

APPENDIX 1



Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	09	2023	To	31	08	2024

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Synod of the Methodist Church in Scotland
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number	SC038098
Charity's principal address	Northton
	Ganavan Road
	OBAN
	Argyll
	Postcode PA34 5TU

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1		Treasurer		Synod
2		Property Secretary		Synod
3		DPC secretary		Synod
4		Superintendent		Synod
5		Synod Secretary		Synod
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The Scotland Synod is a constituent part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain and as such is constituted and regulated by the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church. The Synod of The Methodist Church in Scotland is a body which has oversight of six areas (Circuits) across Scotland and meets twice a year to receive reports.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

The trustees are the members of the District Policy Committee (excluding [REDACTED]) and are appointed by District Synod.

Members of Synod are all the Methodist ministers, deacons and probationer ministers in Scotland, lay officers, one circuit steward from each of the six circuits in Scotland, lay members elected by their circuit to attend, all members of the District Policy Committee and all lay representatives elected by the Synod to the last preceding or next following Conference.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

The purpose of Synod is the advancement of the Christian religion, particularly within the Methodist Church of Great Britain, and the oversight of all Methodist churches in Scotland. These churches are grouped into six areas (Circuits) who report annually to the Synod, and twice yearly to the District Policy Committee. The Synod finances here reported are those required to run a virtual office, and the administration of the lead minister, (District Chair), who is remunerated by The Methodist Church of Great Britain. The individual Circuits and Churches each have their own finances and are registered individually with OSCR.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

The Synod comprises 28 churches throughout Scotland with 14 ministers and deacons, 1 circuit lay workers and 2 lay voluntary pastoral assistants encompassed within six Circuits.

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Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

Synod meets twice a year in September and April. September is the business meeting when reports from the national Methodist Conference are heard and any decisions which have been taken there are explained to members in detail. As our end of year is 31st August the April meeting is when members can be brought up to date on all activities being undertaken under the Methodist District of Scotland. This takes the form of a Synod Reports booklet prepared prior to this meeting in order that members can be prepared should they wish to challenge any action. The index of this booklet conveys the breadth of activities and accomplishments many of which only receive proper attention at Synod as people are unaware of matters which they do not experience first hand.

The year to 31st August 2024 continues to see rationalisation of resources and activities and looking to the future. Since the Coronavirus pandemic, more meetings have been held over the internet, reducing travel costs, but with some increases in expenditure.

During the year the District Project in Inverness came to the end of its funding from the District, and there is a national review about the funding of the Safeguarding Officer.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Synod would aim to have reserves in the General Fund of approximately three months expenditure, circa £30,000 in unrestricted funds, and in the Advance Fund of three years grants, circa £120,000 available at the year end.

For this year 2023/24, we continued examining our income and expenditure very closely and were satisfied to be carrying forward a balance of £435,439 to year 2024/25.

Details of any deficit

Donated facilities and services (if any)

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Other optional information

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)		
Position (e.g. Chair)		
	Treasurer	
Date	21 st Sept 2024	

The Methodist Church in Scotland
period from 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024
District Expenses Fund.

2022/2023	RECEIPTS.	2023/2024
43,560	Circuit Assessments	43,668
12,796	Connexional Grants	18,939
33,350	Grants from DAF	23,912
859	Interest/ Invest. Income	1,676
500	Bequest	-
810	Gathering receipts	-
5,000	MCH re Scottish Govt	5,000
707	Other Receipts.	1,783
<u>£ 97,582</u>	Total receipts	<u>94,978</u>
	PAYMENTS.	
	Chairs Expenses.	
4,226	Travel.	3,392
4,003	Manse.	4,465
14,600	Manse Fund	-
<u>£ 22,829</u>		<u>7,857</u>
	General Expenses.	
6,865	Administration.	5,365
6,181	Salaries.	6,760
1,234	Synod Secretary allwnce	1,534
1,325	Travel.	1,766
468	Meetings & Assoc. Costs.	800
3,786	C.D.I.M. & Assoc. Costs.	4,691
11,473	Grants / Subscriptions etc.	21,868
12,098	Safeguarding.	5,003
21,597	District Projects	19,436
26,500	Distirct Projects refunds	-
3,216	District Gathering	2,100
407	3 Generate youth	2,411
10,000	Scottish Govrnmnt	10,000
1,830	Refund Conf Exes 2022	-
416	Conference Expenses/other	1,535
<u>£ 107,396</u>		<u>83,269</u>
130,225	Total payments	91,126
<u>£ (32,643)</u>	(Deficit) Excess Income/Expenditure	<u>3,852</u>

107,713	Balance held as at 1st September 2023	75,070
(32,643)	(Deficit) Excess Income/Expenditure	3,852
<u>£ 75,070</u>	Balance held as at 31st August 2024	<u>78,922</u>

District Advance Fund.

205,515	Balance held as at 1st September 2023	247,359
77,727	Connexional MTF & CPF	116,781
7,885	Interest	17,283
3,500	Refund re Disitrcet Project	-
(8,332)	Grants to Circuits	(32,173)
(33,350)	Grants to District	(23,912)
(5,000)	Gathering (2022 Old Trust)	-
(586)	TMCP admin chge	(704)
<u>£ 247,359</u>	Balance held as at 31st August 2024	<u>324,634</u>

Chair's Manse Fund

15,312	Balance held as at 1st September 2023	30,359
14,600	From General fund	-
491	Interest	1,610
-	2022 From Old Fund	
(44)	Administration	(86)
<u>£ 30,359</u>	Balance held as at 31st August 2023	<u>31,883</u>

<u>£ 352,788</u>	TOTAL DISTRICT FUNDS	<u>435,439</u>
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The District funds are held as undernoted :

49,006	Clydesdale Bank	43,763.00
9,678	CFB Ord	18,174.00
16,385	CFB Other Funds	16,985.00
277,719	TMCP (DAF & Manse)	356,517.00
<u>£ 352,788</u>		<u>435,439.00</u>

OTHER FUND BALANCES AVAILABLE FOR SPECIFIC USE

	Balance B/F			Balance
	01/09/2023	Income	Expenditure	31/08/2024
(held in separate accounts at CFB)				
G Jackson Fund Probs boc	9,062	465	(250)	9,277
Pogson Trust MWIB	7,323	385		7,708
	<u>£ 16,385</u>	<u>£ 850</u>	<u>£ (250)</u>	<u>£ 16,985</u>

Name of DistrictSCOTLAND..... No ...31....

Year to 31st August 2024

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 (other than that disclosed below*) 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/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.

Signature of independent examiner

Name of independent examiner

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner C.A. (ICAS)

Name of firm (where appropriate) R. A. CLIMENT ASSOCIATES C.A.

Address 5 ARGYLL SQUARE, DUNDEE
..... ARGYLL Post Code PA34 4AZ

Date 25/2/25

* delete or circle as appropriate