

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 Tieku – 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)

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| 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 Tieku. 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> |
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| Congregation | <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> |
| Ministerial Oversight | <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> |
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| Building | <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> |
| Services Provided to promote the Aims of the Charity. | <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> |

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| 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> |

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| | <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> <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
 Revd. Singa Vunipola - Minister

CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Rivercourt Methodist | Church |
|----------------------|--------|

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2020

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|----|
| Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit | Circuit no 35 | 04 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|----|

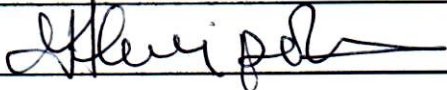
Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

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:

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|  SIMGA VUNIPALA |
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Church Stewards:

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

Treasurer:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Steve Lawrence | Steve Lawrence |
|----------------|----------------|

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Rivercourt Methodist Church

| 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 | | | | | |
|-----------|---|----------------|--|---------------------|----------------|
| 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 | | | | | |
|-----------|--|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 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 | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|---|---|
| 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) | (c7) | 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) |
| Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward | TOTAL RECEIPTS | TOTAL PAYMENTS | | | | |

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 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) | 11,533,607 | 11,706,757 |
| g3 Other Assets | 134,765 | 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 Westcroft
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 IESNCA VUNIPOLA Date 27/04/21

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 | |
| | | 71,514 | | 109,613 |
| 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> |