

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1199372

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2022-06-20

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

Contact

Address Harpole Methodist Church
School Lane
Harpole
Northampton
NN7 4DR

Phone 01604702178

Email office@methodist-churches-northampton.org.uk

Website <https://northampton-methodist-church.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: Northampton Methodist Church is the registered charity for all of the Methodist worshipping communities within Northampton and the surrounding area. It provides both worship, fellowship and pastoral care from its various buildings within the town, more details available on our website.

Classification

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

Geography

- Northamptonshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£361,875	£373,657	-	-
2024-08-31	£435,709	£426,254	-	-
2023-08-31	£413,414	£405,729	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev David John Speirs	Chair	2022-05-09
Charmaine Wareham-Voyce		2022-09-01
Dr Hellen Oluoko Okello		2023-09-01
Frances Perry		2022-12-01
Hilary Walden		2022-05-09
Jennifer Brooks		2022-09-01
Jennifer Ruth Richardson		2024-05-26
Julie Michelle Kerry		2025-04-01
Kathryn Stretton		2022-09-01
Laura Ferris		2022-10-01
Linda Caines		2022-05-09
Patricia Ann Oliver		2022-09-01
Paul James Deakin		2022-12-01
Philip Neil Leeson		2022-12-01
William Keith BROOKS		2022-05-09

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1199372

Accounts



Charity No 1199372

Annual report and accounts

2024/2025

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 August 2025

Contents	Page Number
Introduction by Superintendent Minister	2
Review of the year	3
Our plans for 2025/26	5
Mission statement	6
Governance Detail	
Legal structure and arrangements	7
Structure, Governance and Management and Public Benefit test	9
Risk Management, Reserves Policy	10
Safeguarding	11
Financial statement preparation	12
Detailed Accounts	13
Notes on the Accounts	15
Independent examiners report	26
Appendix A Trustee details	28

Welcome by the Superintendent of the Northampton Methodist Circuit and Minister with Pastoral Charge of Northampton Methodist Church

I am pleased to present the **2024/25 Annual Report and Accounts** for Northampton Methodist Church. This year has been a significant period of transition and growth as we continue to implement the "Stepping Out" proposals and further our mission across Northampton and the surrounding areas.

Over the past twelve months, we have begun to see the emerging fruit from the changes that have been made. A significant highlight was the inauguration of the **Park Grove Worshipping Community** in July 2024, a bringing together of the Queensgrove and Park Avenue communities on the Abington site. Additionally, we formally recognised the Kingsthorpe Worshipping Community as a separate society as it became part of Kingsthorpe Community Church, a Baptist-Methodist Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP), in March 2025.

Our commitment to mission and outreach in the community remains steadfast. Notable moments include:

- **Community Support:** In partnership with the Northampton Hope Centre, we hosted a 7-day-a-week winter night shelter to support those facing homelessness.
- **Environmental Stewardship:** We have made great strides in the **A Rocha Eco-Church scheme**, with Great Billing and St Andrews both achieving Bronze awards.

- **Celebration of Heritage:** We celebrated 100 years of worship at the Methodist Church at Park Avenue (now Northampton Methodist Church at Park Grove).

Our financial position remains stable, with **free reserves covering 4.5 months of expenditure**, meeting our policy requirements.

Looking ahead to **2025/26**, we have several exciting projects on the horizon:

- **Building Improvements:** Construction is scheduled for the Harpole building extension, and we aim to install solar panels at multiple sites.
- **Refurbishment:** Plans are being finalised for major works at the Towcester Road and Park Grove buildings, targeted for 2026-2027.
- **Youth and Family Ministry:** We look forward to the support of a new circuit lay worker to develop our work and engagement with children, young people, and families.

As we move forward, we continue to place our faith in Jesus Christ, seeking to be an open, inclusive, and creation caring church. Thank you to all the trustees, volunteers, and members for their faithful dedication.

Reverend David J Speirs

Superintendent Minister, Northampton Methodist Church.

Review of the year

The second anniversary of the formation Northampton Methodist Church was celebrated at a combined act of worship held on the 1st September at which the Revd Daniel Pratt Morris-Chapman of Wesley House Cambridge gave a clear challenge to be intentional in our mission actions and offered the assurance of Christ's presence with us as we journey forward.

Through the year a focus on 100 years of worship at Park Avenue was celebrated with a number of previous ministers invited to lead worship along with other celebration events.

From September 2024 the Kingsthorpe worshipping community was formally recognised as a separate society as a prelude to the formal creation of the Kingsthorpe Community Church, a Baptist/Methodist LEP in March 2025.

Steady progress was made on delivering the "Stepping out" proposals with the sale of the Queensgrove building providing the initial funding for the planned building refurbishment programme.

To further our response to The Methodist Conference Statement "Hope in God's Future" all our worshipping communities have enrolled for the A Rocha UK award scheme for churches in England and Wales and by September 2025 both Gt Billing and St Andrews had achieved the bronze award and were working towards the silver award.

It is pleasing to report the continued strength of the fellowship and bible study groups across the worshipping communities and as a response to our mission priorities the Holy Habits group study material "Making More Disciples" was used for the Lent study groups.

There was continued development of the church website <https://northampton-methodist-church.org.uk> which provided links to each worshipping community and provided a single presence for the church on the internet.

During the year the trustee body meet on a regular basis both to oversee governance arrangements, facilitate the consolidation of the concept of a multi-site church, while seeking to encourage each worshipping community to focus on further developing its missional aspirations.

Review of the year

Financial performance for the year

Transfer out of the Kingsthorpe Society

The accounts for the year record the transfer out of Kingsthorpe worshipping community to a separate society from the 1st September 2024, with consequent reductions in income and expenditure recorded within the NMC accounts. Transfers out reflect the formal recognition of the transfer of related fund balances including the “Kingsthorpe futures fund”.

In total the impact sees a reduction of offering income of £22k and a similar reduction in circuit assessment along with related reductions in both income and expenditure for the Kingsthorpe linked groups..

Income

General collection income including gift aid reclaims £209k remained in line with previous year after reflecting the Kingsthorpe status change, this was particularly encouraging given the closure of the Queensgrove building. Specific donations were higher at £17k (£12k in 2023/4). There were no new legacies received in year.

Letting income in comparison saw a reduction down to £57k (£67k in 2023/4) reflecting the reduction in locations being offered, including the un-availability of the Harpole site following the building being flooded.

Expenditure

The main item of expenditure “The Circuit assessment” to fund the provision of ministry to the church was set at the same level as in 2023 – 24.,

Building repairs were significantly reduced, being generally kept to priority requirements only whilst the longer term challenges related to both backlog maintenance requirements and future improvements were determined.

The most notable impact of inflation being on utility costs where a number of contracts saw considerable tariff increases.

Net movement in funds

Overall the General Fund balance at the end of the financial year was £125k, the churches free reserves equate to 4.5 months expenditure cover in line with the reserves policy.

Futures plans

Plans for 2025/26

In September 2025 celebrations are planned to mark the 150 years of worship at the Roade site.

Planned building work is scheduled to commence in September at Harpole to provide additional storage space such that the main hall can be fully used. Work is anticipated to install solar panels at a number of sites in response to the “Hope in God’s future” initiatives with grant support from the District.

To further the development of work with families and young people it is anticipated that the lay worker recruited by the Circuit will support this work.

Formal commencement of the refurbishment projects for Towcester Road and Park Grove buildings is targeted to commence during 2026.

Plans are currently being progressed for the closure and sale of the Kingsley Park building with final worship planned to be held in April 2026.

Mission statement

The table below shows the key action points identified in the churches mission plan

Develop, support and encourage work with children and families.
Encouraging ongoing work
Developing new initiatives
Making disciples of Jesus and deepening discipleship
Engaging with new people and sharing the Gospel
Sharing and studying the word
Hosting bible studies in welcoming venues
Develop, support, and encourage ongoing work with older people.
Effective pastoral support
Providing opportunities for fellowship
Strengthening the ecumenical witness in the local community
Seeking to be actively involved with the local geographic "Churches together group" within which each worshipping community is situated
Engaging with and welcoming new residents within our communities
Seeking to learn from the Overstone pioneer worker experience to develop approaches to outreach in new build areas within the town.
Seeking to be an open and inclusive church
Being an intergenerational church
Providing a variety of worship styles
Creating space <i>for</i> sanctuary and retreat
Being a supportive and friendly church <i>for</i> those with special needs.
Responding to the "Hope in God's future" initiative seeking for the church to become Carbon neutral
Progress the A Rocha UK award scheme across our worshipping communities

Governance Arrangements

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard FRS102.

The Charity's report and accounts include all the separately established funds for which Northampton Methodist Church has taken on responsibility for following the formation of the merged church.

Full Name of Charity: Northampton Methodist Church

Registration Charity Number: 1199372

The principal office is at: Harpole Methodist Church
School Lane
Harpole
Northampton
NN7 4DR

The members of the Northampton Methodist Church Council are the Charity Trustees and are listed in Appendix A. which is attached.

The Church is part of the Northampton Methodist Circuit

Mr Keith Brooks acted as the principal officer overseeing the overall financial management and accounting for the Charity.

The accounting records and the day-to-day administration of the funds are supported by the Financial steward in each worshipping community.

The advisors and administrators used by the Charity during 2024/25 were:

Bankers	Lloyds Bank	2 George Row, Northampton
	Natwest Bank	The Drapery, Northampton
	HSBC Bank	Abington St, Northampton
	Barclays Bank	Wellingborough Road, Northampton

Governance Arrangements

Solicitors Anthony Collins Solicitors
134 Edmund Street, Birmingham B3 2ES

Independent examiner
Miss C Haynes (ACA)
4 Delamere Road
Northampton

Investment Managers
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

Governance Arrangements

Structure, Governance and Management

Northampton Methodist Church is the registered charity for all of the Methodist worshipping communities within Northampton and the surrounding area. It provides both worship, fellowship and pastoral care from its various buildings within the town.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

- a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

Public Benefit

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

Governance Arrangements

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the Church is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the Church is undertaken by the Church Council along with the Church Leadership team and the Finance and Property Committee . Each worshipping community also has a local teams structure organising and co ordinating the work in that location..

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Church is used including the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' has been shared with each church council members to support induction to their role as trustees. Ongoing further training is also provided using trustee training material provided by the charity commission.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Finance and Property Committee with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken of all buildings and reported to the Church Council.

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

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 4 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on properties and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to maintain regular giving and other income of the various worshipping communities.

Governance Arrangements

Safeguarding

It is the Methodist Church's intention to value every human being as part of God's creation and the whole people of God. At the heart of the Methodist community is a deep sense of the place of welcome, hospitality and openness, which demonstrates the nature of God's grace and love for all.

Our church communities are called to be places where the transformational love of God is embodied and life in all its fullness is a gift, which is offered to all people.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

Financial Statement preparation

Basis of preparation

As treasurer I confirm that I have prepared the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 from the consolidated records provided by each Worshipping community and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of
Treasurer

W K Brooks

Date 10 March 2026

Name

W K Brooks ACMA

Address

2a Stanfield Road
Duston
Northampton

Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council Meeting on 10 March 2026 and were approved.

Signature of the
Chair of the meeting

Rev David Speirs

10 March 2026

Name of the Chair of
the meeting

Rev David Speirs

Date

10 March 2026

Statement of Financial Activities

	Note ref	Unrestricted funds		Restricted Funds		Endowment Funds		Total	
		2023/24	2024/25	2023/24	2024/25	2023/24	2024/25	2023/24	2024/25
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:	8								
Collections and tax credit		231,810	207,038	1,917	2,233			233,727	209,272
Donations & grants		11,962	17,309	-	-			11,962	17,309
Legacies		-	-	38,972	-			38,972	-
Fund raising		12,430	14,138	-	-			12,430	14,138
Lettings		66,756	56,895	-	-			66,756	56,895
Investments		4,394	3,485	145	47	3,843	3,407	8,383	6,939
Other		4,893	4,789	-	-			4,893	4,789
Internal organisations receipts			-	58,587	52,534			58,587	52,534
Total		332,244	303,654	99,622	54,814	3,843	3,407	435,709	361,875
		2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure on:	9								
Salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	12,748	7,842		-			12,748	7,842
Circuit Assessment		204,717	173,907		-			204,717	173,907
Repairs and maintenance		34,031	21,640	5,330	9,276			39,361	30,916
Insurance		25,426	20,541	-	-			25,426	20,541
Utilities		49,528	60,348	-	-			49,528	60,348
Internal organisations		-	-	56,630	46,003			56,630	46,003
Grants and Donations		1,722	1,188	2,119	1,288			3,841	2,476
Other expenditure		33,796	31,388	-	-	207	236	34,003	31,624
Total		361,968	316,855	64,079	56,566	207	236	426,254	373,657
Net income/(expenditure)		(29,724)	(13,201)	35,543	- 1,753	3,636	3,171	9,455	(11,782)
Transfers between funds		9,479	8,343	(5,844)	(5,172)	(3,636)	(3,171)	0	-
Transfer out Kingsthorpe Soc		0	(33,786)	0	(6,945)	0	0	0	(40,730)
Recognition of buildings		0	(550,000)	0	0	0	0	0	(550,000)
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets				352	123	95	122	95	245
Net movement in funds		(20,245)	(588,643)	30,051	(13,746)	95	122	9,902	(602,267)
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward		3,036,631	3,016,386	84,311	114,363	72,630	72,725	3,193,572	3,203,474
Total funds carried forward		3,016,386	2,427,743	114,363	100,617	72,725	72,847	3,203,474	2,601,207

Balance Sheet

	Note ref	Unrestricted		Restricted		Endowments		Total	
		31-Aug-24	31-Aug-25	31-Aug-24	31-Aug-25	31-Aug-24	31-Aug-25	31-Aug-24	31-Aug-25
Tangible Fixed Assets		£			£		£		£
Land & Buildings	12	2,850,000	2,300,000					2,850,000	2,300,000
Equipment	12	5,109	4,598					5,109	4,598
Investment properties	12								
Investments	13					72,725	72,847	72,725	72,847
Total fixed assets		2,855,109	2,304,598		-	72,725	72,847	2,927,834	2,377,445
Current Assets									
Stock									
Debtors and Prepayments	14								
Cash at Bank and in hand	15	108,085	84,107	100,266	72,264			208,351	156,371
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits				5,052				5,052	
Central Finance Board Deposits		73,210	59,338	8,352	28,353			81,562	87,691
Building Society deposits		4130		692				4,822	
Total current assets		185,425	143,445	114,362	100,617			299,787	244,062
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)	16	24,146	20,300					24,146	20,300
Net current assets (liabilities)		161,279	123,145	114,362	100,617			275,641	223,762
Total assets less current liabilities		3,016,388	2,427,743	114,362	100,617	72,725	72,847	3,203,475	2,601,207
Loans and creditors due after 1 year									
Provisions for liabilities and charges	16								
Net assets		3,016,388	2,427,743	114,362	100,617	72,725	72,847	3,203,475	2,601,207
Funds of the Church									
General fund	17	137,796	124,557					137,796	124,557
Designated funds		28,592	3,187					28,592	3,187
Property reserve		2,850,000	2,300,000					2,850,000	2,300,000
Restricted funds				114,362	100,617			114,362	100,617
Endowment funds						72,725	72,847	72,725	72,847
Total Funds		3,016,388	2,427,743	114,362	100,617	72,725	72,847	3,203,475	2,601,207

Notes on the accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2015 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletins 1 and 2.

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: a General Fund held for any purpose of the Church which is Unrestricted, this fund being created at the point of consolidation of the constituent church societies and a property fund which representing the current assessed value of the church properties. There are a number of Designated funds which are being held for specific purposes which technically are part of the General fund but retain the specific purpose identification they had at 31 August 2022. There are a number of Restricted funds which include the internal organisations of the church which are formally also under the direct control of the church council, There is one Endowment fund that the income from it can be used for the upkeep of the Kingsley Park building. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash. Details of all funds is given in note 17.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that the church buildings are included at assessed valuation agreed by the trustees based on professional surveyor advice.

Incoming Resources

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

Resources Expended

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

VAT

VAT incurred on the cost of purchases for the running of the church is charged as a cost of operation,.

Notes on the accounts

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. At the point of formation all fixed assets within each building were considered to be fully depreciated. New items of equipment purchased during the year have been treated as additions on a case by case basis.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at assessed values, of which the land component is deemed to be £1,000,000. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties will be periodically reviewed for impairment.

Investments

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

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors are only recognised when an amount can be specifically recognised.

Creditors

Creditors are only recognised when they relate to a specific service or supply of goods. No attempt has been made to quantify utility supplies not invoiced.

Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and opening carrying value (purchase date if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the market value at the year end and opening carrying value (or purchase date if later).

4 Payments to trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church.

5 Fees for audit of the accounts

There was no fee charged for the independent examination of these accounts.

Notes on the accounts

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	2023/24	2024/25
	£	£
Gross wages	12,748	7,486
Employer's NI costs		356
Pension costs		
Total staff costs	12,748	7,842

No of employees	2	1
Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	0.5	0.3

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2025 there are capital commitments of £48,000 for the Harpole building extension.

There were no contingent liabilities identified at 31st August 2025 .

Notes on the accounts

8. Analysis of Unrestricted income by Worshipping community general funds and designated funds

Current year 2024 - 25	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgrove	Road	St Andrews	Towcester Road	Church Fund	Designated funds	TOTAL
RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Offerings	6,371	5,497	4,902	16,008	0	72,037	0	9,715	34,146	14,115	4,105	0	166,895
Donations	110	5	185	2,345	0	399	0	2,878	170	640	76	0	6,809
Grants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,500	0	10,500
Gift aid received	1,831	3,054	1,286	2,972	0	13,804	0	4,555	8,283	3,459	899	0	40,143
Investment income	0	209	0	203	0	2,248	0	201	395	0	114	115	3,485
Lettings	1,300	1,712	2,319	5,583	0	15,159	725	10,759	7,491	5,797	6,049	0	56,895
Fundraising activity	496	74	2,430	5,187	0	979	0	1,849	808	2,315	0	0	14,138
Other receipts	1,282	651	1,939	223	0	80	0	0	413	201	0	0	4,789
Group donations	0	0	(50)	3,172	0	1,433	(7,478)	0	976	2,662	7,478	150	8,343
TOTAL	11,390	11,202	13,011	35,693	0	106,139	-6,752	29,957	52,682	29,189	29,221	265	311,997
Previous year 2023 - 24	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgrove	Road	St Andrews	Towcester Road	Church Fund	Designated funds	TOTAL
RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Offerings	6,913	4,804	5,283	17,994	18,520	55,650	24,263	9,894	30,983	13,396	2,931	0	190,631
Donations		165		6,665		200	1,060	960	410	1,395	907	200	11,962
Gift aid received	1,906		1,187	4,171	4,049	12,724	8,060		6,110	2,440	531	0	41,179
Investment income		230		218	556	1,605	331	221	433	116	1	683	4,394
Lettings	1,479	1,714	4,141	5,680		16,126	4,997	12,562	8,617	5,009	6,431	0	66,756
Fundraising activity	942	42	684	4,738	48	81		1,917	1,377	2,501		100	12,430
Other receipts	1,184		3,140	55		300	214					0	4,893
Group donations				3,636		1,392	-555		1,307	2,944		755	9,480
TOTAL	12,424	6,955	14,435	43,157	23,174	88,078	38,369	25,555	49,237	27,802	10,801	1,738	341,724

Notes on the accounts

9. Analysis of Unrestricted expenditure by Worshipping community general funds and designated funds

Current year 2024 - 25	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgrove	Road	St Andrews	Towcester Road	Church Fund	Designated funds	TOTAL
PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Circuit Assessment											173,907		173,907
Donations	578	0	315	0	0	30	0	120	115	30	0	0	1,188
Repairs	987	1,684	434	4,282	0	5,288	0	2,709	3,103	2,555	599	0	21,640
Cleaning	110	90	0	2,572	0	383	0	831	3,437	3,043	1,106	0	11,572
Insurance	632	441	485	5,329	0	5,764	845	2,713	1,677	1,814	841	0	20,541
Utilities	1,852	1,149	4,065	11,648	0	17,790	1,710	4,580	7,785	4,846	4,923	0	60,348
Worship costs	938	136	481	2,705	0	1,415	0	0	628	417	372	0	7,092
Other payments	475	0	156	430	0	3,922	0	193	1,909	278	4,680	681	12,724
Total	5,572	3,500	5,936	26,966	0	34,592	2,555	11,146	18,654	12,983	186,428	681	309,013
Previous year 2023 - 24	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgrove	Road	St Andrews	Towcester Road	Church Fund	Designated funds	TOTAL
PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Circuit Assessment											204,717		204,717
Donations	165	135	255			25		457	60	25		600	1,722
Repairs	942	206	2,250	6,266	120	2,678	2,832	5,354	4,892	4,955	1,016	2520	34,031
Cleaning	50	63					2,070	879	3,158	3,352	2,370	0	11,942
Insurance	613	427	485	6,223	1,154	5,612	4,249	2,447	1,629	1,769	819	0	25,426
Utilities	2,920	876	3,362	7,385		11,214	4,099	4,718	6,998	2,116	5,840	0	49,528
Worship costs	1,031	194	784	2,613	370	1,434	737		932	396	368	0	8,859
Salaries						12,748						0	12,748
Other payments	554	78	214	665	218	4,531	1,737	126	2,452	2,380	41	0	12,996
Total	6,275	1,979	7,350	23,152	1,861	38,243	15,724	13,981	20,121	14,993	215,171	3,120	361,968

Notes on the accounts

10. Transfers between funds

The income generated by TMCP holdings is transferred to the General fund net of the related administration charge. All other transfers relate to either payments for building usage or alternatively support with start up costs for a new project or initiative.

The transfers related to the creation of Kingsthorpe Society are separately shown.

The movements in the property reserve reflect the identification and transfer into the Circuit Accounts of properties which have been identified for sale during the financial year.

Notes on the accounts

11. Depreciation

Depreciation was calculated on the fixtures and fittings at a rate of 10 percent of current value.

12. Operational Fixed Assets & Land and Buildings

	Valuation at 31 August 2023	2023 -24 additions	Valuation at 31 August 2024	2024 -25 transfers out	Valuation at 31 August 2024	Accum Dep'n August 22	Dep'n 2023-24	Dep'n 2024-25	Revaluation Aug 2024	NBV 31 Aug 2024
Land & buildings	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Astcote	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Gt Billing	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Harpole	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Park Avenue	600,000	0	600,000	0	600,000	0	0	0	0	600,000
Kingsley	350,000	0	350,000	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	350,000
Kingsthorpe	200,000	0	200,000	-200,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Queensgrove	350,000	0	350,000	-350,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Road	250,000	0	250,000	0	250,000	0	0	0	0	250,000
St Andrews	400,000	0	400,000	0	400,000	0	0	0	0	400,000
Towcester Road	350,000	0	350,000	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	350,000
Wootton	200,000	0	200,000	0	200,000	0	0	0	0	200,000
	2,850,000	0	2,850,000	-550,000	2,300,000	0	0	0	0	2,300,000
Fixtures & fittings	200,000	5,109	205,109	0	205,109	200,000	0	502	0	4,607

Notes on the accounts

13. Investments

The M E Gregory endowment is invested primarily in the TMCP Trustee Interest Fund along with a small holding of Lloyds Bank Group shares.

14. Analysis of current assets Debtors under 1 year

There were no debtors identified at the end of the financial year.

15. Analysis of cash at bank and in hand

	Balance at 31 Aug 2024	Balance at 31 Aug 2025
	£	£
Balance with Barclays bank	48384	24250
Balance with Co-op bank	4628	5862
Balance with HSBC bank	29212	18409
Balance with Lloyds bank	42591	24594
Balance with NatWest bank	13313	18927
Balance with Santander plc	4013	755
Cash	281	2076
Linked groups fund holdings	65928	61497
	208350	156370

The high cash balance in 2025 relates to collections received on the 31st August.

Notes on the accounts

16. Analysis of current liabilities and long-term creditors

	As at 31 Aug-24 £	As at 31 Aug-25 £
Trade Creditors	15000	1,500
Other Creditors Northampton Circuit	22,646	18,800
Other Creditors Connexional Funds	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u><u>24,146</u></u>	<u><u>20,300</u></u>

The trade creditor reflects estimated non billed electricity costs for Astcote during 2025.

Other creditors represent sums owed at the year end by the charity to related parties, the Northampton Circuit in respect of assessment due but not paid until September 2025.

There are no identified long term creditors.

Notes on the accounts

17. Analysis of movements of all funds under the oversight of the NMC Church Council by category for the past two years

	Balance at 31st August 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2025	Fund purpose
Unrestricted Funds										
General Fund	156,658	331,260	358,848	8,725	137,795	303,539	316,174	(602)	124,558	General purposes of NMC
Property reserve	2,850,000	0	0	0	2,850,000	0	0	(550,000)	2,300,000	Property reserve
Designated Funds										
NMC Youth Fund	0	0	0	555	555	0	680	150	25	To support future work in Kingsthorpe
Kingsthorpe futures	24,739	653	600	200	24,992	0	0	(24,992)	0	To support future work in Kingsthorpe
Kingsley project (roof)	5,237	330	2,522	0	3,045	115	0	0	3,160	To be used for maintenance of Kingsley building
Total unrestricted	3,036,634	332,243	361,970	9,480	3,016,387	303,654	316,854	(575,444)	2,427,743	
Endowment Funds										
Kingsley Gregory legacy	72,630	3,938	207	(3,636)	72,725	3,529	236	(3,171)	72,847	Interest to be used for maintenance of Kingsley building
Total	72,630	3,938	207	(3,636)	72,725	3,529	236	(3,171)	72,847	
Restricted Funds										
Benevolent fund	2,459	1,255	1,224	36	2,526	1,975	973	(633)	2,895	For relief of identified hardship or need
Astcote charity collection	280	302	460	0	122	258	300	0	80	Holding fund for collections for other charities
Harpole legacy	0	13,972	3,073	0	10,899	0	8,533	0	2,366	Legacy received for use at Harpole chapel
Kingsthorpe charity collection	373	360	360	(72)	301	0	0	(301)	0	Holding fund for collections for other charities
Kingsthorpe youth fund	800	0	62	36	774	0	0	(774)	0	Support of youth work at Kingsthorpe worshipping community
Park Avenue Drop in centre	3,595	0	0	0	3,595	0	0	0	3,595	Dormant fund
Park Avenue Trade craft	239	0	0	0	239	0	0	0	239	Dormant fund
Park Avenue Security camera	1,150	0	0	(1,150)	0	0	0	0	0	Closed fund
Park Grove Youth Fund	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	729	735	To be used for future youth work at Park Grove
Park Grove Development fund	646	25,000	2,257	1,150	24,539	0	743	5,026	28,822	To be used for development at Park Grove
Park Avenue Unconditional gift	4,550	489	13	(125)	4,901	162	16	(5,047)	0	Closed fund
Park Avenue Bennett bequest	150	8	0	(8)	150	2	0	(152)	0	
St Andrews craft group	387	0	0	0	387	0	0	0	387	Funds held for St Andrews craft group
Internal Groups	69,682	58,588	56,629	(5,711)	65,930	52,535	46,005	(10,962)	61,498	See next table
Total	84,311	99,974	64,078	(5,844)	114,363	54,938	56,570	(12,114)	100,617	
Total	3,193,575	436,155	426,255	0	3,203,475	362,121	373,660	(590,729)	2,601,207	

Notes on the accounts

Details for all internal groups shown as total line on previous table

	Balance at 31st August 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2025	Fund purpose
Internal group funds										
<i>Harpole BB</i>	983	0	0	0	983	0	0	0	983	<i>Dormont residual balance</i>
<i>Kingsthorpe GB</i>	4744	4828	5423	0	4149	0	0	(4,149)	0	<i>Children and youth work Girls Brigade</i>
<i>Kingsthorpe catering</i>	521	597	435	0	683	0	0	(683)	0	<i>Catering group linked to Kingsthorpe</i>
<i>Kingsthorpe Badmington</i>	324	953	722	(200)	355	0	0	-355	0	<i>Sport group</i>
<i>Kingsley Junior Church</i>	765	0	237	0	528	0	291	0	237	<i>Children and youth work</i>
<i>Kingsley GB</i>	3047	1365	1979	0	2433	3001	2608	0	2826	<i>Children and youth work Girls Brigade</i>
<i>Kingsley BB</i>	14779	1354	532	0	15601	1236	439	0	16398	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>Park Avenue Toddlers group</i>	49	284	42	(130)	161	215	158	(100)	118	<i>Under 5's group</i>
<i>Park Avenue Youth Group</i>	174	0	174	0	0	0	-37	(37)	0	<i>Dormant fund</i>
<i>Park Avenue Choir</i>	32	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	<i>Closed fund</i>
<i>Park Avenue 15 club</i>	31	312	165	(130)	48	64	48	0	64	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>Park Avenue Womens fellowship</i>	1577	2099	1048	(1,000)	1628	1917	1042	(1,000)	1503	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>Park Avenue Netw ork</i>	3147	19361	18703	0	3805	21173	20373	(1,000)	3605	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>Park Avenue BB</i>	357	1832	1865	0	324	1526	1357	0	493	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>Queensgrove Tuesday ladies</i>	1185	1060	1025	0	1220	0	1220	0	0	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>Queensgrove BB</i>	5062		5062	0	0	0	0	0	0	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>St Andrew s BB</i>	23472	13983	13380	0	24075	15226	13769	0	25532	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>St Andrew s Tuesday club</i>	442	1520	618	(932)	412	1747	713	(696)	750	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>St Andrew s craft</i>	460	375	400	(375)	60	400	50	(280)	130	<i>Craft based fellowship group</i>
<i>Tow cester Rd BB</i>	5139	5573	3857	(800)	6055	1958	2582	(650)	4781	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>Tow cester Rd Bow ls</i>	2468	2030	780	(1,000)	2718	2505	932	(1,000)	3291	<i>Sport group</i>
<i>Tow cester Rd Knit and Natter</i>	924	1062	150	(1,144)	692	1567	460	(1,012)	787	<i>Craft based fellowship group</i>
	0				0				0	
					0				0	
					0				0	
Total	69682	58588	56629	(5,711)	65930	52535	46005	(10,962)	61498	

Independent Examiners Report

This Report is on the Northampton Methodist Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2025 and is carried out under Sections 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Institute of Chartered Accountants England & Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act; and
- to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission . An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

Independent Examiners Report

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or .
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 at the balance sheet date.

Name	Miss C Haynes ACA 11 May 2026
Qualification reference	ACA ICAEW 7945127
Address	4 Delamere Road Northampton NN4 8QG

Appendix A Membership of Church Council

CHAIR

Rev David Speirs

SECRETARY

Miss Sarah Eason

MINISTERS

Rev Dr Samantha Gillard

Rev Ian Forsyth

STEWARDS

Mrs Pat Oliver

Ms Linda Caines

Ms Rachel Pell

Mrs Fran Perry

Mrs Kate Stretton

Mrs Hilary Walden

Ms Charmaine Wareham Voyce

REPRESENTATIVES

Mr Keith Brooks

Mrs Jenny Brooks

Miss Pam Kirkland

Dr Hellen Okello

Mr Phillip Leeson

Miss Laura Ferris

Mr Paul Deakin

Mrs Jenny Richardson

Ms Julie Kerry

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1199372

Accounts



Charity No 1199372
Annual report and accounts

2023/2024

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 August 2024

Contents	Page Number
Introduction by Superintendent Minister	2
Review of the year	3
Our plans for 2024/25	5
Mission statement	6
Governance Detail	
Legal structure and arrangements	7
Structure, Governance and Management and Public Benefit test	9
Risk Management, Reserves Policy	10
Safeguarding	11
Financial statement preparation	12
Detailed Accounts	13
Notes on the Accounts	15
Independent examiners report	25
Appendix A Trustee details	27

Welcome by the Superintendent of the Northampton Methodist Circuit and Minister with Pastoral Charge of Northampton Methodist Church

I am pleased to introduce the second annual report of the Northampton Methodist Church. This past year has been an opportunity for us to continue to develop as a church and begin to implement some of the changes proposed in the 'Stepping Out' report.

Some key highlights of this year have been:

- Hosting a 7-day-a-week winter night shelter for homeless people in Northampton, in partnership with the Northampton Hope Centre, which protected life and supported people at a time of need.
- The Church Council adopting the 'Stepping Out' proposals on mission and property that will enable Northampton Methodist Church not only to sustain its ministry but to hopefully grow and flourish in the years to come.
- Facilitating conversations in the Queensgrove Worshipping Community and finalising the plans to merge with Park Avenue to form the new Park Grove Worshipping Community, inaugurated in July 2024.
- Establishing and embedding the single morning service at the Park Avenue Worshipping Community, that joined together the previously separated and parallel traditional and contemporary services, with music provided by our own in-house music group and band.

- Celebrating a number of significant church anniversaries including Astcote (150 years), Queensgrove (145 years), St Andrew's (50 years).
- Beginning the process to register some of our sites with the Rocha Eco-Church scheme, with the ambition to have all sites registered in the next connexional year, with the appointment of an NMC environment champion, and progressing to bronze award status.

In all these things we continue to put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit as our guide as we share the good news of the gospel in Northampton and beyond.

Thank you for reading this report which I hope is informative and helpful.

Reverend David J Speirs

Email: david.speirs@methodist.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 705642



Review of the year

The first anniversary of the formation Northampton Methodist Church was celebrated at a combined act of worship held on the 10th September at which the Vice President of Conference preached expressing a clear challenge to be intentional in our mission actions and priorities.

During the year a number of significant anniversaries were celebrated by our constituent worshipping communities including 150 years of worship at Ascote, 100 years at Towcester Road and 50 years at St Andrews.

As a prelude to the Queensgrove congregation merging with Park Avenue a weekend of celebration was held reflecting 145 years of worship in the Queensgrove building. As of July 2024 the ParkGrove worshipping community was launched.

The church council adopted the “Stepping out” proposals which set out plans for the future management of the building assets under the churchs’ care, including proposals for rationalisation.

There was continued development of the church website <https://northampton-methodist-church.org.uk> which provided links to each worshipping community and provided a single presence for the church on the internet.

During the year the trustee body meet on a regular basis both to facilitate growing together as a group along with moving forward on determining the missional aspirations of the church as set out later in this review.

As a response to The Methodist Conference Statement “Hope in God’s Future” which provides an excellent theological basis for encouraging discipleship in the context of climate change, a number of our worshipping communities have enrolled for the A Rocha UK award scheme for churches in England and Wales “who want to demonstrate that the gospel is good news for God’s earth” and were working towards obtaining the bronze award.

It is pleasing to report the continued strength of the fellowship and bible study groups across the worshipping communities.

Financial performance for the year

Income

Review of the year

General collection income including gift aid reclaims (£234k) was slightly lower than the previous year and specific donations was also slightly lower at (£12k). Of specific note the receipt of three legacies in the year totalling (£39k) with direction in each case as to the worshipping community that should benefit.

Letting income in comparison saw an increase of fifteen percent to (£67k) reflecting the increase in groups seeking venues to meet.

There was also an increase in investment income as a result of the increase in interest rates.

There was a slight reduction in linked organisation income is primarily reflecting the transfer of the Queensgrove Boys Brigade to Mount Pleasant Baptist Church.

Expenditure

The main item of expenditure “The Circuit assessment” to fund the provision of ministry to the church was set at the same level as in 2022 – 23, the lower figure in the accounts reflecting the move away from quarterly advance payment to the Circuit.

Building repairs were significantly increased reflecting need for considerable roof repair work, but again were generally kept to priority requirements only whilst the longer term challenges related to both backlog maintenance requirements and future improvements were determined.

The most notable impact of inflation being on insurance premiums and utility costs where a number of contracts saw considerable tariff increases.

Net movement in funds

Overall the General Fund balance at the end of the financial year was (£138k), the churches free reserves equates to 4.5 months expenditure cover in line the reserves policy requirement.

Futures plans

Plans for 2024/25

Following initial adoption of the “Stepping out” proposals setting out future plans for the church buildings that the charity has oversight of, further work will be undertaken both to progress development of the individual constituent projects and disposal of property no longer required.

To further the development of work with families and young people recruitment of a mission enabler will be progressed along with identification of any further lay support worker roles required.

A number of significant anniversaries are again being celebrated during the year specifically the 100 years of worship at Park Avenue.

Mission statement

The table below shows the key action points identified in the churches mission plan

Develop, support and encourage work with children and families.
Encouraging ongoing work
Developing new initiatives
Making disciples of Jesus and deepening discipleship
Engaging with new people and sharing the Gospel
Sharing and studying the word
Hosting bible studies in welcoming venues
Develop, support, and encourage ongoing work with older people.
Effective pastoral support
Providing opportunities for fellowship
Strengthening the ecumenical witness in the local community
Seeking to be actively involved with the local geographic "Churches together group" within which each worshipping community is situated
Engaging with and welcoming new residents within our communities
Seeking to learn from the Overstone pioneer worker experience to develop approaches to outreach in new build areas within the town.
Seeking to be an open and inclusive church
Being an intergenerational church
Providing a variety of worship styles
Feeding sharing, and eating together (breaking bread)
Encouraging Godly creativity, crafting, and art.
Creating space <i>for</i> sanctuary and retreat
Being a supportive and friendly church <i>for</i> those with special needs.

Governance Arrangements

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard FRS102.

The Charity's report and accounts include all the separately established funds for which Northampton Methodist Church has taken on responsibility for following the formation of the merged church.

Full Name of Charity: Northampton Methodist Church

Registration Charity Number: 1199372

The principal office is at: Harpole Methodist Church
School Lane
Harpole
Northampton
NN7 4DR

The members of the Northampton Methodist Church Council are the Charity Trustees and are listed in Appendix A. which is attached.

The Church is part of the Northampton Methodist Circuit

Mr Keith Brooks acted as the principal officer overseeing the overall financial management and accounting for the Charity.

The accounting records and the day-to-day administration of the funds are supported by the Financial steward in each worshipping community.

The advisors and administrators used by the Charity during 2023/24 were:

Bankers	Lloyds Bank	2 George Row, Northampton
	Natwest Bank	The Drapery, Northampton
	HSBC Bank	Abington St, Northampton
	Barclays Bank	Wellingborough Road, Northampton

Governance Arrangements

Solicitors Anthony Collins Solicitors
134 Edmund Street, Birmingham B3 2ES

Independent examiner
Miss C Haynes (ACA)
4 Delamere Road
Northampton

Investment Managers
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

Governance Arrangements

Structure, Governance and Management

Northampton Methodist Church is the registered charity for all of the Methodist worshipping communities within Northampton and the surrounding area. It provides both worship, fellowship and pastoral care from its various buildings within the town.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

- a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

Public Benefit

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

Governance Arrangements

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the Church is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the Church is undertaken by the Church Council along with the Church Leadership team and the Finance and Property Committee . Each worshipping community also has a local teams structure organising and co ordinating the work in that location..

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Church is used including the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' has been shared with each church council members to support induction to their role as trustees. Ongoing further training is also provided using trustee training material provided by the charity commission.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Finance and Property Committee with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken of all buildings and reported to the Church Council.

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

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 4 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on properties and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to maintain regular giving and other income of the various worshipping communities.

Governance Arrangements

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

Financial Statement preparation

Basis of preparation

As treasurer I confirm that I have prepared the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 from the consolidated records provided by each Worshipping community and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of
Treasurer

W K Brooks

Date 18 March 2025

Name

W K Brooks ACMA

Address

2a Stanfield Road
Duston
Northampton

Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council Meeting on 18 March 2025 and were approved.

Signature of the
Chair of the meeting

Rev David Speirs

18 March 2025

Name of the Chair of
the meeting

Rev David Speirs

Date

18 March 2025

Statement of Financial Activities

	Note ref	Unrestricted funds		Restricted Funds		Endowment Funds		Total	
		2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:	8								
Collections and tax credit		241,276	231,810	1,986	1,917			243,262	233,727
Donations & grants		21,524	11,962	-	-			21,524	11,962
Legacies		-	-	-	38,972			-	38,972
Fund raising		10,308	12,430	-	-			10,308	12,430
Lettings		58,724	66,756	-	-			58,724	66,756
Investments		2,958	4,394	145	145	2,310	3,843	5,413	8,383
Other		11,488	4,893	-	-			11,488	4,893
Internal organisations receipts			-	62,694	58,587			62,694	58,587
Total		346,278	332,244	64,825	99,622	2,310	3,843	413,413	435,709
Expenditure on:	9								
Salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	12,087	12,748		-			12,087	12,748
Circuit Assessment		218,285	204,717		-			218,285	204,717
Repairs and maintenance		24,006	34,031		5,330			24,006	39,361
Insurance		24,002	25,426		-			24,002	25,426
Depreciation	11	-	-		-			-	-
Utilities		34,426	49,528		-			34,426	49,528
Internal organisations		-	-	54,932	56,630			54,932	56,630
Grants and Donations		2,132	1,722	4,242	2,119			6,374	3,841
Other expenditure		31,409	33,796		-	207	207	31,616	34,003
Total		346,347	361,968	59,174	64,079	207	207	405,728	426,254
Net income/(expenditure)		(69)	(29,724)	5,651	35,543	2,103	3,636	7,685	9,455
Transfers between funds		7,860	9,479	(5,757)	(5,844)	(2,103)	(3,636)	0	0
Recognition of buildings		2,850,000	-		0		0	2,850,000	-
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets				- 202	352	(6)	95	(6)	447
Net movement in funds		2,857,791	(20,245)	(308)	30,051	(6)	95	2,857,477	9,902
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward		178,842	3,036,633	84,619	84,311	72,636	72,630	336,097	3,193,574
Total funds carried forward		3,036,633	3,016,388	84,311	114,362	72,630	72,725	3,193,574	3,203,475

Balance Sheet

		Unrestricted		Restricted		Endowments		Total	
		31-Aug-23	31-Aug-24	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-24	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-24	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-24
Tangible Fixed Assets	Note ref	£			£		£		£
Land & Buildings	12	2,850,000	2,850,000					2,850,000	2,850,000
Equipment	12	5,109	5,109					5,109	5,109
Investment properties	12								
Investments	13					72,630	72,725	72,630	72,725
Total fixed assets		2,855,109	2,855,109		-	72,630	72,725	2,927,739	2,927,834
Current Assets									
Stock									
Debtors and Prepayments	14								
Cash at Bank and in hand	15	108,922	108,085	78,928	100,266			187,850	208,351
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits		10,810		4,701	5,052			15,511	5,052
Central Finance Board Deposits		74,524	73,210		8,352			74,524	81,562
Building Society deposits		4014	4,130	682	692			4,696	4,822
Total current assets		198,270	185,425	84,311	114,362			282,581	299,787
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)	16	16,746	24,146					16,746	24,146
Net current assets (liabilities)		181,524	161,279	84,311	114,362			265,835	275,641
Total assets less current liabilities		3,036,633	3,016,388	84,311	114,362	72,630	72,725	3,193,574	3,203,475
Loans and creditors due after 1 year									
Provisions for liabilities and charges	16								
Net assets		3,036,633	3,016,388	84,311	114,362	72,630	72,725	3,193,574	3,203,475
Funds of the Church									
General fund		156,658	137,796					156,658	137,796
Designated funds		29,975	28,592					29,975	28,592
Poperty reserve		2,850,000	2,850,000					2,850,000	2,850,000
Restricted funds				84,311	114,362			84,311	114,362
Endowment funds						72,620	72,725	72,620	72,725
Total Funds		3,036,633	3,016,388	84,311	114,362	72,620	72,725	3,193,564	3,203,475

Notes on the accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2015 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletins 1 and 2.

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: a General Fund held for any purpose of the Church which is Unrestricted, this fund being created at the point of consolidation of the constituent church societies and a property fund which representing the current assessed value of the church properties. There are a number of Designated funds which are being held for specific purposes which technically are part of the General fund but retain the specific purpose identification they had at 31 August 2022. There are a number of Restricted funds which include the internal organisations of the church which are formally also under the direct control of the church council, There is one Endowment fund that the income from it can be used for the upkeep of the Kingsley Park building. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash. Details of all funds is given in note 17.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that the church buildings are included at assessed valuation agreed by the trustees based on professional surveyor advice.

Incoming Resources

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

Resources Expended

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

VAT

VAT incurred on the cost of purchases for the running of the church is charged as a cost of operation,.

Notes on the accounts

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. At the point of formation all fixed assets within each building were considered to be fully depreciated. New items of equipment purchased during the year have been treated as additions on a case by case basis.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at assessed values, of which the land component is deemed to be £1,000,000. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties will be periodically reviewed for impairment.

Investments

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

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors are only recognised when an amount can be specifically recognised.

Creditors

Creditors are only recognised when they relate to a specific service or supply of goods. No attempt has been made to quantify utility supplies not invoiced.

Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and opening carrying value (purchase date if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the market value at the year end and opening carrying value (or purchase date if later).

4 Payments to trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church.

5 Fees for audit of the accounts

There was no fee charged for the audit of these accounts.

Notes on the accounts

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	2022/23	2023/24
	£	£
Gross wages	12,087	12,748
Employer's NI costs		
Pension costs		
Total staff costs	12,087	12,748

No of employees	2	2
Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	0.5	0.5

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2024 there are capital commitments of nil.

There were no contingent liabilities identified at 31st August 2024 .

Notes on the accounts

8. Analysis of Unrestricted income by Worshipping community general funds and designated funds

Current year 2023 - 24	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgrove	Roade	St Andrews	Towcester Road	Church Fund	Designated funds	TOTAL
RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Offerings	6,913	4,804	5,283	17,994	18,520	55,650	24,263	9,894	30,983	13,396	2,931	0	190,631
Donations		165		6,665		200	1,060	960	410	1,395	907	200	11,962
Gift aid received	1,906		1,187	4,171	4,049	12,724	8,060		6,110	2,440	531	0	41,179
Investment income		230		218	556	1,605	331	221	433	116	1	683	4,394
Lettings	1,479	1,714	4,141	5,680		16,126	4,997	12,562	8,617	5,009	6,431	0	66,756
Fundraising activity	942	42	684	4,738	48	81		1,917	1,377	2,501		100	12,430
Other receipts	1,184		3,140	55		300	214					0	4,893
Group donations				3,636		1,392	-555		1,307	2,944		755	9,480
TOTAL	12,424	6,955	14,435	43,157	23,174	88,078	38,369	25,555	49,237	27,802	10,801	1,738	341,724
Previous year 2022 - 23													
RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Offerings	7,035	4,245	5,177	18,602	19,351	55,477	25,696	10,223	26,538	13,487	2,055	0	187,886
Donations	286	121	122	6,017		283	839	382	260	1,821	16	1000	11,147
Gift aid received	1,967	1,533	1,290	4,782	8,605	15,172	5,857	2,433	8,522	3,227		0	53,388
Investment income	0	147		211	251	1,023	364	142	278	42	1	499	2,958
Lettings	979	1,080	5,469	3,247		17,954	3,535	7,894	8,224	4,046	6,296	0	58,724
Fundraising activity	0	293	254	5,843	90	3,870	1,727	1,715	2,635	2,417		1842	20,685
Other receipts	239	164		150		300	218		416		10,000	0	11,488
Group donations				2,103	185	2,457	0		502	2,614		0	7,860
TOTAL	10,506	7,583	12,312	40,955	28,482	96,534	38,237	22,789	47,375	27,654	18,368	3,341	354,136

The £10,000 other receipts in the NMC core column is the initial start up grant from the Circuit connected with the transfer in of the Wootton Trinity building

Notes on the accounts

9. Analysis of Unrestricted expenditure by Worshipping community general funds and designated funds

Current year 2023 - 24	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgrove	Roade	St Andrews	Towcester Road	Church Fund	Designated funds	TOTAL
PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Circuit Assessment											204,717		204,717
Donations	165	135	255			25		457	60	25		600	1,722
Repairs	942	206	2,250	6,266	120	2,678	2,832	5,354	4,892	4,955	1,016	2520	34,031
Cleaning	50	63					2,070	879	3,158	3,352	2,370	0	11,942
Insurance	613	427	485	6,223	1,154	5,612	4,249	2,447	1,629	1,769	819	0	25,426
Utilities	2,920	876	3,362	7,385		11,214	4,099	4,718	6,998	2,116	5,840	0	49,528
Worship costs	1,031	194	784	2,613	370	1,434	737		932	396	368	0	8,859
Salaries						12,748						0	12,748
Other payments	554	78	214	665	218	4,531	1,737	126	2,452	2,380	41	0	12,996
Total	6,275	1,979	7,350	23,152	1,861	38,243	15,724	13,981	20,121	14,993	215,171	3,120	361,968
Previous year 2022 - 23													
PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Circuit Assessment											218,286		218,286
Donations	338	276	68			25	0	240	60	25	1,100		2,132
Repairs	1,369	404	912	2,864	1,096	8,827	1,640	5,788	4,339	1,027	850		29,115
Cleaning		25				534	1,706	1,146	3,037	3,110	2,462		12,019
Insurance	599	417	471	5,577	1,098	5,327	4,088	2,390	1,590	1,642	802		24,002
Utilities	1,476	1,196	1,275	5,465		7,720	3,007	3,991	5,393	1,961	2,941		34,426
Worship costs	226	105	375	2,693	848	1,185	683	127	725	377			7,345
Salaries						12,087							12,087
Other payments	477		238	371	239	6,960	764		1,579	173	1,214	30	12,045
Less capitalised spending											-5,109		-5,109
Total	4,485	2,423	3,339	16,970	3,281	42,665	11,888	13,682	16,723	8,315	222,546	30	346,348

Notes on the accounts

10. Transfers between funds

The income generated by TMCP holdings is transferred to the General fund net of the related administration charge. All other transfers relate to either payments for building usage or alternatively support with start up costs for a new project or initiative.

11. Depreciation

There was no depreciation calculated on the new assets purchased as they both occurred in the final quarter of the year.

12. Operational Fixed Assets & Land and Buildings

	Valuation at 31 August 2022	2022 -23 additions	Valuation at 31 August 2023	2023 -24 additions	Valuation at 31 August 2024	Accum Dep'n August 22	Dep'n 2022-23	Dep'n 2023-24	Revaluation Aug 2024	NBV 31 Aug 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Operational land & buildings										
Astcote	0	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Gt Billing	0	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Harpole	0	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Park Avenue	0	0	600,000	0	600,000	0	0	0	0	600,000
Kingsley	0	0	350,000	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	350,000
Kingsthorpe	0	0	200,000	0	200,000	0	0	0	0	200,000
Queensgrove	0	0	350,000	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	350,000
Roadie	0	0	250,000	0	250,000	0	0	0	0	250,000
St Andrews	0	0	400,000	0	400,000	0	0	0	0	400,000
Towcester Road	0	0	350,000	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	350,000
Wootton	0	0	200,000	0	200,000	0	0	0	0	200,000
	0	0	2,850,000	0	2,850,000	0	0	0	0	2,850,000
Fixtures & fittings	0		200,000	5,109	205,109	200,000	0	0	0	5,109

Notes on the accounts

13. Investments

The M E Gregory endowment is invested primarily in the TMCP Trustee Interest Fund along with a small holding of Lloyds Bank Group shares.

14. Analysis of current assets Debtors under 1 year

There were no debtors identified at the end of the financial year. I

15. Analysis of cash at bank and in hand

	Balance at 31 Aug 2023	Balance at 31 Aug 2024
	£	£
Balance with Barclays bank	22417	48384
Balance with Co-op bank	3184	4628
Balance with HSBC bank	41294	29212
Balance with Lloyds bank	28924	42591
Balance with NatWest bank	17409	13313
Balance with Santander plc	2956	4013
Cash	1984	281
Linked groups fund holdings	69682	65928
	<u>187850</u>	<u>208350</u>

Notes on the accounts

16. Analysis of current liabilities and long-term creditors

	As at 31 Aug-23 £	As at 31 Aug-24 £
Trade Creditors	0	1,500
Other Creditors Northampton Circuit	15,646	22,646
Other Creditors Connexional Funds	<u>1,100</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>16,746</u>	<u>24,146</u>

The trade creditor reflects estimated non billed electricity costs for Astcote during 2024.

Other creditors represent sums owed at the year end by the charity to related parties, the Northampton Circuit in respect of assessment due but not paid until September 2024.

There are no identified long term creditors.

Notes on the accounts

17. Analysis of movements of all funds under the oversight of the NMC Church Council by category for the past two years

	Balance at 31st August 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2024	Fund purpose
Unrestricted Funds										
General Fund	152,176	342,939	346,317	7,860	156,658	331,260	358,848	8,725	137,795	General purposes of NMC
Property reserve	0	0	0	2,850,000	2,850,000	0	0	0	2,850,000	Property reserve
Designated Funds										
NMC Youth Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	555	555	To support future work in Kingsthorpe
Kingsthorpe futures	24,331	437	30	0	24,738	653	600	200	24,991	To support future work in Kingsthorpe
Kingsley project (roof)	2,334	2,903	0	0	5,237	330	2,520	0	3,047	To be used for maintenance of Kingsley building
Total unrestricted	178,841	346,279	346,347	2,857,860	3,036,633	332,243	361,968	9,480	3,016,388	
Endowment Funds										
Kingsley Gregory legacy	72,626	2,310	213	(2,103)	72,620	3,938	207	(3,636)	72,715	Interest to be used for maintenance of Kingsley building
Total	72,626	2,310	213	(2,103)	72,620	3,938	207	(3,636)	72,715	
Restricted Funds										
Benevolent fund	2,530	1,236	1,482	175	2,459	1,255	1,224	36	2,526	For relief of identified hardship or need
Astcote charity collection	274	336	330	0	280	302	460	0	122	Holding fund for collections for other charities
Harpole legacy	0	0	0	0	0	13,972	3,073	0	10,899	Legacy received for use at Harpole chapel
Kingsthorpe charity collection	817	373	817	0	373	360	360	(72)	301	Holding fund for collections for other charities
Kingsthorpe youth fund	868	42	110	0	800	0	62	36	774	Support of youth work at Kingsthorpe worshipping community
Park Avenue Drop in centre	3,595	0	0	0	3,595	0	0	0	3,595	Dormant fund
Park Avenue Trade craft	239	0	0	0	239	0	0	0	239	Dormant fund
Park Avenue Security camera	1,150	0	0	0	1,150	0	0	0	1,150	Dormant fund
Park Avenue outreach	1,073	0	1,073	0	0	0	0	0	0	Dormant fund
Park Avenue Development fund	1,063	0	417	0	646	25,000	2,257	0	23,389	To be used for future work at Park Avenue
Park Avenue Unconditional gift	4,752	140	216	(126)	4,550	489	13	(125)	4,901	To be used for future work at Park Avenue
Park Avenue Bennett bequest	150	5	0	(5)	150	8	0	(8)	150	
St Andrews craft group	0	0	0	386	386	0	0	0	386	Funds held for St Andrews craft group
Internal Groups	68,108	62,694	54,933	(6,187)	69,682	58,588	56,629	(5,711)	65,930	See next table
Total	84,619	64,826	59,378	(5,757)	84,310	99,974	64,078	(5,844)	114,362	
Total	336,086	413,415	405,938	285,000	3,193,563	436,155	426,253	0	3,203,465	

Notes on the accounts

Details for all internal groups shown as total line on previous table

	Balance at 31st August 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2024	Fund purpose
Internal group funds										
<i>Harpole BB</i>	1530	0	547	0	983	0	0	0	983	<i>Dormont residual balance</i>
<i>Kingsthorpe GB</i>	5030	5276	5562	0	4744	4828	5423	0	4149	<i>Children and youth work Girls Brigade</i>
<i>Kingsthorpe catering</i>	594	562	450	(185)	521	597	435	0	683	<i>Catering group linked to Kingsthorpe</i>
<i>Kingsthorpe Badmington</i>	262	887	825	0	324	953	722	(200)	355	<i>Sport group</i>
<i>Kingsley Junior Church</i>	865	0	100	0	765	0	237	0	528	<i>Children and youth work</i>
<i>Kingsley GB</i>	3358	1672	1983	0	3047	1365	1979	0	2433	<i>Children and youth work Girls Brigade</i>
<i>Kingsley BB</i>	14038	1358	617	0	14779	1354	532	0	15601	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>Park Avenue Toddlers group</i>	154	206	111	(200)	49	284	42	(130)	161	<i>Under 5's group</i>
<i>Park Avenue Youth Group</i>	174	0	0	0	174	0	174	0	0	<i>Dormont residual balance</i>
<i>Park Avenue Choir</i>	82	0	50	0	32	0	32	0	0	<i>Dormont residual balance</i>
<i>Park Avenue 15 club</i>	41	300	185	(125)	31	312	165	(130)	48	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>Park Avenue Womens fellowship</i>	1519	2441	1383	(1,000)	1577	2099	1048	(1,000)	1628	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>Park Avenue Netw ork</i>	1950	17685	15488	(1,000)	3147	19361	18703	0	3805	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>Park Avenue BB</i>	619	1000	1262	0	357	1832	1865	0	324	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>Queensgrove Tuesday ladies</i>	1062	1022	899	0	1185	1060	1025	0	1220	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>Queensgrove Mens Group</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<i>Dormont residual balance</i>
<i>Queensgrove BB</i>	5739	6452	7129	0	5062		5062	0	0	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>St Andrew s BB</i>	21792	12979	11299	0	23472	13983	13380	0	24075	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>St Andrew s Tuesday club</i>	265	1437	783	(477)	442	1520	618	(932)	412	<i>Fellowship group</i>
<i>St Andrew s craft</i>	567	500	21	(586)	460	375	400	(375)	60	<i>Craft based fellowship group</i>
<i>Tow cester Rd BB</i>	5595	5602	5258	(800)	5139	5573	3857	(800)	6055	<i>Children and youth work Boys Brigade</i>
<i>Tow cester Rd Bow ls</i>	2047	2128	707	(1,000)	2468	2030	780	(1,000)	2718	<i>Sport group</i>
<i>Tow cester Rd Knit and Natter</i>	825	1187	274	(814)	924	1062	150	(1,144)	692	<i>Craft based fellowship group</i>
	0				0				0	
	0				0				0	
	0				0				0	
Total	68108	62694	54933	(6,187)	69682	58588	56629	(5,711)	65930	

Independent Examiners Report

This Report is on the Northampton Methodist Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024 and is carried out under Sections 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Institute of Chartered Accountants England & Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act; and
- to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission . An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

Independent Examiners Report

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or .
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 at the balance sheet date.

Name	Miss C Haynes ACA 1 March 2025
Qualification reference	ACA ICAEW 7945127
Address	4 Delamere Road Northampton NN4 8QG

Appendix A Membership of Church Council

CHAIR

Rev David Speirs

SECRETARY

Miss Sarah Eason

MINISTERS

Rev Dr Samantha Gillard

Rev Ian Forsyth

STEWARDS

Mr Trevor Clarke (until Aug 2024)

Mrs Pat Oliver

Mrs. Hilary MacCallum (until Aug 2024)

Ms Linda Caines

Ms Rachel Pell

Mrs Fran Perry

Mrs Kate Stretton

Mrs Hilary Walden

Ms Charmaine Wareham Voyce

REPRESENTATIVES

Mr Keith Brooks

Mrs Jenny Brooks

Miss Pam Kirkland

Dr Hellen Okello

Ms Elizabeth Hale (Until May 2024)

Mr Phillip Leeson

Miss Laura Ferris

Mr Paul Deakin

Mrs Jenny Richardson (From July 2024)

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1199372

Accounts



Charity No 1199372

Annual report and accounts

2022/2023

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023

Contents	Page Number
Introduction by Superintendent Minister	2
Review of the year	3
Our plans for 2023/24	4
Mission statement	6
Governance Detail	
Legal structure and arrangements	7
Structure, Governance and Management	9
Public Benefit Test, Risk Management, Reserves Policy	10
Safeguarding	11
Financial statement preparation	12
Detailed Accounts	13
Notes on the Accounts	15
Independent examiners report	25

Welcome by the Superintendent of the Northampton Methodist Circuit

I am pleased to introduce the first annual report of the Northampton Methodist Church. This past year has been an opportunity for our new church to develop its identity, determine its mission priorities, and start a Mission and Property Review that builds on the earlier findings of the circuit's 'Casting the Net' report.

Some key highlights of this year have been:

- Welcoming the Reverend Ian Forsyth as a Presbyter, Authorised to Serve in the Methodist Church, with pastoral responsibility for the Astcote, Great Billing, Roade, and Towcester Road Worshipping Communities in Northampton Methodist Church.
- Appointing and inducting our first set of managing trustees and members of the Church Council as we seek to move forward with the 'Our Calling' priorities.
- Establishing Local Teams within our Worshipping Communities that can focus on mission in their localities.
- Launching a new church website that has enabled us to communicate better as a church and with people in the communities in and around Northampton and the surrounding villages.
- The steady growth in Bible studies and those participating in fellowship groups across the church.

- Forming a new Finance and Property Group to offer support, guidance, and recommendations in finance and property matters throughout the church.

In all these things we continue to put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit as our guide. We are hopeful that our new structures will help us as we share the good news of the gospel in Northampton and beyond.

Thank you for reading this report which I hope is informative and helpful.

Reverend David J Speirs

Email: david.speirs@methodist.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 705642



Review of the year

While having been formally registered as a charity during June 2022 the Methodist Churches within the Northampton Circuit formally joined on the first of September 2022, the start of the new connexional year.

To formally mark the launch a combined act of worship was held on the 25th September at the High School for Girl's in Wootton lead by the Chair of the Northampton District Rev'd Canon Helen Cameron. This service was followed by a period of fellowship and refreshment along with a formal first General Church Meeting to affirm the appointment of the Church stewards and other key officers.

The active work and worship continued at all the constituent buildings, known as the worshipping communities of the multi-site church throughout the year.

An early task that the new church council (Trustee body) undertook was a detailed review of all the building assets it was now responsible for so allowing a greater shared understanding of the challenges faced going forward.

Of particular note was the launch of the new church website which provided links to each worshipping community and provided a single presence for the church on the internet.

During the year the trustee body meet on a regular basis both to facilitate growing together as a group along with moving forward on determining the missional aspirations of the church as set out later in this review.

It is pleasing to report that a number of the fellowship groups which had ceased to be active during the Covid pandemic were successfully restarted providing increased opportunities for fellowship. It is also good to report there was also an increase in the number of bible studies being run along with growth in numbers attending each group.

The year drew to an end with the united farewell service for the Rev Francis M'Itirri and his family extending our best wishes to them as he moved to the New River Circuit in North London.

Review of the year

Financial performance for the year

Income

General collection income including gift aid reclaims (£243k) was slightly lower than the consolidated figures reported for the final year of the constituent churches and specific donations was also slightly lower at (£22k).

Letting income in comparison saw an increase of twenty percent to (£59k) reflecting the increase in groups seeking venues to meet.

There was also an increase in investment income as a result of the increase in interest rates.

Specifically included in other income is the transfer of (£10k) from the circuit related to the funds they had held in relation to the Wootton Trinity building.

The notable increase in linked organisation income is primarily linked to the launch of the PA network lunch club.

Expenditure

The main item of expenditure “The Circuit assessment” to fund the provision of ministry to the church was set at the same level as in 2021 – 22.

Building repairs were generally kept to priority requirements only whilst the longer term challenges related to both backlog maintenance requirements and future improvements were determined.

The most notable impact of inflation being on insurance premiums and utility costs where a number of contracts saw considerable tariff increases.

Net movement in funds

Overall the General Fund balance at the end of the financial year was (£157k), the churches free reserves equates to 5 months expenditure cover, slightly higher than the reserves policy requirement..

Futures plans

Plans for 2023/24

It is anticipated that an agreed property strategy will be published during the first half of the connexional year setting out future plans for the church buildings that the charity has oversight. Following initial adoption of the outline strategy further work will then be undertaken to progress definition and development of the individual constituent projects.

The Mission Action group are being asked to refine the mission plan including identifying key lay roles to further the further development of future children's and family work.

A number of significant anniversaries are also being celebrated during the year of the constituent worshipping communities including 150 years of worship at Astcote, 100 years at Towcester Road and 50 years at St Andrews.

Mission statement

Develop, support and encourage work with children and families.
Encouraging ongoing work
Working in local schools to explore the Bible and the Christian faith
Developing new initiatives
Making disciples of Jesus and deepening discipleship
Engaging with new people and sharing the Gospel
Sharing and studying the word
Hosting bible studies in welcoming venues
Develop, support, and encourage ongoing work with older people.
Effective pastoral support
Providing opportunities for fellowship
Strengthening the ecumenical witness in the local community
Seeking to be actively involved with the local geographic churches together group within which each worshipping community is situated
Engaging with and welcoming new residents within our communities
Seeking to learn from the Overstone pioneer worker experience.
Seeking to be an open and inclusive church
Being an intergenerational church
Providing a variety of worship styles
Feeding sharing, and eating together (breaking bread)
Encouraging Godly creativity, crafting, and art.
Creating space <i>for</i> sanctuary and retreat
Being a supportive and friendly church <i>for</i> those with special needs.

Governance Arrangements

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard FRS102.

The Charity's report and accounts include all the separately established funds for which Northampton Methodist Church has taken on responsibility for following the formation of the merged church.

Full Name of Charity: Northampton Methodist Church

Registration Charity Number: 1199372

The principal office is at: Wootton Trinity Christian Centre
High Street
Wootton
Northampton
NN4 6LW

The members of the Northampton Methodist Church Council are the Charity Trustees and are listed in Appendix A, which is attached.

The Church is part of the Northampton Methodist Circuit

Mr Keith Brooks acted as the principal officer overseeing the overall financial management and accounting for the Charity.

The accounting records and the day-to-day administration of the funds are supported by the Financial steward in each worshipping community.

The advisors and administrators used by the Charity during 2022/23 were:

Bankers	Lloyds Bank	2 George Row, Northampton
	Natwest Bank	The Drapery, Northampton
	HSBC Bank	Abington St, Northampton
	Barclays Bank	Wellingborough Road, Northampton

Governance Arrangements

Solicitors DFA Law
2 Waterside Way, Northampton

Independent examiner
Miss C Haynes (ACA)
4 Delamere Road
Northampton

Investment Managers
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

Governance Arrangements

Structure, Governance and Management

Northampton Methodist Church is the registered charity for all of the Methodist worshipping communities within Northampton and the surrounding area. It provides both worship, fellowship and pastoral care from its various buildings within the town.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

- a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

Public Benefit

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

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the Church is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Governance Arrangements

Day to day management of the Church is undertaken by the Church Council along with the Church Leadership team and the Finance and Property Committee . Each worshipping community also has a local teams structure organising and co ordinating the work in that location..

Trustee Training

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

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Finance and Property Committee with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken of all buildings and reported to the Church Council.

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

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 4 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on properties and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to maintain regular giving and other income of the various worshipping communities.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

Governance Arrangements

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

Financial Statement preparation

Basis of preparation

As treasurer I confirm that I have prepared the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 from the consolidated records provided by each Worshipping community and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of
Treasurer

W K Brooks

Date 19 June 2024

Name

W K Brooks ACMA

Address

2a Stanfield Road
Duston
Northampton

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council Meeting on 19 June 2024 and were approved.

Signature of the
Chair of the meeting

Rev David Speirs

19 June 2024

Name of the Chair of
the meeting

Rev David Speirs

Date

19 June 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

	Note ref	Unrestricted funds		Restricted Funds		Endowment Funds		Total	
		2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:	8								
Collections and tax credit		255,374	241,277	4,736	1,986			260,110	243,263
Donations & grants		27,454	21,524		-			27,454	21,524
Legacies		7,000	-		-			7,000	-
Fund raising		9,461	10,308		-			9,461	10,308
Lettings		48,104	58,724		-			48,104	58,724
Investments		450	2,958	123	145	352	2,310	925	5,413
Other		4,891	11,488	72	-			4,963	11,488
Internal organisations receipts			-	40,577	62,694			40,577	62,694
Total		352,734	346,279	45,508	64,825	352	2,310	398,594	413,414
Expenditure on:	9								
Salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	10,728	12,087		-			10,728	12,087
Circuit Assessment		220,472	218,286		-			220,472	218,286
Repairs and maintenance		31,296	24,006	1,906	-			33,202	24,006
Insurance		21,045	24,002		-			21,045	24,002
Depreciation	11		-		-			-	-
Utilities		31,269	34,426		-			31,269	34,426
Internal organisations			-	35,401	54,932			35,401	54,932
Grants and Donations		7,831	2,132	3,525	4,242			11,356	6,374
Other expenditure		34,523	31,409	341	-	207	207	35,071	31,616
Total		357,164	346,348	41,173	59,174	207	207	398,544	405,729
Net income/(expenditure)		(4,430)	(69)	4,335	5,651	145	2,103	50	7,685
Transfers between funds	10	3,064	7,860	(2,910)	(5,757)	(154)	(2,103)		-
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets					(202)	(4)	(6)	(4)	(208)
Net movement in funds		(1,366)	7,791	1,425	(308)	(13)	(6)	46	7,478
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward		180,208	3,028,842	83,194	84,619	72,639	72,626	336,041	3,186,087
Total funds carried forward		178,842	3,036,633	84,619	84,311	72,626	72,620	336,087	3,193,564

Balance Sheet

	Note ref	Unrestricted		Restricted		Endowments		Total	
		31-Aug-22	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22	31-Aug-23
Tangible Fixed Assets		£			£		£		£
Land & Buildings	12		2,850,000						2,850,000
Equipment	12		5,109						5,109
Investment properties	12								
Investments	13					72,626	72,620	72,626	72,620
Total fixed assets			2,855,109		-	72,626	72,620	72,626	2,927,729
Current Assets									
Stock									
Debtors and Prepayments	14								
Cash at Bank and in hand	14	96,547	108,922	77,285	78,928			173,832	187,850
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits		10,502	10,810	4,902	4,701			15,404	15,511
Central Finance Board Deposits		67,821	74,524					67,821	74,524
Building Society deposits		3972	4,014	2,432	682			6,404	4,696
Total current assets		178,842	198,270	84,619	84,311			263,461	282,581
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)	15		16,746						16,746
Net current assets (liabilities)		178,842	181,524	84,619	84,311			263,461	265,835
Total assets less current liabilities		178,842	3,036,633	84,619	84,311	72,626	72,620	336,087	3,193,564
Loans and creditors due after 1 year									
Provisions for liabilities and charges	16								
Net assets		178,842	3,036,633	84,619	84,311	72,626	72,620	336,087	3,193,564
Funds of the Church									
General fund		152,179	156,658					152,179	156,658
Designated funds		26,663	29,975					26,663	29,975
Poperty reserve			2,850,000						2,850,000
Restricted funds				84,619	84,311			84,619	84,311
Endowment funds						72,626	72,620	72,626	72,620
Total Funds		178,842	3,036,633		84,311		72,620	336,087	3,193,564

Notes on the accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2015 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletins 1 and 2.

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: a General Fund held for any purpose of the Church which is Unrestricted, this fund being created at the point of consolidation of the constituent church societies and a property fund which representing the current assessed value of the church properties. There are a number of Designated funds which are being held for specific purposes which technically are part of the General fund but retain the specific purpose identification they had at 31 August 2022. There are a number of Restricted funds which include the internal organisations of the church which are formally also under the direct control of the church council, There is one Endowment fund that the income from it can be used for the upkeep of the Kingsley Park building. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash. Details of all funds is given in note 17.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that the church buildings are included at assessed valuation agreed by the trustees based on professional surveyor advice.

Incoming Resources

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

Resources Expended

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

VAT

Notes on the accounts

VAT incurred on the cost of purchases for the running of the church is charged as a cost of operation,.

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. At the point of formation all fixed assets within each building were considered to be fully depreciated. New items of equipment purchased during the year have been treated as additions on a case by case basis.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at assessed values, of which the land component is deemed to be £1,000,000. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties will be periodically reviewed for impairment.

Investments

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

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors are only recognised when an amount can be specifically recognised.

Creditors

Creditors are only recognised when they relate to a specific service or supply of goods. No attempt has been made to quantify utility supplies not invoiced.

Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and opening carrying value (purchase date if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the market value at the year end and opening carrying value (or purchase date if later).

4 Payments to trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Church.

5 Fees for audit of the accounts

Notes on the accounts

There was no fee charged for the audit of these accounts.

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	2021/22	2022/23
	£	£
Gross wages	10,728	12,087
Employer's NI costs		
Pension costs		
Total staff costs	10,728	12,087

No of employees	2	2
Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year were:	0.5	0.5

7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2023 there are capital commitments of nil.

There were no contingent liabilities identified at 31st August 2022 and no new items have been identified during the year.

Notes on the accounts

8. Analysis of General Fund income by worshipping community

Current year 2022 - 23	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgrove	Roade	St Andrews	Towcester Road	NMC core	TOTAL
RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Offerings & donations	7,035	4,245	5,177	18,602	19,351	55,477	25,696	10,223	26,538	13,487	2,055	187,886
Donations	286	121	122	6,017		283	839	382	260	1,821	16	10,147
Gift aid received	1,967	1,533	1,290	4,782	8,605	15,172	5,857	2,433	8,522	3,227		53,388
Investment income	0	147		211	251	1,023	364	142	278	42	1	2,459
Lettings	979	1,080	5,469	3,247		17,954	3,535	7,894	8,224	4,046	6,296	58,724
Gift days	0			4,780		3,870	1,727					10,377
Fundraising activity	0	293	254	1,063	90		0	1,715	2,635	2,417		8,466
Other receipts	239	164		150		300	218		416		10,000	11,488
Group donations				2,103	185	2,457	0		502	2,614		7,860
TOTAL RECEIPTS	10,506	7,583	12,312	40,955	28,482	96,534	38,237	22,789	47,375	27,654	18,368	350,795

The £10,000 other receipts in the NMC core column is the initial start up grant from the Circuit connected with the transfer in of the Wootton Trinity building

Financial year 2021 - 22 comparison	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgro	Roade	St Andrews	Towcester Road	NMC Core	TOTAL
RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Offerings & donations	7,403	5,471	5,949	24,440	20,411	59,650	26,279	10,408	27,660	21,310		208,981
Gift aid received	4,275	962	1,574	2,751		14,623	6,103	2,452	7,976	5,677		46,393
Interest		20		9	35	193	64	17	33	4	0	375
Lettings	769	215	3,490	3,793		17,292	3,610	4,935	8,962	5,038		48,104
Gift days				8,260	2,526	5,810	0		10,503			27,099
Fundraising activity	5	718	1,267	1,950	140	0	0	920	1,493	2,900		9,393
Other receipts	1,474	219		1,590	7,000	634	85	466	423			11,891
Total	13,926	7,605	12,280	42,793	30,112	98,202	36,141	19,198	57,050	34,929	0	352,236

Notes on the accounts

9. Analysis of General fund expenditure by worshipping community

Current year 2022 - 23	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgrove	Roade	St Andrews	Towcester Road	NMC core	TOTAL
PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Circuit Assessment											218,286	218,286
Donations	338	276	68			25	0	240	60	25	1,100	2,132
Repairs and Maintenance	1,369	404	912	2,864	1,096	8,827	1,640	5,788	4,339	1,027	850	29,115
Caretaking & cleaning		25				534	1,706	1,146	3,037	3,110	2,462	12,019
Insurance	599	417	471	5,577	1,098	5,327	4,088	2,390	1,590	1,642	802	24,002
Utilities	1,476	1,196	1,275	5,465		7,720	3,007	3,991	5,393	1,961	2,941	34,426
Worship costs	226	105	375	2,693	848	1,185	683	127	725	377		7,345
Salaries						12,087						12,087
Other payments	477		238	371	239	6,960	764		1,579	173	1,214	12,015
Total	4,485	2,423	3,339	16,970	3,281	42,665	11,888	13,682	16,723	8,315	227,655	351,427

Financial year 2021 - 22 comparison	Astcote	Gt Billing	Harpole	Kingsley	Kingsthrp	Park Ave	Queensgro	Roade	St Andrews	Towcester Road	NMC Core	TOTAL
PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Circuit Assessment	5,852	4,792	8,220	19,713	24,584	67,360	32,248	8,803	28,500	20,400		220,472
Donations	603	1,339	935	110	2,025	1,554	0	880	360	25		7,831
Repairs and Maintenance	522	1,773	1,389	2,611	135	7,394	1,230	1,661	7,879	4,152		28,746
Caretaking & cleaning	80		0	0		4,680	1,594	1,339	3,888	2,486		14,067
Insurance	578	405	438	4,954	1,304	4,450	3,758	2,196	1,447	1,515		21,045
Utilities	1,516	1,031	1,111	6,691		10,214	2,138	2,535	4,460	1,573		31,269
Worship costs	213		412	2,226	775	1,214	307		797	352		6,296
Printing				25	357	2,711	494		283			3,870
Other payments	2,996	163	143	239	258	16,021	259	557	0	351		20,987
Total	12,360	9,503	12,649	36,569	29,438	115,598	42,028	17,971	47,614	30,854	0	354,584

Notes on the accounts

10. Transfers between funds

The income generated by TMCP holdings is transferred to the General fund net of the related administration charge. All other transfers relate to either payments for building usage or alternatively support with start up costs for a new project or initiative.

11. Depreciation

There was no depreciation calculated on the new assets purchased as they both occurred in the final quarter of the year.

12. Operational Fixed Assets & Land and Buildings

	Valuation at 31 August 2021	2021 -22 additions	Valuation at 31 August 2022	2022 -23 additions	Valuation at 31 August 2023	Accum Dep'n August 21	Dep'n 2021-22	Dep'n 2022-23	Revaluation Aug 2023	NBV 31 Aug 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Operational land & buildings										
Astcote	0	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Gt Billing	0	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Harpole	0	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Park Avenue	0	0	600,000	0	600,000	0	0	0	0	600,000
Kingsley	0	0	350,000	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	350,000
Kingsthorpe	0	0	200,000	0	200,000	0	0	0	0	200,000
Queensgrove	0	0	350,000	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	350,000
Roadie	0	0	250,000	0	250,000	0	0	0	0	250,000
St Andrews	0	0	400,000	0	400,000	0	0	0	0	400,000
Towcester Road	0	0	350,000	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	350,000
Wootton	0	0	200,000	0	200,000	0	0	0	0	200,000
	0	0	2,850,000	0	2,850,000	0	0	0	0	2,850,000
Fixtures & fittings	0		200,000	5,109	205,109	200,000	0	0	0	5,109

Notes on the accounts

13. Investments

The M E Gregory endowment is invested primarily in the TMCP Trustee Interest Fund along with a small holding of Lloyds Bank Group shares.

14. Analysis of current assets

Debtors under 1 year

There were no debtors identified at the end of the financial year. I

Analysis of cash at bank and in hand

	Balance at 31 Aug 2022	Balance at 31 Aug 2023
	£	£
Balance with Barclays bank	26391	22417
Balance with Co-op bank	3360	3184
Balance with HSBC bank	49380	41294
Balance with Lloyds bank	5984	8250
Balance with NatWest bank	18354	38083
Balance with Santander plc	2183	2956
Cash	72	1984
Linked groups fund holdings	68108	69682
	173832	187850

Notes on the accounts

15. Analysis of current liabilities and long-term creditors

	As at 31 Aug-22 £	As at 31 Aug-23 £
Trade Creditors	0	0
Other Creditors Northampton Circuit	0	15,646
Other Creditors Connexional Funds	<u>0</u>	<u>1,100</u>
	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>16,746</u></u>

Other creditors represent sums owed at the year end by the charity to related parties, the Northampton Circuit in respect of assessment due but not paid until September 2023 and agreed contributions to the Connexional Property Fund and Auxiliary Fund.

There are no identified long term creditors.

Notes on the accounts

18. Analysis of movements of all funds under the oversight of the NMC Church Council by category for the past two years

	Balance at 31st August 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2023	Fund purpose
Unrestricted Funds										
General Fund	152,226	352,236	354,584	2,301	152,179	342,939	346,317	7,860	156,661	General purposes of NMC
Property reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,850,000	2,850,000	Property reserve
Designated Funds										
<i>Kingsthorpe futures</i>	23,300	297	30	763	24,330	437	30	0	24,737	To support future work in Kingsthorpe
<i>Kingsley project (roof)</i>	4,682	201	2550	0	2,333	2,903	0	0	5,236	To be used for maintenance of Kingsley building
Total unrestricted	180,208	352,734	357,164	3,064	178,842	346,279	346,347	2,857,860	3,036,634	
Endowment Funds										
<i>Kingsley Gregory legacy</i>	72,639	352	211	(154)	72,626	2,310	213	(2,103)	72,620	Interest to be used for maintenance of Kingsley building
Total	72,639	352	211	(154)	72,626	2,310	213	(2,103)	72,620	
Restricted Funds										
<i>Benevolent fund</i>	2,505	1,220	1,195	0	2,530	1,236	1,482	175	2,459	For relief of identified hardship or need
<i>Astcote charity collection</i>	515	1,078	1,319	0	274	336	330	0	280	Holding fund for collections for other charities
<i>Kingsthorpe charity collection</i>	1,348	480	1,011	0	817	373	817	0	373	Holding fund for collections for other charities
<i>Kingsthorpe youth fund</i>	815	53	0	0	868	42	110	0	800	Support of youth work at Kingsthorpe worshipping community
<i>Park Avenue Drop in centre</i>	3,595	0	0	0	3,595	0	0	0	3,595	Dormant fund
<i>Park Avenue Trade craft</i>	175	72	8	0	239	0	0	0	239	Dormant fund
<i>Park Avenue Security camera</i>	1,150	0	0	0	1,150	0	0	0	1,150	Dormant fund
<i>Park Avenue outreach</i>	1,073	0	0	0	1,073	0	1,073	0	0	Dormant fund
<i>Park Avenue Development fund</i>	1,063	1,905	1,905	0	1,063	0	417	0	646	To be used for future work at Park Avenue
<i>Park Avenue Unconditional gift</i>	5,071	123	333	(109)	4,752	140	216	(126)	4,550	To be used for future work at Park Avenue
<i>Park Avenue Bennett bequest</i>	150	0	0	0	150	5	0	(5)	150	
<i>St Andrews craft group</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	386	386	Funds held for St Andrews craft group
Internal Groups	65,733	42,755	35,401	(4,979)	68,108	62,694	54,933	(6,187)	69,682	See next table
Total	83,193	47,686	41,172	(5,088)	84,619	64,826	59,378	(5,757)	84,310	
Total	336,040	400,420	398,336	(2,024)	336,087	413415	405938	2850000	3,193,564	

Notes on the accounts

Details for all internal groups shown as total line on previous table

	Balance at 31st August 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31st August 2023	Fund purpose
Internal group funds										
Harpole BB	1530	0	0	0	1530	0	547	0	983	Dormont residual balance
Kingsthorpe GB	3491	4411	2872	0	5030	5276	5562	0	4744	Children and youth work Girls Brigade
Kingsthorpe catering	1211	245	99	(763)	594	562	450	(185)	521	Catering group linked to Kingsthorpe
Kingsthorpe Badminton	208	594	540	0	262	887	825	0	324	Sport group
Kingsley Junior Church	1194		329	0	865	0	100	0	765	Children and youth work
Kingsley GB	2889	1140	671	0	3358	1672	1983	0	3047	Children and youth work Girls Brigade
Kingsley BB	13905	1086	928	(25)	14038	1358	617	0	14779	Children and youth work Boys Brigade
Kingsley other	1243	0	565	(678)	0	0	0	0	0	Dormont residual balance
Park Avenue Toddlers group	229	26	101	0	154	206	111	(200)	49	Under 5's group
Park Avenue Youth Group	174	0	0	0	174	0	0	0	174	Dormont residual balance
Park Avenue Choir	82	0	0	0	82	0	50	0	32	Dormont residual balance
Park Avenue 15 club	36	200	195	0	41	300	185	(125)	31	Fellowship group
Park Avenue Womens fellowship	328	2546	1355	0	1519	2441	1383	(1,000)	1577	Fellowship group
Park Avenue Netw ork	0	1950	0	0	1950	17685	15488	(1,000)	3147	Fellowship group
Park Avenue BB	517	1000	898	0	619	1000	1262	0	357	Children and youth work Boys Brigade
Queensgrove Tuesday ladies	840	748	526	0	1062	1022	899	0	1185	Fellowship group
Queensgrove Mens Group	1003	0	1003	0	0	0	0	0	0	Dormont residual balance
Queensgrove BB	5521	7192	6974	0	5739	6452	7129	0	5062	Children and youth work Boys Brigade
St Andrew s BB	22937	11425	12570	0	21792	12979	11299	0	23472	Children and youth work Boys Brigade
St Andrew s Tuesday club	379	143	188	(69)	265	1437	783	(477)	442	Fellowship group
St Andrew s craft	685	596	14	(700)	567	500	21	(586)	460	Craft based fellowship group
St Andrew s other	106	0	0	(106)	0	0	0	0	0	Dormont residual balance
Tow cester Rd BB	3675	7304	4384	(1,000)	5595	5602	5258	(800)	5139	Children and youth work Boys Brigade
Tow cester Rd Bow ls	2648	1383	984	(1,000)	2047	2128	707	(1,000)	2468	Sport group
Tow cester Rd Knit and Natter	902	766	205	(638)	825	1187	274	(814)	924	Craft based fellowship group
					0				0	
					0				0	
					0				0	
Total	65733	42755	35401	(4,979)	68108	62694	54933	(6,187)	69682	

Independent examiners report to the Trustees of Northampton Methodist Church

This Report is on the Northampton Methodist Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2023 and is carried out under Sections 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Institute of Chartered Accountants England & Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act; and
- to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission . An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

Independent examiners report to the Trustees of Northampton Methodist Church

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act ; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or .
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 at the balance sheet date.

Name	Miss C Haynes ACA 30 June 2024
Qualification reference	ACA ICAEW 7945127
Address	4 Delamere Road Northampton NN4 8QG

Appendix A Church Council membership

CHAIR

Rev David Spiers

SECRETARY

Miss Sarah Eason

MINISTERS

Rev Francis M Itiiri (Until August 2023)
Rev Ian Forsyth

STEWARDS

Mr Trevor Clarke
Mrs Pat Oliver
Mrs. Hilary MacCallum (until Aug 2024)
Ms Linda Caines
Ms Rachel Pell
Mrs Fran Perry
Mrs Kate Stretton
Mrs Hilary Walden
Mrs Charmaine Wareham Voyce

REPRESENTATIVES

Mr Keith Brooks
Mrs Jenny Brooks
Miss Pam Kirkland
Dr Hellen Okello
Mrs Elizabeth Hale (Until May 2024)
Mr Phillip Leeson
Miss Laura Ferris
Mr Paul Deakin