

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 2023-2024

From 1st September 2023

To 31st August 2024

Charity name: West Derby Methodist Church

Charity registration number: 1204659



Principal Business Address:

West Derby Methodist Church, Crosby Green, Liverpool, L12 7JZ

Trustees:

Rev I J K Hu
E Cooper
P E Deninson
M A Hesketh
P J McGinty
H A Ness
D K Smith
J Stubbs
A M Twist
S D Twist
S B Wellstead
D J Williamson

Independent Examiner: Ms Tracey Haigh

Bankers: Barclays Bank

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

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

The charity, which was formed in 2023, is a registered charity. It is governed by The Methodist Church Act 1976. In order to obtain a full understanding of the operation of the charity, reference also needs to be made to the following statutes: The Methodist Church Union Act 1929, The Methodist Church Act 1939, The Methodist Church Funds Act 1960, The Methodist Church Act 1976, The Deed of Union, The Model Trusts, and the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church.

Appointment of Trustees

The trustees of the charity, under the terms of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church, are known as Managing Trustees.

Church stewards are elected to serve for a term of four years by the Annual Church Meeting. Up to six trustees are elected from the church membership at the Annual Church Meeting each year to serve for three years. Under Standing Order 610(1) of Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church, the remaining trustees include the treasurer, secretary of the Church Council, pastoral secretary, a circuit steward and up to fifteen representatives of the church's life.

Trustee Induction and Training

Church Council members are provided with information regarding their responsibilities as trustees.

Organisation

The Church Council meets three times a year.

Related Parties

The Church is a member of the North Liverpool and South Sefton Methodist Circuit, a formal group (S.O. 500 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church) of 7 mutually supportive churches across Liverpool and Sefton. The Church is also an active member of Churches Together in West Derby, a covenanted group of churches of different denominations serving the local community.

Risk Management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which includes:

- implementation and annual review of the safeguarding policy for children and vulnerable adults;
- ongoing review of compliance with Equality Act 2010;
- development and implementation of other risk management procedures including health and safety and fire safety;
- a financial reserves policy;
- an investment policy.

Aims and Purposes

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.

Objectives and Activities

The trustees believe it is our calling to:

- Love God and love one another
- Serve God through serving our community and beyond
- Grow in our faith, as followers of Jesus
- Tell others about God's love

We do this through encouraging our staff and church family to:

- Worship together and provide opportunities for exploring and developing faith; provide Bible Study sessions.
- Offer pastoral support to our church family; show God's love to others through our actions, including caring for God's creation.
- Be a 'good neighbour' by supporting those in our community and beyond - through practical help, supporting the work of charities and challenging injustice.
- Provide outreach through the provision of activities for the community which shares a little of the gospel. Work with children and families is important, including that of the 7th Liverpool Boys' and Girls' Association (BB&GA).

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church building on Crosby Green, and The Cornerstone Centre, our community space on Eaton Road North.

Achievements and Performances

Worship & Bible Study

We continue to offer different styles of worship on a Sunday morning. Café Church is held in The Cornerstone Centre on the third Sunday of the month and each Sunday during the month of August. Café Church services attract more families, especially if we are joined by members of the 7th Liverpool BB&GA. JaM (Jesus and Me) is usually held on the first and second Sunday of the month during worship. This is a space for children to hear about Jesus in an age-appropriate way and a space where they can question and discuss. All are welcome at any of our services. A six-week Bible Study course

Pastoral Support

Some members of our church are unable to attend church due to sickness or age. There is a good network of pastoral care amongst the church family, with regular 'check-ins' and planned visits. Reverend Ian Hu has visited church members who have requested it, to celebrate communion with them either at their homes or in hospital. Our monthly newsletter keeps our church informed of church events, matters affecting our Church and shares good news stories.

Mission and Outreach

Mission and outreach for children and families has continued through the provision of school holiday activities, including **Summer at West Derby**, a film night and an activity evening during August, linking into Café Church on the Sunday. The overall theme for August 24 was 'God's Love'. The **7th Liverpool Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association** had another busy year. To celebrate 140 years of Boys' Brigade, the members agreed to raise funds for Alder Hey Children's Hospital, and in October they presented the hospital with a cheque for £500! A new group for children and young people in Y6 – Y13, started in April in response to the young

people requesting a space where they could come together to chill and chat, with each session having a focus to join in with; **Cornerstone Youth Group** meet twice a month, and the young people are involved in the planning of the programme. They have baked, celebrated Pentecost with a party, journalled, made mocktails and enjoyed a bowling trip!

New outreach for adults / intergenerational activities has been established; **Unity** was launched in October 2023. A monthly group for all adults, the focus is to bring people together in faith and fellowship with various activities introduced into each session. **Countdown to Christmas**; four different intergenerational activities, open to the community held on the four Saturdays in Advent: Prize Bingo to raise funds for the church, a Christmas Quiz (complete with Bible round), a Christmas film and Jesus' Birthday Party. This was a new initiative, and it was wonderful to welcome several community families into the church.

Supporting Charities during 2023-24 the church supported 'Mercy's Foundation' by providing clothes and monetary gifts which were sent to support those in need in Ghana.

Property

As the managing trustees of two buildings: a traditional church building located in Crosby Green (complete with pews and a small meeting room) and a community space 'The Cornerstone Centre', located in Eaton Road North which are linked by a short alley, we can report that both properties are in a relatively good state of repair. There is high demand for rentals in The Cornerstone Centre, and whilst this brings in much-needed income, it does limit the amount of missional work we can undertake. The trustees have agreed to begin exploring reordering the worship space to make it a multi-purpose space.

Circuit Meeting / Synod / Methodist Conference

Some of the Trustees sit on the Circuit Meeting, the Liverpool District Synod, and a church member is elected as a representative to the Methodist Conference (until June 2025). This provides the trustees and church with an important link between the church and the wider structure of the Methodist Church. This year has seen an amalgamation of three circuits into one new circuit: North Liverpool and South Sefton Circuit. The new circuit has ring-fenced a pot of money to assist with looking at the viability of reordering the church building on Crosby Green.

Ecumenical Links

The church has links with other denominations in the local area and works together at Easter and Christmas, holding open air services in the village.

Additional Information

We are supported by two part-time Circuit staff – a Children and Family Worker and a Community and Church Liaison Officer.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the welcoming and active community it is.

Financial Report

Please see attached standard form of accounts.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

West Derby Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

North Liverpool & South Sefton	Circuit	Circuit no.	18/3
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1204659

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

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev I Hu

Church Stewards:

Steven Twist

Hilary Ness

Treasurer:

Jill Stubbs

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	1	20,883	20,883	20,194
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2	116	116	
a4	Lettings	3	22,651	22,651	23,211
a5	Other receipts	4	5,760	532	2,459
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		49,410	49,942 (a7)	45,864

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		22,036	22,036	22,036
b3	Donations		65	65	175
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	5	6,447	6,447	5,295
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	6	6,521	6,521	10,309
b6					
b7	Other payments	7	12,739	450	11,812
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		47,808	48,258 (b9)	49,627

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	1,602	82	1,684 (3,763)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		19,855	4,649	24,504 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	21,457	4,731	26,188 24,504
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	21,457	4,731	26,188 (c8) 24,504 (c6)

SECTION D			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	55	459
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	55	459
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID		
	(d1+d2-d3)		

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E****Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	7th Liverpool Boys Brigade	1,055	873	182		3,686	3,868
e2							
e3							
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	1,055	873	182		3,686 (e11)	3,868 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	49,942 (a7)	48,258 (b9)	1,684	(c7)	24,504 (c6)	26,188 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	50,997	49,131	1,866		28,190 (x)	30,056 (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024**

		OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand		
f2	Bank Current Account	24,468	16,036
f3	Bank Deposit Account	36	10,152
f4	Central Finance Board		
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6	Other funds		
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	24,504 (c6)	26,188 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	3,686 (e11)	3,868 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	28,190 (x)	30,056 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

		At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1	Investments (include Endowments)		
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
g3	Other Assets		
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5	Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church WEST DERBY METHODIST No.....
CHURCH

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer [Signature] Date 13 Feb 2025
Name and address of treasurer JIM STUBBS 15 BECONTRÉE RD
LIVERPOOL Post Code L12 2BD

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 20 MAY 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting H. NESS
Name of the Chair of the meeting MILANT NESS Date 20 MAY 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

WEST DERBY METHODIST Church

Charity Number 1204619

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the West Derby Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 1 to 5. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church .. **West Derby Methodist Church**

Independent Examiner's Statement


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

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

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

I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Other Matter. The financial statements for the prior year ended 31 August 2023 were not independently examined. The opinion relates only to the current year's accounts, and therefore, no assurance is expressed on the comparative figures shown.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner Tracey Haight

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner AAT

Address 8 TROAD CLOSE

..... Bomborland, WIRRAL Post Code CH63 5TB

Date 4/9/25

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Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner Tracey Haight

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner AAT

Address 8 TROAD CLOSE

..... Bomborland, WIRRAL Post Code CH63 5TB

Date 4/9/25