipola	Chair	2019-09-01
ALBERT ADRIAN MONTAGUE GRIGG		2017-05-28
Frances Brown		2022-02-17
JULIANA GOODE		2017-05-14
James Goode		2022-02-17
KWAKU TIEKU		2017-05-14
MR. STEVE LAWRENCE		2017-05-17

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1174328

Accounts

Rivercourt Methodist Church (RMC)

Trustees' Report to the Charity Commission

01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

Church Address: King Street, Hammersmith, London W6 9JT
Circuit Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham 35/04
District London
Charity Number 1174328
Minister in Charge: Revd. Iesinga Vunipola
Trustees at 31 Aug 2024 Revd. Iesinga Vunipola – Chair
Mr. Stephen Lawrence – Treasurer
Mr. Kwaku Tiekku – Organist
Ms. Juliana Goode
Mr. A. A. M. Grigg
Ms. Frances Brown
Mr. James Goode – Safeguarding Officer
Bookkeeper Mr. Solomon Sackey
Auditor Verdant Accountants Limited. (Chaweevan Williams FCCA)

Trustees	<p>The minister is always Chair of the Trustees and is appointed to one or more Churches in our Circuit (charity 1133940). They are chosen by the Conference and paid by the Circuit. Their level of pay is determined by the Conference of the British Methodist Church (Charity number 1132208). Our current minister is Revd. Iesinga ('Singa') Vunipola. At the January Circuit Meeting it was announced that Singa would be invited to retain her post for another 5 years. According to Methodist rules this would be her last appointment in the Circuit.</p> <p>Two new Trustees from last year, Ms. Brown and Mr. Goode, last year attended a professional trustee training course.</p>
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	<p>Two Trustees resigned during the past year, both in August. Ms. Vanessa Brackett has moved out of the area and is now involved in another Church. Ms. Joan Bennett resigned having completed the recommended six years as a Trustee. She continues to hold other positions within Rivercourt Methodist Church (“RMC”). The only other trustee paid apart from the minister is Kwaku Tiekku. He plays the organ at services and is a trained music therapist. He is an excellent organist and communicator which makes him one of the great assets at RMC.</p>
Circuit	<p>The Methodist London District is made up of many Circuits. RMC is a member of the Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit, which consists of five Methodist churches: Askew Road, Chelsea, Fulham Broadway, RMC and Shepherd’s Bush Road. The assignment of ministers within the Circuit is decided by the Circuit itself. We share Rev. Vunipola with Shepherd’s Bush Road Church.</p>
Congregation and Faith Initiatives	<p>When the financial year began in September 2023 Covid was only a memory. RMC had its doors open as they were prior to Covid. Some practices which should have always been done stayed in place. Hand sanitizers, open windows, food and fire safety announcements along with the occasional face mask still make appearances. The position of Safeguarding Officer is now permanent and is always considered whenever changes are made.</p> <p>As the number of worshippers has gone up RMC has made an effort to keep the front doors open as much as possible. Thursdays are the day of choice for mid-week worship. Small Church meetings are held then as well the Film and Faith discussions.</p> <p>Pastoral visiting took place on a regular basis from Church members. Rev. Singa also visited members as required</p> <p>A WhatsApp group has helped those with computers to stay in touch.</p> <p>Last year Rivercourt decided to break from Glass Door Homeless Charity to support a new entity named Sunday Suppers. The breakaway allowed Rivercourt to use the best of Glass Door’s model but utilize the unique advantages we have at Rivercourt. Although long term Sunday Suppers could become a charity, this year it remained a part of Rivercourt Church. Sunday Suppers raised money for itself and only spent money designated for itself.</p>

	<p>This means that the accounts are more complicated than normal this year. A brief summary of the first year of operation follows. In 2023-24, Sunday Suppers served people who are homeless or experiencing food poverty with a nutritious free hot meal every Sunday evening from 19 Nov 2023 to 27 April 2024.</p> <p>Tea and coffee was served from 6.30pm. Supper was served at 7.30pm. We used halal meat; vegetarian and vegan options were available.</p> <p>We also offered our guests some groceries to take away, and good quality second-hand clothing, when available.</p> <p>We fed 172 different people, including 53 women, the youngest of whom was 14, and served over 1,000 meals, including takeaways. By the time we paused for a summer break we were feeding between 65 and 70 guests every Sunday.</p> <p>Volunteers came from Rivercourt and St. Peters. The Tongans regularly cooked and served food. Many others joined via word of mouth. Young adults from local schools helped out with washing up, serving coffee, etc. Special supervision was always given to students by adults mindful of safeguarding responsibilities.</p>
<p>Ministerial Oversight</p>	<p>At the September Church Council Meeting a vote was taken. Rev. Singa decided she wished to stay for another five years and her Circuit churches Shepherd's Bush Road and Rivercourt decided they would like to see her continue in her current role. She also manages the Tongan Fellowship Group in the UK. This brings a great deal of Tongans into Rivercourt of all ages for celebrations and fellowship.</p> <p>RMC is the perfect size for Tongan services and as a result although a normal congregation could be 15 to 20 people if the Tongans attend it could be doubled. If it is a special service, there could be 80 to 90 people including Tongan officials.</p> <p>Methodist ministers normally move from appointment to appointment in 5 year intervals. If both parties agree the 5 years can be extended for an additional 5 years. To stay longer requires exceptional circumstances. Examples could be ministers or family members requiring medical treatment close to the ministerial appointment. Singa began her role in the Circuit in August of 2019.</p>

<p>Building</p>	<p>RMC is an impressive church (insured value £13,185,221 as of 24 June 2024) not including contents. It opened in 1875. This means RMC will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2025. RMC was converted in the late 1990s to provide flexibility in a modern worship space. The building is both a curse and a blessing.</p> <p>The blessing is that as a high street church, there are many people passing by who express a genuine interest into what is going on inside. Many people stop to pray. Its location close to both bus and tube services as well as a cycle lane make it an easy place to have meetings, classes or other get togethers. Many people who come in off the street are very impressed with the worship space. With a large hotel very close we can see tourists on Sunday.</p> <p>The curse of a large church with a small congregation is its upkeep. Property management is a major cost of time and money for the Trustees. In recent years we have had exceptional costs for the spire, the roof, a sewage backup, drain collapses, and damp. Damp and drainage will always be a problem due to how basements were constructed in Victoria times. We just have to learn how to control it.</p>
<p>Financial Accounts</p>	<p>This year finds many categories up on the previous year. This is a one-off result of having Rivercourt Church as well as Sunday Suppers reported at the same time on a single bank account. In the future, once Sunday Suppers becomes a charity itself, the results will be reported separately.</p> <p>The shops in Rivercourt House have been managed badly by the Methodist London Committee (MLC). This has meant RMC is grossly underpaid for the two shops. However this will change as MLC takes charge and gets RMC the correct rent in good time with the correct amounts paid.</p> <p>Following a terrible period with no income from a nursery in the basement, we managed to find a tenant who is able to pay rent at £40,000 a year. Currently the tenant is on a limited contract but that will certainly be converted into a normal letting.</p> <p>Next year will be crucial for RMC. We should be able to collect back rent for properties managed by the MLC and collect a regular amount of £40,000 for the nursery. We could still have problems with the damp.</p>

Reserves	<p>Reserves are the amount of money held by RMC in case of unforeseen circumstances. RMC aims to keep six months of turnover in cash that is easily accessible. Both Sunday Suppers and the Church had a surplus. However the Sunday Suppers account surplus will disappear next year as SS becomes a Charity. Our bank account (Central Board of Finance) remained consistent. We are very dependent on the £10,000 we receive from the Nursery lettings every quarter. We also collect a regular rent from a flat RMC manages in Rivercourt House that is important.</p> <p>Reserves are also people. Our small and older congregation can do with help to realise RMC's potential. We need to employ people outside the congregation to keep RMC relevant via Social Media and Social Ministry. We need money to pay the human energy costs to bring a new generation to Christ in ways the current congregation can't really imagine.</p> <p>Much of our work in the community is the result of having a space that is extremely usable. The Sunday Supper community work brings many new people into RMC with new ideas. This can be seen with the explosion of new volunteers.</p> <p>Collecting the income from the properties managed by the Methodist London Committee (MLC) needs to be regular. If this happens, we should be able to maintain a healthy reserve. If we don't have rental income, we could look to cut back. Essential building repairs don't grow our mission but keep us going as we discover new ways of bringing the word of Christ to West London.</p> <p>If we get regular rental money, there is some pent-up pressure to spend money on RMC to enhance the worship experience and to grow the congregation. Hopefully we will be able to follow this path.</p>
Other	<p>Rivercourt itself received no special grants from Government or private interests. £3,000 was received by Sunday Suppers from The London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. Income was derived from public giving, lettings and users of RMC itself. No professional fundraisers were used. All monies raised and spent were done so in England.</p> <p>Rivercourt Church is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2025. It will require a lot of work to the fabric of the Church. However no serious incidents occurred during the past year.</p>

Steve Lawrence – Church Treasurer

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
(SHORT FORM)

Rivercourt Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

Saturday 31 August 2024

Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham	Circuit no	35/04
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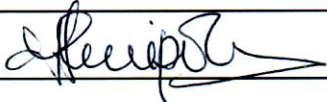
Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1174328


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: /

	Revd IESINGA VUNIPOLA
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Church Stewards:

	JAMES GOODE

Treasurer:

	STEVE LAWRENCE
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ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2024

SECTION A

a1	RECEIPTS	Note
a2i	Offerings and Tax recovered – Church	
a2ii	Donations for Sunday Supper	
a3	Bank and CFB interest & investment income	
a4	Lettings	
a5	Other receipts	
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	

This year's amount to the nearest £

£
15,038
12,350
863
124,093
2,038
154,382

Last year's amount to the nearest £

£
19,903
494
101,738
512
122,647

SECTION B

b1	PAYMENTS	
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	
b3	Donations	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	
b6	Other payments	
b7	Sunday Supper Expenses	
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	0

8,000
53
26,241
30,264
73,352
6,120
144,030

8,872
2,025
37,894
26,859
55,231
0
130,881

SECTION C

c1	NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS) FOR THE YEAR	(a6 - b7)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	
c3	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c1 + c2)
c4	State here the total of any other assets of the Church	
c5	State here the total of any liabilities of the Church	
c6	State here the insured value of the Church premises and contents	

10,352
39,930 (c7)
50,282
13,358,725

(8,234)
48,164
39,930 (c7)
12,906,842

SECTION D ANALYSIS OF FUNDS

d1	Balances held at TMCP at 31 August	
d2	Balances held at CFB at 31 August	
d3	Bank and cash balances at 31 August	
d4	TOTAL (= Box c3)	

17,389
32,893
50,282

16,407
23,523
39,930

SECTION E

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)

e1	Balance brought forward from last year	0	0
e2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	0	
e3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	0	0
e4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	0	0

Name of Church

Rivercourt Methodist Church

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 *Steve Lawrence* Date *30/06/25*
Name and address of treasurer *STEVE LAWRENCE*
36 West Croft Square Post Code *W6 8TA*

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Rowd Ilesingavani Polu*
Name of the Chair of the meeting *Rowd ILESINGAVANI POLU* Date *30.06.25*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Charity Number 1174328

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Rivercourt Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 2. 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 Rivercourt Methodist Church

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 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 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 examiner Chaweevan Williams FCCA

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: Chartered Certified Accountant

Name of firm: Verdant Accountants Limited

Address: 20-22 Wenlock Road,

..... London N1 7GU

Date



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 August 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1174328

Set out on page

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31 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").

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

30 June 2025

Name:

Chaweevan Williams FCCA

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body :**

Chartered Certified Accountants

Address:

Verdant Accountants Limited

20-22 Wenlock Road, London N1 7GU

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2024

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Receipts and payments summary
Year ended 31st August 2024

		<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<u>Voluntary Income</u>				
Collections, donations and Gift Aid		15,038		19,903
Donations for Sunday Supper		12,350		
 <u>Rental income:</u>				
Shops & Flats	51,464		20,527	
Church basement	40,000		47,709	
Church hall lettings	32,629		33,502	
		124,093		101,738
 <u>Others income:</u>				
Bank Interest		863		494
Tenants' contribution towards costs		0		0
Insurance proceeds		0		0
Miscellaneous		2,038		512
Total Receipts		154,382		122,647
 <u>Payments</u>				
Circuit assessment		8,000		8,872
Staff salaries and National Insurance		30,467		30,623
Music Director/organ – Church		5,350		4,850
Property maintenance		26,240		32,749
Insurance		9,111		8,647
Light and heating		29,610		13,639
Water rates		653		688
Business rates		0		5,145
Cleaning and refuse collection		2,853		3,885
Telephone and internet		715		933
Professional fees- includes estate agent's fee		9,583		10,083
Accountancy		810		730
Postage and stationery		3,057		4,055
Travel		352		0
Bank charges		129		134
Other payments – flowers, Christmas tree, etc.		4,232		1,907
Purchase of equipment – computer, Hoover & Fridge		5,002		1,116
License cost		512		0
Sundry Expenses		381		0
Donations		53		2,025
Honorarium Bookkeeping		800		800
Sunday Supper Expenses		6,120		0
Total Payments		(144,030)		(130,881)
 (Deficit)/Surplus		10,352		(8,234)

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
<u>General Fund</u>		
Accumulated (deficit)/surplus at 01 September 2023	39,930	48,164
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year - Church	4,122	(8,234)
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year - Sunday Supper	6,230	0
Accumulated (deficit)/surplus at 31 August 2024	50,282	39,930
<u>Represented by:</u>		
Bank & Cash		
- Central Board of Finance bank deposit account	17,389	16,407
- HSBC bank current account	32,893	23,523
- Petty Cash	0	0
Total funds at 31 August 2024	50,282	39,930



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH	No (if any) 1174328
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from 01/09/2023	To 31/08/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Collections and Donations	15,038	-	-	15,038	19,903
Donations for Sunday Supper	12,350	-	-	12,350	-
Letting Income	124,093	-	-	124,093	101,738
Bank Interest	863	-	-	863	494
Other Receipts	2,038	-	-	2,038	512
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	154,382	-	-	154,382	122,647
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	154,382	-	-	154,382	122,647
A3 Payments					
Church Circuit	8,000	-	-	8,000	8,872
Property maintenance	26,241	-	-	26,241	37,894
Utilities & Water rates	30,264	-	-	30,264	26,859
Staff costs	30,467	-	-	30,467	30,623
Donations	53	-	-	53	2,025
Other payments	37,883	-	-	37,883	23,492
Sunday Supper Expenses	6,120	-	-	6,120	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	139,028	-	-	139,028	129,765
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Asset Purchase	5,002	-	-	5,002	1,116
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	5,002	-	-	5,002	1,116
Total payments	144,030	-	-	144,030	130,881
Net of receipts/(payments)	10,352	0	0	10,352	(8,234)
A5 Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	39,930	0	0	39,930	48,164
Cash funds this year end	50,282	0	0	50,282	39,930

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank accounts HSBC	32,893	-	-
	Bank accounts CFB -Deposit	17,389	-	-
			-	-
	Total cash funds	50,282	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 August 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1174328

Set out on page

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31 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").

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

30 June 2025

Name:

Chaweevan Williams FCCA

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body :**

Chartered Certified Accountants

Address:

Verdant Accountants Limited

20-22 Wenlock Road, London N1 7GU

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1174328

Accounts

Submission of Accounts to Charity Commission
Rivercourt Methodist Church
Year Ended 31 August 2023

Section One: Trustee's Report

Section Two: Charity Commission - Independent
Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Section Three: Methodist Church — Standard Form of
Accounts

Section Four: Simplified Form of Accounts

Rivercourt Methodist Church (RMC)
Trustees' Report to the Charity Commission
September 2022 to August 2023

Church Address: King Street, Hammersmith, London W6 9JT
 Circuit Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham 35/04
 District London
 Charity Number 1174328
 Minister in Charge: Revd. Iesinga Vunipola
 Trustees at 31 Aug 2023 Revd. Iesinga Vunipola – Chair
 Mr. Stephen Lawrence – Treasurer, Property
 Mr. Kwaku Tiekku – Organist (paid)
 Ms. Juliana Goode
 Ms. Joan Bennett
 Mr. A. A. M. Grigg - Property
 Ms. Vanessa Brackett
 Ms. Frances Brown
 Mr. James Goode - Safeguarding, Property
 Bookkeeper Mr. Solomon Sackey
 Auditor Verdant Accountants Limited. (Chaweevan Williams FCCA)

Trustees	<p>The minister is always Chair of the Trustees and is appointed to one or more Churches in our Circuit (charity 1133940). They are chosen by the Conference and paid by the Circuit. Their level of pay is determined by the Conference of the British Methodist Church (Charity number 1132208). Our current minister is Revd. Iesinga ('Singa') Vunipola.</p> <p>The only other trustee paid by Rivercourt is Kwaku Tiekku. He plays the organ at services and is a trained music therapist. He is an excellent organist and communicator which makes him one of</p>
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	<p>the great assets to RMC.</p> <p>The two new Trustees last year, Ms. Brown and Mr. Goode, attended a professional trustee training course during the year. Mr. Goode has also attended safeguarding classes and regularly produces risk analysis reports for Church activities.</p> <p>We hope to introduce a time limit on how long a trustee may remain as a trustee. However, some of our younger members have not been interested in becoming a trustee. We will have to pray about this as none of the current trustees are getting any younger.</p>
Circuit	<p>The Methodist London District is made up of many Circuits. RMC is a member of the Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit, which consists of five Methodist churches: Askew Road, Chelsea, Fulham Broadway, RMC and Shepherd's Bush Road (SBR). The assignment of ministers within the Circuit is decided by the Circuit itself. RMC shares Rev. Singa with SBR.</p>
Congregation and Faith Initiatives	<p>We started the year hopefully in September 2022. Although we lost our main source of revenue when the nursery in the basement pulled out in August 2022, following our appointment of an estate agent, we had immediate interest from two potential tenants at an increased rent from what our previous tenant paid.</p> <p>Following last year's Trustee Report "Rivercourt 2025 – Redefining our future at the heart of the Community", the congregation was willing to dream of the potential available to us. The data from this project was carefully studied this year which resulted in some of the activities mentioned in this report. A lack of money stopped us from implementing any of the more ambitious projects.</p> <p>A solution for damp in the basement wasn't an easy obstacle to overcome and it cost us the initial tenent. Eventually we found a nursery that would work with us on the damp problem and by the beginning of August 2023 we had received our first rental payment from ABC Studio.</p> <p>Most people have returned to worship albeit one or two who still wear masks. Tourists now make regular appearances on Sunday and during the week when the front doors are open. Efforts continued to open the Church more often. However, it proved difficult to keep the Church open on both Wednesday and Thursday due to the lack of volunteers required by safeguarding rules.</p>

As a result, the Church dropped opening on Wednesdays. This has caused greater participation on Thursday opening from 10:30 to 14:30. At 12:30 a thirty-minute service takes place. It is normally led by a minister or local preacher and is on the preaching plan. Occasionally a lay person steps in. Attendance is steady and supported by both RMC and other churches in the Circuit. A bring and share light lunch follows the service.

The Film and Faith group moved to Thursday with films being watched on BBC iPlayer one week and then discussed on the following Thursday.

As most trustees are retired, Thursday has become a regular meeting day, especially with external people who are working.

A GDPR register of all members and regular attendees was created.

A What's App group has helped those with mobile phones to stay in touch.

Glass Door Homeless Charity, which RMC has partnered with for over 20 years operated night shelters with host churches this year including RMC. The maximum number of guests sleeping overnight dropped from 35 to 25. No guests were allowed to eat only. RMC volunteers supported Glass Door by participating in the sponsored Sleep Out. Next year it is anticipated that Glass Door will return to having 35 guests eat and sleep. Also additional guests could be allowed to eat only, without staying overnight.

The Circuit paid for a Zoom infrastructure to be used in every Circuit church. This consisted of a PC, a camera and sound through existing speakers. This is very rarely used. If someone brings their own PC and a person to operate it, they could use the camera and speakers for funerals, weddings and baptisms. The Church may no longer have a paid for license.

Our minister is head of the Tongan Fellowship Community. RMC is the perfect size for Tongan services and as a result, although a normal congregation could be 20 to 25 people, if the Tongans attend it could be doubled. If it is a special service, there could be 80 to 90 people including Tongan officials.

On the 9th of July Rivercourt hosted a Concert which was jointly sponsored by RMC and the Circuit. People from all the churches in the Circuit participated regardless of skill level. On the whole the quality was good and everyone had a great time. However, it was a lot of work for selected people so it may or may not be held

	<p>next year</p> <p>A budget was agreed to purchase equipment for children to play at the back of the worship area. We don't have many children attending services. However, we will never have many children if we don't have space for them to play. Also, the Tongans bring children when they come so it will be used.</p> <p>At Pentecost it was agreed the Africans in the congregation would put on a service themselves. We have Africans from a variety of countries. It was a great success finding out about each country and what makes each country special. It was followed by an African meal combining dishes from all the countries. Unfortunately, we didn't have the Pentecost experience of hearing and understanding everyone's language. Not necessary as we all speak English.</p> <p>We had a "Holiday at Home" day on a Saturday. It was to bring Rivercourt closer to some of the users of our building. We learned a bit about each other and sang everyone's national anthem.</p> <p>During the year, we had two Conversational Worship Services. A member of RMC who does his own podcasts interviewed a person at RMC who had an interesting story to tell about their life outside and inside the church. We may not continue this as the interviewer died not long after the second service.</p> <p>Caring for members who are sheltering and not computer literate has been a challenge. However a pastoral group stays in contact with people who are not regular attendees but would like to stay in touch as indicated using GDPR information. A mobile communion group has been instigated to allow anyone who is unable to attend church to take communion at home.</p>
Ministerial Oversight	<p>Rev. Singa was happy to come to West London as it is a good location for her calling to minister to the Tongan Fellowship in this country. She does this in addition to her Circuit responsibilities. She began her role in the Circuit in August 2019. Revd. Singa completed her fourth year with us in August 2023. We share her ministry with SBR Church. August 2024 will be her fifth year. Her appointment should normally last five years. At this point both she and the congregations will have to decide if she moves on at the end of August 2024 or completes another five years with RMC / SBR.</p> <p>She will have reached retirement age prior to the end of her appointment. She could then retire. If she chooses to stay on and</p>

	<p>the Circuit votes for her to continue, she could opt-in for another five years or less as she will be eligible to retire.</p>
Building	<p>RMC is an impressive church (insured value £12,739,221 as of 24 June 2023) from both the inside and the outside. It opened in 1875. This means RMC will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2025. This celebration is already being planned. RMC was converted in the late 1990s to provide flexibility in a modern worship space. The building is both a curse and a blessing.</p> <p>The blessing is that as a high street church, there are many people passing by who express a genuine interest into what is going on inside. Many people stop to pray. Its location close to both bus and tube services as well as a cycle lane makes it an easy place to have meetings, classes or other get togethers. Many people who come in off the street are very impressed with the worship space. A large hotel is very close so we see tourists almost every Sunday now that COVID is over and people are travelling.</p> <p>The curse of a large church with a small congregation is its upkeep. Property management is a major cost of time and money for the Trustees. In recent years we have had exceptional costs for the spire and the roof. Both projects have now been paid for.</p> <p>Now it was time for the basement. It involved the sewage problem that caused dirty water to flood the basement from below. It happened in July 2021. The insurance work finished in 2022. By the end of the school year, we were stuck with a basement that had rising damp. The question was had the rising damp been caused as a result of improper repairs to the basement or had it always been there?</p> <p>A major task for this year was to get in a new tenant into the basement following the sewage problem. We felt a nursery would probably be a good fit as the basement had been a nursery since the late 90's. We listed the basement with a local estate agent in who immediately put it on the market.</p>
Financial Accounts	<p>2022-23 saw a big increase in receipts to £122,647 up 28%. This increase is due to the first quarter payment of our new nursery tenant in the basement as well as £40,000 paid to RMC by The London Committee (TLC) in back rental payments for Rivercourt House tenants (not the Church basement as shown in the accounts).</p> <p>However, payments also saw a much bigger increase to £130,881 up 38%. This includes</p>

- (1) drainage problems under Property maintenance
- (2) Paying £5,145 in Business Rates
- (3) Estate agent fees of £5,430 paid for acquiring a tenant (nursery) to use the basement.

This resulted in a deficit of £8,234.

Voluntary giving which was down in the previous COVID year bounced up again. Dips should not be so great in the future as more people have turned to planned giving, which cuts the tie between attendance and giving. We are also very good at collecting Gift Aid. As banks have become more averse to accepting cash, planned giving must rise. We also would like to collect money directly from visitors via a mobile card reader. However, it will be some time until we can stop “passing the plate”.

It is interesting to see the income from next door shops and the flat broken down. This hasn't been done in previous reports. The receipts from the flat, managed by RMC, have risen in line with housing costs. Monthly rent is collected by a realtor next door to RMC. The process almost runs itself.

However, the shops located in next door Rivercourt House (two of them) are managed by the Methodist London Committee (MLC) using a Central London realtor. This process completely broke down and has meant RMC has been grossly underpaid for the two shops. The result means a decrease in income of almost 25% to the previous year. At the end of this financial year increased pressure on the MLC has meant a £40,000 back payment to RMC. Additional back payments next year to manage the properties properly should result in another increase in receipts for 2023.

This left RMC in a precarious position at the end of last financial year with no income from the basement and one of the shops. The second shop paid rent at a reduced rate.

The estate agents handling the marketing of the basement got right to work after the previous nursery closed down and produced two prospective tenants. Deals fell through with both potential basement nurseries. A lot of this was because of suspected damp problems in the basement. However, we eventually did sign a licence to occupy with a third nursery which included a promise from us to control the damp problems. We collected our first rental payment from the nursery in August 2023, a year after the previous nursery had left.

RMC welcomed a drop in Circuit assessment of almost one-third to £8,872. This could go up again next year but hopefully not back

	<p>to the previous amount of £24,000.</p> <p>The General Fund is down from £48,164 last year to £39,930 this year.</p> <p>We should be able to collect additional back rent for properties managed by the MLC next year. Our new tenant for the basement, ABC Studio is paying us £40,000 a year in rent. We hope we will get the lease signed sometime next year. There is pressure for RMC to come up with a solution for the damp problem. The full cost of this and liability for payment has yet to be determined.</p>
Reserves	<p>Reserves are the amount of money held by RMC in case of unforeseen circumstances. RMC aims to keep six months of turnover in cash that is easily accessible. Our bank account (Central Board of Finance) took a hit as we struggled to get a tenant for the basement and collect back rent from the tenants in Rivercourt House. We also had costs regarding damp in the basement. Energy costs have skyrocketed. We had to withdraw money to cover costs. Instead of reserves being 50% of income they dropped down to 30%</p> <p>Finding a tenant for the basement is a big step forward. However, they have only signed a licence to occupy as mentioned above. Hopefully next year we will get a lease signed and damp problems will be resolved. We need to continue collecting back rent from the properties managed by MLC in Rivercourt House. We need to move forward with MLC to determine a new method for collecting rent from the two Rivercourt House properties in a timely manner. If this happens, we should be able to maintain a healthy reserve.</p> <p>If we can get a dependable flow of rental income, keep building costs under control and maintain the income from external users of the Church, we should be able to spend money on RMC to enhance the worship experience and to grow the congregation. Hopefully we will be able to follow this path.</p> <p>Much of our work in the community is the result of having a space that is extremely usable. With a small congregation the church building must pay its way for the congregation to grow the Church's mission in Hammersmith and West London.</p>
Other	<p>Rivercourt received no special grants from Government or private interests. Income was derived from public giving, lettings and users of RMC itself. No professional fundraisers were used. All monies raised and spent were done so in England.</p>

	<p>It is very important that Rivercourt can keep a nursery to occupy the basement of the Church and that we find a solution to our damp problems. Business rates for the basement must be paid by RMC if we can't find a business to pay them. We paid £5,145 in business rates this year. We also had to pay for costly utilities in the basement.</p>
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Steve Lawrence – Church Treasurer



**Report to the trustees/
members of**

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 August 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1174328

Set out on page

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31 August 2023.

**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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

22 May 2024

Name:

Chaweevan Williams FCCA

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body :**

Chartered Certified Accountants

Address:

Verdant Accountants Limited

20-22 Wenlock Road, London N1 7GU



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH	No. of funds 1174328
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from 01/09/2022	To 31/08/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Collections and Donations	19,903	-	-	19,903	17,825
Letting Income	101,738	-	-	101,738	73,757
Bank Interest	494	-	-	494	87
Other Receipts	512	-	-	512	4,292
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	122,647	-	-	122,647	95,961
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	122,647	-	-	122,647	95,961
A3 Payments					
Church Circuit	8,872	-	-	8,872	24,000
Property maintenance	37,894	-	-	37,894	12,072
Utilities	26,859	-	-	26,859	13,233
Staff costs	30,623	-	-	30,623	28,598
Donations	2,025	-	-	2,025	-
Other payments	23,492	-	-	23,492	16,409
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	129,765	-	-	129,765	94,312
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Asset Purchase	1,116	-	-	1,116	551
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,116	-	-	1,116	551
Total payments	130,881	-	-	130,881	94,863
Net of receipts/(payments)	(8,234)	0	0	(8,234)	1,098
A5 Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	48,164	0	0	48,164	47,066
Cash funds this year end	39,930	0	0	39,930	48,164

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank accounts HSBC	23,523	-	-
	Bank accounts CFB -Deposit	16,407	-	-
			-	-
	Total cash funds	39,930	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		OK	OK

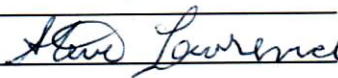
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	STEVE LAWRENCE	30/06/24

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
(SHORT FORM)

Rivercourt Methodist Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

Thursday 31 August 2023

Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham Circuit no 35/04

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1174328





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:

 REVD IESINCA UONIPOLA

Church Stewards:

	JOAN BENNETT
	A.A.M. GRIGG
	JULIANA GOODE
	JAMES GOODE

Treasurer:

STEVE LAWRENCE 

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2023

SECTION A		This year's amount to the nearest £	Last year's amount to the nearest £
a1	RECEIPTS	£	£
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	19,903	17,825
a3	Bank and CFB interest & investment income	494	87
a4	Lettings	101,738	73,757
a5	Other receipts	512	4,292
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	122,647	95,961
SECTION B			
b1	PAYMENTS		
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	8,872	24,000
b3	Donations	2,025	0
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	37,894	12,072
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	26,859	13,233
b6	Other payments	55,231	45,558
b7	TOTAL PAYMENTS	130,881	94,863
SECTION C			
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6 - b7)	(8,234)	1,098
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	48,164 (c7)	47,066
c3	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c1 + c2)	39,930	48,164 (c7)
c4	State here the total of any other assets of the Church		
c5	State here the total of any liabilities of the Church		
c6	State here the insured value of the Church premises and contents	12,906,842	12,171,117
SECTION D ANALYSIS OF FUNDS			
d1	Balances held at TMCP at 31 August		
d2	Balances held at CFB at 31 August	16,407	20,802
d3	Bank and cash balances at 31 August	23,523	27,362
d4	TOTAL (= Box c3)	39,930	48,164
SECTION E			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)			
e1	Balance brought forward from last year	0	0
e2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	0	
e3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	0	0
e4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (e1+e2-e3)	0	0

Name of Church

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 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 *Steve Lawrence* Date *19/05/24*
Name and address of treasurer *Steve Lawrence*
36 Westcroft Square, London Post Code *W6 0TA*

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *[Signature]*
Name of the Chair of the meeting *Rona Jesinca Vunipola* Date *19/05/24*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Charity Number 1174328

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Rivercourt Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 2. 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

Rivercourt Methodist Church

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 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 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 examiner Chaweevan Williams FCCA

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: Chartered Certified Accountant

Name of firm: Verdant Accountants Limited

Address: 20-22 Wenlock Road,

..... London N1 7GU

Date

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2023

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Receipts and payments summary
Year ended 31st August 2023

		<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<u>Voluntary Income</u>				
Collections, donations and Gift Aid		19,903		17,825
<u>Rental income:</u>				
Shops & Flats	20,527		20,665	
Church basement	47,709		26,358	
Church hall lettings	<u>33,502</u>		<u>26,734</u>	
		101,738		73,757
 <u>Others income:</u>				
Bank Interest		494		87
Tenants' contribution towards costs		0		0
Insurance proceeds		0		4,292
Miscellaneous		512		0
Total Receipts		<u>122,647</u>		<u>95,961</u>
 <u>Payments</u>				
Circuit assessment		8,872		24,000
Staff salaries and National Insurance		30,623		28,598
Music Director/organ		4,850		5,600
Property maintenace		32,749		12,072
Insurance		8,647		7,898
Light and heating		13,639		3,669
Water rates		688		1,666
Busness rates		5,145		0
Cleaning and refuse collection		3,885		2,703
Telephone and internet		933		739
Professional fees- includes estate agent's fee £5,430		10,083		2,516
Accountancy		730		730
Postage and stationery		4,055		2,088
Travel		0		485
Bank charges		134		97
Other payments – flowers, Christmas tree, etc.		1,907		1,451
Purchase of equipment – computer, Hoover & Fridge		1,116		551
Donations		2,025		0
Honorarium		800		0
Total Payments		<u>(130,881)</u>		<u>(94,863)</u>
 (Deficit)/Surplus		 <u>(8,234)</u>		 <u>1,098</u>

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2023

	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
<u>General Fund</u>		
Accumulated (deficit)/surplus at 01 September 2022	48,164	47,066
(Deficit /Surplus for the year	(8,234)	1,098
Accumulated (deficit)/surplus at 31 August 2023	39,930	48,164
<u>Represented by:</u>		
Bank & Cash		
- Central Board of Finance bank deposit account	16,407	20,802
- HSBC bank current account	23,523	27,352
- Petty Cash	0	10
Total funds at 31 August 2023	39,930	48,164

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1174328

Accounts

**Submission of Accounts to Charity Commission
Rivercourt Methodist Church
Year Ended 31 August 2022**

Section One: Trustee's Report

**Section Two: Charity Commission - Independent
Examiner's Report on the Accounts**

**Section Three: Methodist Church — Standard Form of
Accounts**

Section Four: Simplified Form of Accounts

Rivercourt Methodist Church (RMC)
Trustees' Report to the Charity Commission
September 2021 to August 2022

Church Address: King Street, Hammersmith, London W6 9JT
 Circuit Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham 35/04
 District London
 Charity Number 1174328
 Minister in Charge: Revd. Iesinga Vunipola
 Trustees at 31 Aug 2022 Revd. Iesinga Vunipola – Chair
 Mr. Stephen Lawrence – Treasurer
 Mr. Kwaku Tiekku – Organist
 Ms. Juliana Goode
 Ms. Joan Bennett
 Mr. A. A. M. Grigg
 Ms. Vanessa Brackett
 Ms. Francess Brown
 Mr. James Goode
 Bookkeeper Mr. Solomon Sackey
 Auditor Antippa & Company Ltd. (Angelo G. Antippa)

Trustees	<p>Two new Trustees, Ms. Brown and Mr. Goode, were added on 17/02/2022.</p> <p>The minister is always Chair of the Trustees and is appointed to one or more Churches in our Circuit (charity 1133940). They are chosen by the Conference and paid by the Circuit. Their level of pay is determined by the Conference of the British Methodist Church (Charity number 1132208). Our current minister is Revd. Iesinga ('Singa') Vunipola.</p> <p>The only other trustee paid by Rivercourt is Kwaku Tiekku. He</p>
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	<p>plays the organ at services and is a trained music therapist. He is an excellent organist and communicator which makes him one of the great assets to RMC.</p>
Circuit	<p>The Methodist London District is made up of many Circuits. RMC is a member of the Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit, which consists of five Methodist churches: Askew Road, Chelsea, Fulham Broadway, RMC and Shepherd's Bush Road. The assignment of ministers within the Circuit is decided by the Circuit itself.</p>
Congregation and Faith Initiatives	<p>When the financial year began in September 2021 RMC had its doors open. They have stayed open every Sunday for the entire year. RMC adhered to all the government requirements at various times throughout the year including social distancing, temperature checks, Track & Trace, hand sanitisers, open windows, etc.</p> <p>Most people have returned to worship. A few elderly persons have not returned for health reasons while some others have drifted away. The tourists have started to make appearances.</p> <p>The front doors of RMC are imposing and generally shut. Efforts were made to open the Church more often. As a result, the Church was opened on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 12:30 for prayer and Thursdays at 12:30 for a short service and a bring and share lunch.</p> <p>A Film and Faith group was started where BBC iPlayer films are watched on computer or DVD during the month. Finally, everyone comes together for discussion on a subsequent day.</p> <p>A GDPR register of all members and regular attendees was created.</p> <p>A What's App group has helped those with computers to stay in touch.</p> <p>Unfortunately, Glass Door Homeless Charity, which RMC has partnered with since last century, did not operate night shelters with any host churches this year. More concentration on fewer homeless people was the order of the winter season. RMC supported Glass Door by participating in the sponsored Sleep Out. Next year it is anticipated that Glass Door will return to using host churches to feed and sleep the homeless.</p> <p>Zoom was used for Bible Studies with other churches in the Circuit as well as Circuit Lent, Advent studies and other Circuit</p>

wide events. So far Zoom has not been used regularly for Sunday services. Zoom has been used for special services such as baptisms, funerals, and marriages.

RMC is the perfect size for Tongan services and as a result although a normal congregation could be 15 to 20 people if the Tongans attend it could be doubled. If it is a special service, there could be 80 to 90 people including Tongan officials.

The highlight of the year was the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration in early June. Church members and guests came out in celebratory native dress. Young Tongans in native dress put on a dancing exhibition. There was live and recorded music which carried all along King Street. There was a free BBQ with tables out on the pavement. More than one person subsequently returned for a Sunday worship, including one who has become a key person in RMC's development.

It is planned that more low-cost parties will occur in the future.

A lack of money stopped us from implementing any ambitious projects. A research project was initiated to establish what our position is within the community so we could develop work that actually is required as opposed to what the RMC people believed might be required.

This research project, Titled "Rivercourt 2025 – Redefining our future at the heart of the Community", was one in which all members of RMC participated. The survey was completed by six categories of people –

1. Current users of Rivercourt – people who regularly rent space.
2. Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit leaders as well as our London District Chair.
3. The Local Authority of Hammersmith & Fulham
4. Local Schools
5. Charities / Third Sector
6. Non-Methodist Churches with whom RMC has a relationship.

Telephone calls were made to all these groups inviting their participation.

A link to an electronic survey was offered as well to groups which we couldn't ring. In addition, members of the congregation polled people walking outside the Church.

	<p>What we learned will be used to drive decisions in the future when we are able to fund more activities.</p> <p>An average of 25 people attended Rivercourt services before the pandemic in 2020. That is probably down to between 15-20. During Tongan celebration it could be two or three times that number as mentioned previously</p> <p>Caring for members who are sheltering and not computer literate has been a challenge.</p> <p>Some older members did not want to do Zoom and the Tongans started running their own services which are mainly delivered in their native tongue.</p> <p>Next year when restrictions such as social distancing are lifted and tourists return, we will be able to have a more precise idea of likely numbers in the future.</p>
Ministerial Oversight	<p>Revd. Singa Vunipola completed her third year with us in August 2022. We share her ministry with Shepherd's Bush Road Church.</p> <p>Singa was happy to come to West London as it is a good location for her calling to minister to the Tongan Fellowship in this country. She does this in addition to her Circuit responsibilities. She began her role in the Circuit in August of 2019. Her appointment should last five years. She will have reached retirement age prior to the end of her appointment. She could then retire. If she chooses to stay on and the Circuit votes for her to continue, she could opt-in for another five years or less as she will be eligible to retire.</p> <p>RMC welcomed a new superintendent, Revd Faith Nyota, to the Circuit on 28th August 2022. This fills a massive hole for all the churches in the Circuit.</p>
Building	<p>RMC is an impressive church (insured value £12,013,051 as of 06 June 2022) from both the inside and the outside. It opened in 1875. This means RMC will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2025. RMC was converted in the late 1990s to provide flexibility in a modern worship space. The building is both a curse and a blessing.</p> <p>The blessing is that as a high street church, there are many people passing by who express a genuine interest into what is going on inside. Many people stop to pray. Its location close to both bus and tube services as well as a cycle lane make it an easy place to have meetings, classes or other get togethers. Many people who</p>

	<p>come in off the street are very impressed with the worship space. With a large hotel very close we can see tourists on Sunday.</p> <p>The curse of a large church with a small congregation is its upkeep. Property management is a major cost of time and money for the Trustees. In recent years we have had exceptional costs for the spire and the roof. Both projects have now been paid for.</p> <p>A dark day for RMC was 12th July 2021. As we moved close to the end of the previous financial year and the end of the tenant's lease, both on 31st August 2021, a torrential rain flooded the local sewer system which caused sewage to back up through toilets into the nursery, which operates in the basement.</p> <p>Luckily, we were well insured. However Methodist Insurance only released the basement back to RMC in January 2022..</p>
Financial Accounts	<p>2021-22 saw a small increase in receipts to £95,691. Payments also had a small increase to £94,863. This resulted in a small surplus of £1,098 which is only a few pounds more than the previous year.</p> <p>Voluntary giving which was down in the previous COVID year bounced up again. Dips should not be so great in the future as more people have turned to planned giving, which cuts the tie between attendance and giving. As banks have become more averse to accepting cash, planned giving must rise. However, it will be a long time until we can stop "passing the plate".</p> <p>It is interesting to see the income from next door shops and the flat broken down. This hasn't been done in previous reports. The receipts from the flat, managed by RMC, have risen in line with housing costs. Monthly rent is collected by a realtor next door to RMC. The process almost runs itself.</p> <p>However, the shops are managed by the Methodist London Committee (MLC) using a Central London realtor. This has meant RMC is grossly underpaid for the two shops. The result means in a decrease in income of almost 25% to the previous year. One shop has paid nothing. At the end of this financial year increased pressure on the (MLC) to manage the properties properly should result in a large increase in receipts for 2023.</p> <p>The nursery in the basement entered a disastrous period which coincided with the sewage backup in July 2021. The work to reinstate the basement didn't end until Jan 2022. In the autumn the older children were told to find new schools. The younger children had to move into RMC for classes. This was good for RMC as most of the RMC Hall users had not yet returned as many</p>

	<p>of them included older people who were shielding. Hall receipts tripled to £26,734. The nursery also helped pay for gas and electricity during the winter months. This is included in the £4,292 labelled “tenants’ contribution towards costs”. When it was time for the older children to return to the nursery, they all decided they would rather stay where they were. This was a blow the nursery couldn’t withstand and the school had to close following the final end of term in July 2022 The nursey tried to sell their furnishings and finally moved out in August 2022,</p> <p>This left RMC in a precarious position at the end of the financial year as there was no income from the nursery or one of the shops. The second shop is paying rent at a reduced rate.</p> <p>Other income was down by the amount of the HMRC Job Retention Scheme which was halted.</p> <p>RMC will have a welcomed drop in Circuit assessment next year of one-third (£8,000) because of a Circuit manse being returned into a rental property.</p> <p>We had a large increase in music costs of over three times to £5,600 from £1,640. This isn’t surprising as cost is directly linked to the number of performances including Sundays and other events. Going back to 2019 the cost was £4,160 which would be a much smaller increase.</p> <p>The General Fund is consistent with the previous year, £48,164 against £47,066. However, the CFB is our Church Reserve Fund. It is down from £30,605 to £20,802. We received a large payment of just under £10,000 at the end of the financial year elevated savings in HSBC.</p> <p>Next year will be crucial for RMC. We should be able to collect back rent for properties managed by the MLC. We need to find a tenant for the basement. We could have to pay business rates starting on 8th November 2022 if we don’t have a tenant by then. If we can’t find a tenant for some time and we don’t receive proper payments from the MLC, RMC could get into financial difficulties.</p>
Reserves	Reserves are the amount of money held by RMC in case of unforeseen circumstances. RMC aims to keep six months of turnover in cash that is easily accessible. Our bank account (Central Board of Finance) took a hit as we struggled withdrawing money to cover costs. We were saved by insurance payments which gave us slightly greater receipts than the previous year and

	<p>kept our reserves at right around 50%.</p> <p>The key to next year is finding a tenant for the basement and collecting the income from the properties managed by MLC. If this happens, we should be able to maintain a healthy reserve. If we don't have rental income, we could need to borrow from the Circuit. The only money we have spent has been for essential repairs.</p> <p>If we get the rental money, there is some pent-up pressure to spend money on RMC to enhance the worship experience and to grow the congregation. Hopefully we will be able to follow this path.</p> <p>Much of our work in the community is the result of having a space that is extremely usable. With a small congregation the building must break even.</p>
Other	<p>Rivercourt received no special grants from Government or private interests. Income was derived from public giving, lettings and users of RMC itself. No professional fundraisers were used. All monies raised and spent were done so in England.</p> <p>Apart from the pandemic and the sewage backup, no other serious incidents occurred during the year.</p>

Steve Lawrence – Church Treasurer



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Rivercourt Methodist Church

On accounts for the year
ended

31 August 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1174328

Set out on pages

1-2 attached

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2022

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity'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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: A. S. Antippa

Date: 24 January 2023

Name: Antippa & Company Ltd, Chartered Accountants

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCA, CTA

Address: 17 Copthall Gardens

Twickenham

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

None



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Rivercourt Methodist Church

1174328

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/09/2021	To	31/08/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Collections and donations	17,825	-	-	17,825	10,054
Lettings income	73,757	-	-	73,757	68,509
HMRC grants Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	-	14,870
Bank interest	87	-	-	87	42
Other receipts	4,292	-	-	4,292	280
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	95,961	-	-	95,961	93,755
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	95,961	-	-	95,961	93,755
A3 Payments					
Church circuit	24,000	-	-	24,000	24,000
Property maintenance	12,072	-	-	12,072	12,841
Utilities	13,233	-	-	13,233	13,554
Staff costs	28,598	-	-	28,598	28,973
Donations	-	-	-	-	200
Other payments	16,409	-	-	16,409	13,130
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	94,312	-	-	94,312	92,698
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
Asset purchases	551	-	-	551	28
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	551	-	-	551	28
Total payments	94,863	-	-	94,863	92,726
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,098	-	-	1,098	1,029
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	47,066	-	-	47,066	46,037
Cash funds this year end	48,164	-	-	48,164	47,066

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank accounts	48,154	-	-
	Petty cash	10	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	48,164	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
(SHORT FORM)

Rivercourt Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham

Circuit

Circuit no

35/04

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number


1174328

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:

REVD IESINGA VUNIPOLA



Church Stewards:

JAMES GOODE

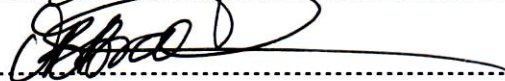
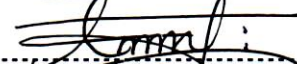
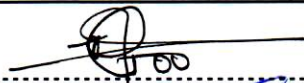
ALBERT GRIGG

Juliana Goode

Kwaku Tiekou

Vnessa Bae

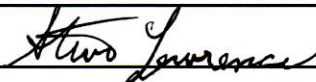
Joan P BERNETT



Joan P Bennett

Treasurer:

STEVE LAWRENCE



Rivercourt Methodist

Church

Church - Short Form

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

SECTION A		This year's amount to the nearest £	Last year's amount to the nearest £
a1	RECEIPTS	£	£
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	17,825	10,054
a3	Bank and CFB interest & investment income	87	42
a4	Lettings	73,757	68,509
a5	Other receipts	4,292	15,150
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	95,961	93,755
SECTION B			
b1	PAYMENTS		
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	24,000	24,000
b3	Donations		200
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	12,072	12,841
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	13,233	13,554
b6	Other payments	45,558	42,131
b7	TOTAL PAYMENTS	94,863	92,726
SECTION C			
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6 - b7)	1,098	1,029
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	47,066 (c7)	46,037
c3	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c1 + c2)	48,164	47,066 (c7)
c4	State here the total of any other assets of the Church		
c5	State here the total of any liabilities of the Church		
c6	State here the insured value of the Church premises and contents		12,171,117
SECTION D ANALYSIS OF FUNDS			
d1	Balances held at TMCP at 31 August		
d2	Balances held at CFB at 31 August	20,802	30,605
d3	Bank and cash balances at 31 August	27,362	16,461
d4	TOTAL (= Box c3)	48,164	47,066
SECTION E		FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	
(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)			
e1	Balance brought forward from last year		
e2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		
e3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
e4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (e1+e2-e3)		

Name of Church: Rivercourt Methodist Church No.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 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 *Steve Lawrence* Date *07 Feb 2023*
Name and address of treasurer *Steve Lawrence*
36 Westcrott Square, London Post Code *W6 0TA*

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Charity Number 1174328

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Rivercourt Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on page 2. 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: Rivercourt Methodist Church No

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 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 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 A.C. Antippa

Name of independent examiner: Angelo Antippa, Director

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCA, CTA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Antippa & Company Ltd, Chartered Accountants

Address: 17 Copthall Gardens, Twickenham, TW1 4HH

Date: 24 January 2023

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2022

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Receipts and payments summary
Year ended 31 August 2022

	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<u>Voluntary income:</u>				
Collections, donations and Gift Aid		17,825		10,054
<u>Rental income:</u>				
Shops	7,304		9,519	
Flat	13,361		12,968	
Church basement	26,358		37,800	
Church hall lettings	26,734		8,222	
		<u>73,757</u>		<u>68,509</u>
<u>Other income:</u>				
Bank interest		87		42
HMRC grants - Job Retention Scheme		0		14,870
Tenants' contribution towards costs		0		280
Insurance proceeds		4,292		0
		<u>95,961</u>		<u>93,755</u>
Payments				
Circuit assessment		24,000		24,000
Staff salaries and National Insurance		28,598		28,973
Musical director/organ		5,600		1,640
Property maintenance		12,072		12,841
Insurance		7,898		9,768
Light and heating		3,669		2,314
Water rates		1,666		1,472
Cleaning and refuse collection		2,703		3,972
Telephone and internet		739		590
Professional fees		2,516		2,800
Accountancy		730		730
Postage and stationery		2,088		1,209
Travel		485		70
Bank charges		97		0
Other payments – flowers, Christmas tree, etc.		1,451		2,319
Purchase of equipment – printer		551		28
		<u>-94,863</u>		<u>-92,726</u>
Surplus of receipts over payments		<u>£1,098</u>		<u>£1,029</u>

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
<u>General Fund</u>		
Accumulated surplus at 1 September 2021	47,066	46,037
<u>Add:</u> Surplus for the year 2022	1,098	1,029
Accumulated surplus at 31 August 2022	<u>£48,164</u>	<u>£47,066</u>
 <u>Represented by:</u>		
Bank and cash	£	£
- Central Board of Finance bank deposit account	20,802	30,605
- HSBC bank current account	27,352	16,446
- Petty cash	10	15
Total funds at 31 August 2022	<u>£48,164</u>	<u>£47,066</u>

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1174328

Accounts

Submission of Accounts to Charity Commission
Rivercourt Methodist Church
Year Ended 31 August 2021

Section One: Trustee's Report

Section Two: Charity Commission - Independent Examiner's
Report on the Accounts

Section Three: Methodist Church – Standard Form of
Accounts

Section Four: Simplified Form of Accounts

Rivercourt Methodist Church (RMC)
Trustees' Report to the Charity Commission
September 2020 to August 2021

Church Address: King Street, Hammersmith, London W6 9TF
 Circuit Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham 35/04
 District London
 Charity Number 1133940
 Minister in Charge: Revd. Iesinga Vunipola
 Trustees at 31 Aug 2021 Revd. Iesinga Vunipola – Chair
 Mr. Stephen Lawrence – Treasurer
 Mr. Kwaku Tiekku – Organist
 Ms. Juliana Goode
 Ms. Joan Bennett
 Mr. A. A. M. Grigg
 Ms. Vanessa Brackett
 Bookkeeper Mr. Solomon Sackey
 Auditor Antippa & Company Ltd. (Angelo G. Antippa)

Trustees	<p>One trustee resigned during the financial year. The minister is always Chair of the Trustees and is appointed to one or more Churches in our Circuit (charity 1133940). They are chosen by the Conference and paid by the Circuit. Their level of pay is determined by the Conference of the British Methodist Church (Charity number 1132208). Our current minister is Revd. Iesinga (“Singa”) Vunipola.</p> <p>The only other trustee paid by Rivercourt is Kwaku Tiekku. He plays the organ at services and is a trained music therapist. He is an excellent organist and communicator which makes him one of the great assets to RMC.</p>
Congregation	We started the financial year with RMC closed for religious

	<p>services. It eventually re-opened on 24th June. Thus, we have only been open for a couple months of this financial year. Because we have an elderly congregation, some RMC members have not yet returned.</p> <p>We also normally have some tourists in attendance as we are located on a major street in West London. A lack of tourists has dried up that source of worshippers.</p> <p>An average of 25 people attended Rivercourt services before the pandemic in 2020. There were approximately 50 members.</p> <p>Revd Vunipola is Tongan and head of the Tongan Fellowship Community. She attracts a large number of Tongans to RMC. Although our congregation has been 10 to 15 since re-opening, it could swell to two or three times that number depending on who is preaching.</p> <p>RMC is a member of the Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit, which consists of five Methodist churches: Askew Road, Chelsea, Fulham Broadway, Rivercourt and Shepherd's Bush Road. From the start of the financial year all the churches in the Circuit had started running Zoom Services. In general, Askew Road ran their own service. The other churches, including RMC had combined Zoom services, led by presbyters and local preachers in the Circuit with occasional guest ministers who were free. The Circuit also started Zoom Circuit services one Sunday a month.</p> <p>Caring for members who are sheltering and not computer literate has been a challenge.</p> <p>Some older members did not want to do Zoom and the Tongans started running their own services which are mainly delivered in their native language, Tongan</p> <p>Once lockdown ends completely, we will be able to have a more precise idea of likely numbers going forward.</p>
Ministerial Oversight	<p>Revd. Singa completed her second year with us in August 2021. We share her ministry with Shepherd's Bush Road Church.</p> <p>Singa was happy to come to West London as it is a good location for her calling to minister to the Tongan Fellowship in addition to her Circuit responsibilities. She began her role in the Circuit in August of 2019. Her appointment should last five years. She will have reached retirement age prior to the end of her appointment. She could then retire. If she chooses to stay on and the Circuit</p>

	<p>votes for her to continue, she could opt-in for another five years or less as she will be eligible to retire.</p> <p>The superintendent of our Circuit went off on sick leave in December. He is currently still on sick leave at the end of this financial year. Revd Singa is the senior presbyter in the Circuit. This means she has had to take on some superintendent responsibilities in addition to her church responsibilities. Hopefully this situation will resolve itself in the next financial year.</p>
Building	<p>RMC is an impressive church (insured value £10,842,160 as of 24 June 2021) from both the inside and outside. It opened in 1875. It was converted in the late 1990s to provide flexibility in a modern worship space. This is both a blessing and a curse.</p> <p>The blessing is that as a high street church, there are many people passing by the building expressing a genuine interest into what is going on inside and stopping to pray. Its location close to both bus and tube services make it an easy place to have meetings, classes or other get together.</p> <p>The curse of a large church is its upkeep, which is a major cost of time and money for the Trustees. In recent years we have had exceptional costs for the spire and the roof. Our last cost for the roof was the 5% retention fee which came due in June 2021.</p> <p>A dark day for RMC was the 12th of July. As we moved close to the end of the financial year and the end of the tenant's lease, both 31st August, a torrential rain flooded the local sewer system which caused sewage to back up through basement toilets into the nursery which operates in the basement.</p> <p>Luckily, we were insured as by the end of August builders believe their work will not be complete until December 2021, which means that the nursery will have to use RMC for classrooms. So far Methodist Insurance have been very supportive.</p>
Financial Accounts	<p>2020-21 saw a drop in receipts. The rent from the nursery school increased, as nurseries stayed open throughout the financial year despite the pandemic. The nursery rent was paid at the increased amount negotiated from the previous year. Income from the Church Hall declined dramatically as the pandemic caused the bottom to drop out of the letting market across the board from dance groups and classes to rehearsal space for opera companies.</p> <p>Other income was down where furlough gains of the administrator and custodian costs were more than offset loss by the one-off</p>

	<p>grant for roof repairs.</p> <p>We had a massive drop in payments as a result of the previous year's cost of roof maintenance. Insurance was way up as RMC was re-rated by Methodist Insurance. This only occurs once every few years so the costs should not rise for the next few years unless we have expensive claims. Later in the report it shows that in fact we did have a massive claim just near the end of the financial year</p> <p>We also had a rise in other payments which were tied to the reopening. This included a deep clean for the entire Church as well as signage, special bins, costs for tracking cleaning, hand sanitizers and masks. We should be able to claim these costs back next year from a London District fund</p> <p>RMC should also receive rents from three properties in adjoining Rivercourt House. We receive rental payment from a flat that the RMC collects. The other two properties are managed by the London Committee in exchange for rent collected on a fourth property in Rivercourt House. This rent goes directly to the London Committee.</p> <p>The agents who operate on behalf of the London Committee, setting and collecting rent have not been doing so and the London Committee are not tracking the work these agents do. This could cause a challenge in the next financial year for RMC.</p> <p>Our receipts were down our costs dropped dramatically which resulted in a small profit for the year of £1029.</p> <p>Although reserves are below what they should be and the damage to the nursery of the sewage backup remains uncertain, the future should be rosy as tenants return to the building along with the congregation who has become tired of Zoom services. Zoom will certainly be used for Bible Studies, Funerals and Weddings However, people are ready to begin worshipping together as a congregation.</p>
Reserves	<p>Reserves are the amount of money held by RMC in case of unforeseen circumstances. RMC aims to keep six months of easily accessible cash available. In 2019-20 our bank account (Central Board of Finance) took a massive hit. In this year the amount held by the Central Bank went up a slight amount.</p> <p>In the past year the RMC held the line against the problems of the previous year. If the nursery repairs are completed and the properties adjacent to RMC start having their rents collected</p>

	<p>regularly, next year could consist of RMC getting its reserves back where they belong and allow for needed changes such as painting and upgrading technology.</p> <p>The Church is 125 years old and maintenance costs are very high whether or not the building is in use. We will have to reduce costs and rely on savings while lettings build back up again post Covid. Much of our work in the community is the result of having a space that is extremely usable. With a small congregation the building has to break even. Our savings reserves will tend to fluctuate between just over and just under 50% of the outgoings.</p>
Other	<p>Rivercourt received no special grants from Government or private interests. We took advantage of the Government Job Retention Scheme and put our two employees, church administrator and custodian, on furlough while still paying 20% of their salary. Income was also derived from public giving, lettings and users of RMC itself. No professional fundraisers were used. All monies raised and spent were done so in England.</p> <p>Apart from the pandemic and the sewage backup, no other serious incident(s) occurred during the year, either reported or unreported.</p>

Steve Lawrence – Church Treasurer
 Revd. Singa Vunipola - Minister



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

31 AUGUST 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1174328

Set out on pages

1-2 attached

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity'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 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

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

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 gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

A.S. ANTIPPA

Date:

12 February 2022

Name:

ANTIPPA & CO LTD, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

FCA, CTA

(if any):

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Address:

17 COPTHALL GARDENS
TWICKENHAM
TW1 4HH

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from		To	
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Collections and Donations	10,054	-	-	10,054	13,655
Lettings income	68,509	-	-	68,509	71,514
Bank interest	42	-	-	42	491
HMRC grant Job Retention Scheme	14,870	-	-	14,870	6,371
Grant for roof repairs	-	-	-	-	20,000
Other receipts	280	-	-	280	310
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	93,755	-	-	93,755	112,341
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	93,755	-	-	93,755	112,341
A3 Payments					
Church circuit	24,000	-	-	24,000	24,000
Property maintenance	12,841	-	-	12,841	87,351
Utilities	13,554	-	-	13,554	9,543
Staff costs	28,973	-	-	28,973	26,991
Donations	200	-	-	200	100
Other payments	13,130	-	-	13,130	10,510
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	92,698	-	-	92,698	158,495
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Asset purchases	28	-	-	28	2,365
Sub total	28	-	-	28	2,365
Total payments	92,726	-	-	92,726	160,860
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,029	-	-	1,029	- 48,519
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	46,037	-	-	46,037	94,556
Cash funds this year end	47,066	-	-	47,066	46,037

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank accounts	47,051	-	-
	Petty cash	15	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	47,066	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

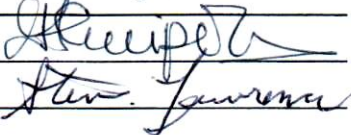

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	IESINGA UENIPOLA	16/06/22
	STEVE LAWRENCE	16/06/22

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
(SHORT FORM)

Rivercourt Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham	Circuit	35	04
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

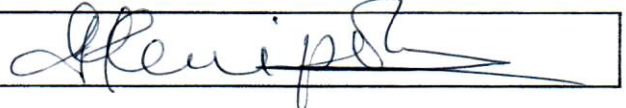
1174328

If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
Gift Aid number






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(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)

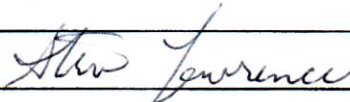
Minister:

Revd IESINGA VUNIPOLA 
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Church Stewards:

	Vanessa B. Brackett
	JOAN B BENNETT
	ALBERT G. G. G.
	Juliana Crook
	Kwaku Tiekou

Treasurer:

Steve Lawrence	
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Rivercourt Methodist

Church

Church - Short Form

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

SECTION A		This year's amount to the nearest £	Last year's amount to the nearest £
	Note	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS		
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	10,054	13,655
a3	Bank and CFB interest & investment income	42	491
a4	Lettings	68,509	71,514
a5	Other receipts	15,150	26,681
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	93,755	112,341
SECTION B			
b1	PAYMENTS		
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	24,000	24,000
b3	Donations	200	100
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	12,841	87,351
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	13,554	9,543
b6	Other payments	42,131	39,866
b7	TOTAL PAYMENTS	92,726	160,860
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6 - b7)	1,029	(48,519)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	46,037 (c7)	94,556
c3	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c1 + c2)	47,066	46,037 (c7)
c4	State here the total of any other assets of the Church		
c5	State here the total of any liabilities of the Church		
c6	State here the insured value of the Church premises and contents	10,984,820	11,843,545
SECTION D ANALYSIS OF FUNDS			
d1	Balances held at TMCP at 31 August		
d2	Balances held at CFB at 31 August	30,605	30,434
d3	Bank and cash balances at 31 August	16,461	15,603
d4	TOTAL (= Box c3)	47,066	46,037
SECTION E			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)			
e1	Balance brought forward from last year		
e2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		
e3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
e4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (e1+e2-e3)		

Name of Church: Rivercourt Methodist Church No

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 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 02/06/22

Name and address of treasurer Steve Lawrence
36 Westcroft Square, London Post Code W6 0TA

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting IESINGA VUNIPOLA Date 16/06/2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Charity Number 1174328

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Rivercourt Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on page 2. 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: Rivercourt Methodist Church No

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 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 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 A.S. Antippa

Name of independent examiner: Angelo Antippa, Director

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCA, CTA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Antippa & Company Ltd, Chartered Accountants

Address: 17 Copthall Gardens, Twickenham, TW1 4HH

Date: 12 February 2022

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2021

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Receipts and payments summary
Year ended 31 August 2021

	<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<u>Voluntary income:</u>				
Collections, donations and Gift Aid		10,054		13,655
<u>Rental income:</u>				
Shops and flat	22,487		18,626	
Church basement	37,800		31,500	
Church hall lettings	8,222		21,388	
		<u>68,509</u>		<u>71,514</u>
<u>Other income:</u>				
Bank interest		42		491
HMRC grants - Job retention scheme		14,870		6,371
Contribution towards costs from tenants		280		310
Grant for roof repairs		0		20,000
		<u>93,755</u>		<u>112,341</u>
Payments				
Circuit assessment		24,000		24,000
Staff salaries and National Insurance		28,973		26,991
Organist		1,640		2,400
Property maintenance		12,841		87,351
Insurance		9,768		3,800
Light and heating		2,314		4,906
Water rates		1,472		837
Cleaning and refuse collection		3,972		1,372
Telephone and internet		590		933
Professional fees and engineering report		2,800		2,921
Accountancy		730		730
Postage and stationery		1,209		812
Travel		70		70
Gifts and donations		200		100
Other payments – Covid supplies, flowers, etc.		2,119		1,272
Purchase of equipment		28		2,365
		<u>-92,726</u>		<u>-160,860</u>
Surplus/-Deficit of receipts over payments		<u>£1,029</u>		<u>-£48,519</u>

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
<u>General Fund</u>		
Accumulated surplus at 1 September 2020	46,037	94,556
<u>Add:</u> Surplus for the year 2021	1,029	-48,519
Accumulated surplus at 31 August 2021	<u>£47,066</u>	<u>£46,037</u>
 <u>Represented by:</u>		
Bank and cash	£	£
- Central Board of Finance bank deposit account	30,605	30,434
- HSBC bank current account	16,446	15,499
- Petty cash	15	104
Total funds at 31 August 2021	<u>£47,066</u>	<u>£46,037</u>

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1174328

Accounts

**Submission of Accounts to Charity Commission
Rivercourt Methodist Church
Year Ended 31 August 2020**

Section One: Trustee's Report

Section Two: Methodist Church – Standard Form of Accounts

Section Three: Simplified Form of Accounts

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Trustees' Report to the Charity Commission

September 2019 to August 2020

Church Address: King Street, Hammersmith, London W6 9TF
Circuit Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham 35/04
District London
Charity Number 1133940
Minister in Charge: Revd. Iesinga Vunipola
Trustees at 31 Aug 2019 Revd. Iesinga Vunipola – Chair
Mr. Stephen Lawrence – Treasurer
Mr. Kwaku Tiekku – Organist
Ms. Juliana Goode
Ms. Joan Bennett
Mr. A. A. M. Grigg
Ms. Vanessa Brackett
Ms. Margaret Botwe
Bookkeeper Mr. Solomon Sackey
Auditor Antippa & Company Ltd. (Angelo G. Antippa)

Trustees	<p>One trustee resigned during the financial year.</p> <p>The minister is always Chair of the Trustees and is appointed to one or more Churches in our Circuit (charity 1133940). They are chosen by the Conference and paid by the Circuit. Their level of pay is determined by the Conference of the British Methodist Church (Charity number 1132208). Our current minister is Revd. Iesinga ('Singa') Vunipola.</p> <p>The only other trustee paid by Rivercourt is Kwaku Tiekku. He plays the organ at services and is a trained music therapist. He also plays for the Glass Door Homeless Charity night shelter which runs at Rivercourt on 22 Sunday evenings during the winter.</p>

<p>Congregation</p>	<p>We worshipped as usual from September 2019 until mid- March 2020, when the Government and the London District of the Methodist Church advised us to close. With a few exceptions as a result of Government policy, we remained closed for the rest of the financial year.</p> <p>Rivercourt is a member of the Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit, which consists of five Methodist churches: Askew Road, Chelsea, Fulham Broadway, Rivercourt and Shepherd’s Bush Road. In April 2020, the Circuit started Zoom Services. In general, Askew Road ran their own service. The other churches, including Rivercourt, had combined Zoom services, led by presbyters and local preachers in the Circuit with occasional guest ministers.</p> <p>Although being closed for so long was difficult for both lay members and staff in the Circuit, it has helped the churches develop a sense of fellowship by being in this situation together. Caring for members who are sheltering and not computer literate has been a challenge. Seeing someone who has never used a computer before smile and laugh when they see and speak to their friends on Zoom is something many will never forget.</p> <p>An average of 25 people attended Rivercourt services before the pandemic. There are approximately 50 members. Our minister, Revd. Singa Vunipola, boosts the size of our congregation through her leadership of the Tongan Fellowship.</p> <p>Walk-ins are important to Rivercourt as we are a welcoming building on the high street in Hammersmith. There were obviously no walk-ins during lockdown, with no services.</p> <p>Some older members did not want to do Zoom and the Tongans started running their own services.</p> <p>Once lockdown ends completely, we will be able to have a more precise idea of likely numbers going forward.</p>
<p>Ministerial Oversight</p>	<p>Revd. Singa Vunipola completed her first year with us in August 2020. We share her ministry with Shepherd’s Bush Road Church.</p> <p>Singa was happy to come to West London as it is a good location for her calling to minister to the Tongan Fellowship in addition to her Circuit responsibilities. She began her role in the Circuit in the last month of the 2018-19 financial year, which is generally the settling in time for a minister. Her welcome service was at the very start of the current financial year</p>

<p>Building</p>	<p>Rivercourt is an impressive church (insured value £11,706,757) from both the inside and outside. It opened in 1875. It was converted in the late 1990s to provide flexibility in a modern worship space. This is both a blessing and a curse.</p> <p>The blessing is that as a high street church, there are many people passing through the building expressing a genuine interest in what is going on inside and stopping to pray.</p> <p>The curse of a large church is its upkeep, which is a major cost of time and money for the Trustees. At the end of the last financial year, the Trustees decided to paint the inside. Prior to doing so, we had the roof inspected to ensure there would be no water ingress. Drone examination identified significant roof problems, so painting was deferred and plans for roof repairs were initiated.</p> <p>We received a £20,000 grant from the London District for what was estimated to be a £94,701 roofing project, which began in January 2020. The pandemic resulted in a delay in completion of the work from 6 April to 9 June 2020. The total cost reduced to £78,000 + professional fees of £6,169 = £84,169. Rivercourt still has to pay the 5% retention in June 2021.</p>
<p>Services Provided to promote the Aims of the Charity.</p>	<p>Rivercourt provides a great deal of support for the local community and works hard to bring the Word of God to people both directly and indirectly. Bible Studies are normally run during Lent and Advent. The Church supplies low-cost space for other charities to carry out their missions. Examples of this are worship space for a Tamil group and room for Middle Eastern groups to provide language, music, film and exercise classes. We also provide the local authority with space for activities aimed at local residents and groups such as the AA. The French school which occupies the entire basement was set up in co-operation with the local authority to promote the French language in the borough. Rental income fell away from March 2020 with the vast majority of lettings cancelled due to Covid-19.</p> <p>We run a homeless shelter in conjunction with Glass Door Homeless Charity (charity 1083203) feeding and / or sleeping up to 65 people on Sunday nights from early November for 22 weeks. This came to a sudden end in March 2020 but thankfully all the guests were housed in hotels. Normally the last night of the Shelter is sad as guests leave the Church to return to living on the streets. This time all the guests left in black cabs, which were provided free of charge by the Drivers Association and took them to hotels throughout London. Guest were waved off to go to a comfortable bed, a hot shower and three meals a day.</p>

Financial Accounts	<p>2018-19 was an exceptional year for income. The rent from the nursery school increased and included some back-dated payments. In addition, costs were low.</p> <p>We anticipated higher costs for 2019-20, due to the roof work and Church painting, but the pandemic resulted in income plunging from our rentals, including the nursery school, which had to close for two months. Rivercourt was fortunate to receive the District grant to soften the cost of the roofing works. The painting did not take place due to the pandemic. The Government Job Retention Scheme meant we could retain our administrator and caretaker at 20% of their salary. The Church also receives rent from three properties in adjoining Rivercourt House. We still received rental payments from two of these properties but the lease on the third expired during the pandemic so rental payment ceased. A new lease should be signed next financial year.</p> <p>Although some of our outgoings were reduced, the total was significantly up due to the roofing work. We also incurred some ancillary costs to ensure the building was safe.</p> <p>This resulted in a loss for the year of £48,519. This was absorbed by accumulated savings. The Trustees are all too aware that we cannot afford to have similar years moving forward.</p>
Reserves	<p>Reserves are the amount of money held by Rivercourt in case of unforeseen circumstances. Rivercourt aims to keep six months of easily accessible cash available. This year, payments (outgoings) totalled £160,860. Our total savings reduced to £46,037. This resulted in the Church having reserves just below our goal of 50%. Holding money is not part of our mission; the 50% is the prudent fiscal objective of the Trustees.</p> <p>The Church is 125 years old and maintenance costs are very high whether or not the building is in use. We will have to reduce costs and rely on savings while lettings build back up again post Covid.</p> <p>Much of our work in the community is the result of having a space that is extremely usable. With a small congregation the building has to break even. Our savings reserves will tend to fluctuate between just over and just under 50% of the outgoings.</p>
Other	<p>Rivercourt received no special grants from Government or private interests. We received a grant for £20,000 from the London District of the Methodist Church. We also took advantage of the Government Job Retention Scheme. Income was also derived</p>

	<p>from public giving, lettings and users of the Church itself. No professional fundraisers were used. All monies raised and spent were done so in England.</p>
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	<p>Apart from the pandemic, no other serious incident(s) occurred during the year, either reported or unreported.</p>
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Steve Lawrence – Church Treasurer
Rev. Singa Vunipola - Minister

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Rivercourt Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2020

Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit	Circuit no 35	04
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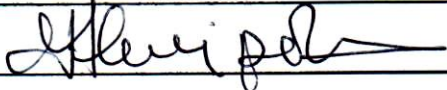
Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1174328


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:

 SINGA VUNIPALA

Church Stewards:

JOAN BONNET	Joan Bennett
MONTY GRIGG	A.M. Grigg
JULIANA GOODE	
Mr. Kwaku Tieku	
Ms. Vanessa Brackett	
Ms. Margaret Botwe	

Treasurer:

Steve Lawrence	Steve Lawrence
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SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	13,655		13,655	11,843
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	491		491	445
a4	Lettings	71,514		71,514	109,613
a5	Other receipts	26,681		26,681	9,770
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	112,341		112,341 (a7)	131,671

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	24,000		24,000	24,000
b3	Donations	100		100	558
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	87,351		87,351	16,087
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	9,543		9,543	16,902
b6	Purchase of equipment	2,365		2,365	
b7	Other payments	37,501		37,501	42,822
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	160,860		160,860 (b9)	100,369

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(48,519)	(48,519)	31,302
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year			94,556 (c6)	63,254
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(48,519)	46,037	94,556
c4	Transfers and adjustments			(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	(48,519)	46,037 (c8)	94,556 (c6)

SECTION D		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
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				
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				
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 August 2020 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						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds				(e11)	(e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	112,341 (a7)	160,860 (b9)	(48,519)	94,556 (c6)	46,037 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	112,341	160,860	(48,519)	94,556 (x)	46,037 (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 2020	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES	
f1	Cash in hand	15	104
f2	Bank Current Account	8,529	15,499
f3	Bank Deposit Account		
f4	Central Finance Board	86,012	30,434
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6	Other funds		
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	94,556 (c6)	46,037 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	94,556 (x)	46,037 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2019	At 31 August 2020
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	11,706,757
g3	Other Assets	136,788
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: Rivercourt Methodist Church No.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 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 Steve Lawrence Date 27/03/21
Name and address of treasurer Steve Lawrence, 36 Westcraft
Square, London W6 0TA Post Code W6 0TA

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 24th January 2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting [Signature]
Name of the Chair of the meeting IESINCA VUNIPOLA Date 27/02/21

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Charity Number 1174328

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Rivercourt Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2020 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: Rivercourt Methodist Church No

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 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 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 A.C.A. Antippa

Name of independent examiner: Angelo Antippa, Director

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCA, CTA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Antippa & Company Ltd, Chartered Accountants

Address: 17 Copthall Gardens, Twickenham, TW1 4HH

Date: 29 December 2020

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2020

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Receipts and payments summary
Year ended 31 August 2020

	<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<u>Voluntary income:</u>				
Collections, donations and Gift Aid		13,655		11,843
<u>Rental income:</u>				
Shops and flat	18,626		26,323	
Church basement	31,500		41,733	
Church hall lettings	21,388		41,557	
		<u>71,514</u>		<u>109,613</u>
Bank interest		491		445
Grant for roof repairs		20,000		0
HMRC Job retention scheme grant		6,371		0
Contribution towards costs from Le Herisson		310		770
Loan repayment - Hamm.& Fulham Circuit		0		9,000
		<u>112,341</u>		<u>131,671</u>
Payments				
Circuit assessment		24,000		24,000
Staff salaries and National Insurance		26,991		27,337
Organist		2,400		4,160
Property maintenance		87,351		16,087
Insurance		3,800		9,381
Light and heating		4,906		6,483
Water rates		837		1,038
Cleaning and refuse collection		1,372		2,736
Telephone and internet		933		1,129
Professional fees and engineering report		3,651		3,375
Postage and stationery		812		977
Travel		70		490
Gifts and donations		100		558
Other payments		1,272		1,937
Purchase of equipment		2,365		681
		<u>-160,860</u>		<u>-100,369</u>
Deficit of receipts over payments		<u>-£48,519</u>		<u>£31,302</u>

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£
<u>General Fund</u>		
Accumulated surplus at 1 September 2019	94,556	63,254
<u>Less:</u> Deficit for the year 2020	-48,519	31,302
Accumulated surplus at 31 August 2020	<u>£46,037</u>	<u>£94,556</u>
<u>Represented by:</u>		
Bank and cash	£	£
- Central Board of Finance bank deposit account	30,434	86,012
- HSBC bank current account	15,499	8,529
- Petty cash	104	15
Total funds at 31 August 2020	<u>£46,037</u>	<u>£94,556</u>