

St Helier Methodist Centre

The **Methodist** Church AGM Reports 2024

*'To make disciples and join in God's mission
for change'.*



All ages, All nations, All stages of faith

Minister's Preface

Welcome to these annual reports. I hope that you find them a useful reminder of where SHMC has journeyed in the past year and a guide for our future direction. They tell our story. They tell of the comings, goings and doings of this Church. They tell of Christ alive among us. They tell of the Spirit calling, guiding and empowering us. There is much for us to give thanks to God for!

Despite much lower numbers of ordained Ministers within our Circuit, we've discovered unexpected benefits as we've got to know members of other Methodist churches much better. For many this has been a great joy, not least as the singing is so much stronger, and we can really let rip with the hymns that we love. The children and youth work has flourished on those Sundays when the adult congregation has met elsewhere, with the Café offering a space for fellowship and bible study for parents. Perhaps there is much for us to consider about the future direction of our Sunday worship? In addition, there has been some wonderful services led by our church members. While we don't know what the future holds, we can be sure that if we approach it with the right attitude and commitment, we have every reason to be full of hope. Christ is with us, and keeping our eyes upon him, we'll find him guiding and preparing the way.

Another innovation has been having joint steward's meetings across the four churches in our section of St Martins, Ebenezer and Georgetown. This has helped encourage joint initiatives such as the Tuesday bible studies at 2.30pm, and the sharing of ideas and resources. Methodism has always had a strong sense of collegiality and belonging to a shared island faith community. I'm convinced that the future flourishing of our mission will be to play to that strength and not see ourselves as separate, self-contained congregations. That will require courage and faith, but the way forward is shown in Jesus' prayer in John's Gospel chapters fifteen and seventeen.

I conclude by acknowledging the contributions of numerous people who collectively enable the church to function. Our management team who has had a particularly busy year, the many volunteers who do everything from pouring tea to watering the plants, teaching our young people, the team of circuit local preachers and worship leaders, musicians, and of course our excellent stewards.

Sincere thanks also go to Julie for her excellent administration and collating these reports; Jackie and Eva who have meticulously produced the accounts; Theresa's ministry of cleaning our buildings; Sally and Ellen's nurture among children and parents; and Jane, Louise, and the Nestling Committee for their ministry in the Nestling Nursery. Each of us has a unique calling and ministry, and may you exercise it fully to praise God and love your neighbour.

As Paul wrote, "We can do all things through Him who gives us strength," Philippians 4:13, and so we go forward in faith and confidence.

Every blessing

Tony

William Smith 1816 to 1896

Released during Black History Month, a set of commemorative stamps issued by Jersey Post highlighted six individuals who played a part in Jersey's diverse history, bringing to the forefront stories which have often been overlooked.

Included among them is William Smith a Local Preacher in this church. Born in Ghana in 1816, Mr Smith was the illegitimate son of a Yorkshireman working for the Royal African Company, which was trading on the Gold Coast, and the daughter of a local chieftain. When his father was transferred to Sierra Leone, William joined him there and rose up through the ranks of the civil service. He eventually become Registrar of the Mixed Commission Court and an active member of the anti-slavery movement. Under his leadership, 33,072 slaves were freed and 344 slave vessels were intercepted by the British.



In 1871, William emigrated to Britain with his family. They lived in London for about two years before moving to Jersey for the benefit of his wife's health. The family lived at 13, Queen's Road and attended Wesley Grove Methodist Chapel, where William was a lay preacher. He also preached at Methodist chapels across the Island.

He is described as a passionate advocate for female education and was one of the founder members of the Jersey Ladies College, where he eventually sent his own daughters. The first meeting of the committee members took place in the vestry at Wesley Grove and the school was founded with the aim of providing an education for the girls of "families of modest means."

One of William's daughters, Adelaide, spent several years being taught at home by a governess, before attending Jersey Ladies College. She described in her memoirs how "my father announced that he had joined the committee of an up-to-date college, which we were to attend as foundation pupils". In our back vestry there is now a plaque reminding us of that committee that met in that room to provide "general instruction of the highest class, together with moral and religious teaching".

Adelaide excelled at the Ladies College and went on to study music in Germany. She married a Ghanaian barrister in London and then returned to Sierra Leone, where she followed in her father's footsteps by continuing to advocate for female education. William Smith died in St Helier in 1896 and was buried alongside his wife in Almorah Cemetery. This story, based on research by Adenike Ogunkoya of Adenhist Black Histories, is part of a series in collaboration with Jersey Heritage

The stamps are the work of Pola Maneli, a freelance illustrator based in South Africa. Pola comments: "From a background of adversity, the nature of the Black people who lived and thrived through Jersey's history is one of grace. By contextualising these figures within the wider history of the Island, the hope was that the illustrations would help to bring that grace to the forefront of people's minds."

With the helpful assistance of the Melanie Seal, Municipal Services Department of St Helier Parish, and Office of the Superintendent Registrar, Tony has now located the grave. Before he leaves, he is intending to place the Sunday church flowers on the grave, and thereby remembering and honouring the Smith's outstanding contribution to island life. Do speak to him if you would like to join him.



Pastoral Review

During the past year we've given thanks to God for the lives of two of our life-long members whose combined legacy has been very considerable. In December 2023, Pat Tourtel was, as the Salvation Army say, 'promoted to glory', and in March 2024, Peter Luce. Both had long associations going back to Aquila Road Church and participated fully in the development of Wesley Grove becoming St Helier Methodist Centre.

At Pat's Thanksgiving on January 10th, we recalled how she served with such distinction as a Local Preacher since 1981, her loyalty as Pastoral Worker to many in and out of this church; her willingness to serve in practical ways during the days of Aquila Youth Club; and her accurate, and much trusted keeping of shorthand minutes during the church's morph from Wesley Grove to Methodist Centre. All achieved with her bright and cheerful manner and self-effacing humour. As one person said, 'Pat was a stalwart, always there, encouraging, smiling and reliable'.

Those same qualities of encouragement and reliability were also very evident at Peter's Thanksgiving Service on April 3rd. The fact that we have our bright, comfortable Centre, is part of Peter's legacy. He was the wise, quiet counsel that advised the committee as to the legal and governance implications of refurbishing an 1847 listed building. In tight corners his calm manner helped find a way through. He chaired the Finance and Property committee for many years; over four decades gave loyal service with Gill on the Nestlings Nursery committee; in the wider network of island churches was our legal advisor; and also served on the board of the Biarritz Hotel. Many will recall with gratitude Peter's ability to combine wisdom and integrity, personal courage and determination, with self-effacing humour and intelligence.



Within the pastoral visitor's team there have been changes. Lou Hicklin and Pam Marrett have stepped down and thanks need to be expressed for all they have offered over many years. In their place we've been delighted to welcome Pauline O'Prey, Val MacDonald, Sally Vasselin and Carolyn Ainsworth to the team. We look forward to all that they will offer.

In addition to this structured pastoral support, there are numerous ways in which we all look out for each other. Through checking up on each other on a Sunday, phone calling, the occasional card and sharing of tomato plants, we become more and more the caring community that Christ calls us to be. Don't forget, the responsibility is ours, so let us all take the initiative to share prayers and kindness with each other, and when we see someone new at worship make sure they have a welcome pack and are shown the way through to coffee.

Finally, it has been great to welcome new people to the life of the church and we hope that SHMC feels home to you. To know more about Church Membership do speak with Tony, who would love to squeeze that service in before he leaves at the end of July.

Ann Paul and Rev Tony



Thursday fellowship

Every Thursday in term time a group of us meet for Bible Study. Further to my report last year we have enjoyed a variety of studies this year. When Tony went on his Sabbatical, we studied the book, River through the Desert which I mentioned last year. While Tony was still away Di (Toole) very kindly brought in some Eddie Askew Meditations which we focused on for a few weeks. These were lovely and were beautifully illustrated with his amazing pastel and watercolour sketches.

On Tony's return we delved into a book, Finding the Way, which looks at Methodism and what it should mean to a Methodist. I found this very interesting as I was not brought up in the Methodist tradition. But even those who were, found it an interesting insight into the Methodist way of life. We also introduced morning worship into the meeting, so we start each session with the morning service, before commencing on our study for the week. In addition to this Tony has introduced Communion which we celebrate every four weeks when we can. This is a very special time of sharing and serving one another.

In the past few weeks, we have dipped into Revelations and what it meant to the people it was written for. We looked at Chapters 1 and 2, and chapters 21 and 22 in more depth and Tony brought in his stack of semi-precious gems to illustrate what the new Jerusalem would look like according to Chapter 21. It really brought it to life.

We would love to see new people come and join the group. We meet in the cafe at 11 a.m. every Thursday where we have coffee and a chat, the study and then a bowl of Ellen's tasty soup. I can highly recommend the courgette! All in all, it is a very enjoyable 2 hours, and it would be lovely to see you there.

Carolyn



Family Workers Reflections of the past Year

Sally and I (Ellen) run various group on a weekly basis with toddlers and babies who come along with a parent or carer. These groups run term time only. We also run 7Up Club and lead Sunday School. Our aim is to provide a warm, safe place for parents and their children. This gives us the wonderful opportunity to spread the love of God in the community, through the work that we do.

Mondays: Our Toddler Group (2 Years plus) involves play time, with toys, play dough, Bible Craft. We all tidy the hall together and then have snack time of toast and oranges. All prepared by Maureen. The toddlers then have a time on our wheelie toys before going up to the Church for a bible story, interactive songs and energetic fun! We have the same families come along each week so they can build friendships.

Tuesdays: We run a Non-Mobile Baby Group (birth – 9 months-ish). This group can be very busy. We do not advertise this group, so those who come have heard about it through word of mouth and have thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They start on the rugs on the floor chatting with each other and toys for their babies. Sally and I offer them a hot drink made by Maureen and a biscuit. Then we go up to the Church for sensory singing and fun.

Wednesdays: We Run our Crawlers Group (9 months up to 2 Years), where they play at the start, then we all tidy up and have snack time together of toast made by Maureen and oranges. Then we go up to the Church for interactive, sensory singing and fun! We have the same families come each week so that they can build friendships, which they have done, and some meet up outside of this group.



Sunday School: We run this session with the help of Jenna, Felicity, and Mildred on a rota basis. The number of children attending has increased with a few new children joining us. We explore the bible in many different ways, with story time, Godly Play, games, cooking, songs and crafts. This is a lovely time together.



Mini Messy Church: When the congregation is elsewhere we have a Mini Messy Church at SHMC for our families. This can be very well attended and seems very popular. We always start the session with some kind of food like pancakes made by Rhea and Mary, or toast made by Libby. We have many bible crafts and a short time of worship and fun.

7Up: This group is held once a month at SHMC. It is for children ages 7 years up to 11 years. The children are dropped off by their parents. We play Table tennis, Table football, Pool, Corn hole, kick a ball around the hall, do a craft, or hang out on the sofas. We run a tuck shop. We then go up to the Church for a God Spot, where we discover more about God in our lives. Then we have pizza and 7Up and that's the end of the session. The children seem to love this time together and leave wanting more. We can have up to 15 children attend. Rubie usually cooks the pizza, which we are grateful for.



Award: We were nominated for the Pride of Jersey Community Champions of the Year Award by one of our families. We were in the JEP with all the other nominations. It was great to be appreciated for all the work that we do.

Family Pop in Sessions: Last July during the summer holidays, I (Ellen) held two fun days at the Centre with Sue and team. The theme was 'God's Wonderful world and how we should look after it' with an emphasis on recycling. We had related crafts in the café, toddler toys out in the hall and table tennis etc out in the youth room. It was a great success with over 150+ people attending over the two days. It had a great sense of community.

Lorry Rides: We went on a lorry ride again last year. The lorries picked us up from the Church and dropped us off after a little drive to Gorey beach, where we had our packed lunches, we played in the sea and volleyball was played on the sand. The weather and company were wonderful. We look forward to doing this again this year.

The future: I (Ellen) will be transferring across to the youth on a Sunday morning with Marcia, starting in the next few months, which I am looking forward to. I will continue with all the other children's work. Sally will be with the younger children on a Sunday morning. There will be times in the holidays when Sally and I will not be here. We would appreciate any offer of help to lead the Sunday School children on these occasions who are safe guarded or are happy to be safeguarded. Please speak with Sally or myself, if you would like to find out more. We pray that the number of children attending our groups continues to grow. God is Good!

Many Blessings, Ellen and Sally



Youth Work



The Youth Group continues to meet Sunday mornings, enjoying spending time together, cakes and games as well as sharing Bible Study and prayer inspired by the Methodist Roots material including making acrostics and Jenga prayers.

We've used table tennis games to memorise the names of the disciples and the books of the New Testament in their correct order. Many thanks to Lou for the great "bookcase" she has made for us.



A sticky and creative morning just before Christmas saw the Youth Group and friends, assisted by Lorraine Wheeler, making gingerbread stables complete (mostly!) with angels, donkeys, jelly baby characters, Percy Pigs and biscuit mangers.

The Youth also participated in the Christmas services contributing sketches, music & singing.



In February, youth from around the circuit were invited to join the Sunday evening "Garage Club" and we had a fun and pizza-filled evening. We're looking to this being a regular event.





We're also delighted to welcome Ellen to the Sunday morning Youth team and would like to thank George for all his help and leadership throughout the year.



Marcia & Cathy.

[Kairos Arts](#)

Another year of growth for Kairos Arts!



In terms of therapeutic work, we have run group programmes for those affected by domestic abuse and sexual trauma; for Macmillan clients at the Oasis Centre; for Brighter Future's Mums at The Bridge; for teenagers at Haute Vallee Secondary School and children at La Moye Primary School, who are struggling with their mental health; for people with visual impairments at EyeCan; for homeless women supported by the Shelter Trust; facilitated eleven monthly Drop-in sessions for past participants of our domestic abuse programmes; led trauma-informed therapeutic sessions for staff at Grands Vaux School following the impact of the valley flooding; an Away Day for Prison Officers from HMP La Moye; and enabled a past participant to create a public Art Installation over four weeks to raise awareness about domestic abuse and then exhibited in the Salvation Army Café, October 2023.

Following our Level 6 Diploma training in 22/23 with the British Association of Art Therapists, our Therapeutic Arts Practitioners have facilitated weekly one-to-one sessions in seven schools and the Jersey Hospice, supporting twenty children or young people per term, who need support with their mental health. The demand is significant for this work, therefore, this year we have successfully launched our own Kairos Arts Level 6 Diploma in Therapeutic Arts Practice with Children and Young People based here in Jersey to meet demand and equip other professionals in their settings to use therapeutic art-based tools safely. We accepted eighteen students on to the course in September 2023, including three Kairos Arts Practitioners. We expect this area of work to continue to grow and develop and will be launching a second year of the Diploma Course in September 2024.

We have employed a Training Manager to develop this work and as a Play Therapist she is also often in demand delivering CPD courses to other charities and organisations about Trauma-informed Practice, Attachment Play and Therapeutic Arts Practice for well-being.



We have loved continuing to engage with the community through ‘Stitch and Natter’ and ‘Sip and Snip’ groups. Crocheted or knitted blankets are made for us to gift to participants in our group programmes, who are invited to ‘seal in’ good things they want to hold on to through a blanket-hug, and then take it home at the end of the 6-week programme. The ‘snippings’ from magazines are used in lots of different sessions for collages, helping participants to express emotions.



Both community groups feel they are making a difference, whilst also fostering interaction and benefitting from the therapeutic power of creative activity.

Our annual fundraising event at SHMC, the Advent Concert with the Amity Singers, is a highlight in the calendar for us. We are so grateful to be able to use the Church as our venue and we love sharing these moments with our Church Family. It also marked the launch of our Bolivia Appeal.



With significant support from SHMC, our two weeks work in Bolivia exceeded our expectations.

We went to serve **Project Suma**, based in El Alto, with a 5-day programme for 13 adolescent girls; a well-being session for 12 women on their Restoration Programme; join them for a night visit to the local brothels to reach out to the women working there; visit their Freedom Business **SutiSana** who offers employment to survivors; buy their ethical products; take part in a Survivor-led earring-making workshop; lead a 3-day retreat for 21 of the Project Suma Staff and finish the trip with a visit to **Casa De**

Mi Padre, a smaller family support centre in La Paz, to meet its new manager and buy products made by some of the people they support. Every part was meaningful and impactful. It was an immense privilege to play our part in the working out of Isaiah 61: *“...to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.”*



We managed to find great opportunities this year for selling our products and following our trip to Bolivia we now have wonderful new lines to share, supporting artisans freed from exploitation, trafficking and the sex-trade. We love to give talks at groups, sharing about our work, and the stories behind the products.

We feel so grateful for God’s provision of all our funding and partnerships, but particularly SHMC with the gift of premises and your prayerful support.

We are excited to see what God has planned for us next!

Cathy

Café

The café is open Monday to Friday each week. It is a donations only café, supporting various charities over the months arranged by Di who contacts the charities. The charities we support are usually chosen by those who attend bible study on a Thursday.

Our aim is to offer the community a friendly, welcoming, and warm space, where everyone feels welcome. Can chat and relax. The café has a small play kitchen area for anyone with children.

We offer tea, coffee, and biscuits during the week, usually made by a member of staff who is free at the time. Sally and I continue to invite our mums/carers to stay following our three groups during the week, to sit and enjoy our café area. Offering the opportunity for them to not rush off but to stay, chat and have tea and coffee together. A few have really enjoyed this greatly.

Thursdays: We have a bible study in the café, currently exploring Revelations with Rev Tony Morling. A time shared by our Church family. The Bible study is followed with freshly made soup made by myself and french stick, followed by cake. Maureen makes the best Lemon Drizzle cake, which is thoroughly enjoyed (especially the end bits!). A wonderful time of fellowship.

Fridays: Move More Jersey with Jersey Mencap continue to come to SHMC with their clients, to use our hall for games. They always have a great time shouting and cheering. They really enjoy coming into the café for tea, coffee, hot chocolate, and biscuits served by our wonderful volunteers Di and Mirto. This remains a great opportunity, enjoyed by all.

Sundays: The café is also used when our congregation is elsewhere on a Sunday. We have a Mini messy Church with our families at SHMC and we always offer some kind of food including toast, pancakes or hot dogs, with tea, coffee or squash. This is possible because of some wonderful volunteers from our Church families.

Hopes for the Future: For more people to volunteer in the café, who like a good chat and can make a good cup of tea or coffee. For our Church members to take the opportunity to come and see the café during the week and its offerings. To offer food on a daily basis, which would be gratefully received. We would really value your support.



Many Blessings Ellen & Di

Management and Finance

Investigation work on the canopy at the front of the Church have concluded with several solution options provided. Following discussions with Builders and Engineers documents have been sent for planning permission to allow for a solution to be implemented once approved.

Management is grateful for everyone's patience in navigating scaffolding at the Centre for a long period. Considering the listing status of our church, there are complexities in consideration of appropriate and acceptable solutions and thus the time required.

In the meanwhile, the provision of stairs to the loft is still ongoing.

Separately we are also pleased to confirm that the repair work on the roof following the November storm damage is now completed. The full cost of repairs was covered by insurance subject to the stipulated excess of £500.

Julie has settled in well in the office in replacement for Sarah. Jackie has also finally retired after years of excellent service to the centre. We extend our thanks to Jackie for her long and dedicated service over the years. Ewa, who is her replacement, has settled in well in her role and working well with Julie and the remainder of the team.

Whilst the committee is responsible for the repairs and maintenance of the Centre, we are heavily indebted to the team of staff and volunteers who undertake this task. We are forever grateful to them all.

Simba

Comments on the Accounts

Attached are the independently reviewed accounts for the Church and Nursery for the year ended 31st August 2023.

The Church accounts shows a loss of £(27,276) against a budgeted loss of £(98,805). This is mainly due to £9k more income from room hire and £16k increased interest on cash balances driven by a high-rate environment. This was complimented by £48k underspend on repairs and maintenance due to timing on planned repairs and maintenance during the year. £5.8k was transferred to the General Property Fund.

The Nursery accounts show a net income in the sum of £140,477 which is a fantastic result when compared to a budgeted deficit of £(1,675). This is mainly due to £60k increase in fee income due to the Nursery operating at full capacity for much of the year, £5k increase in interest receivable on cash balances, £69k favourable staff costs due to operating at below target headcount and £10k less spend on other operating expenses due to excellent budget management by Louise.

The sum of £90,000 was transferred from the Nursery to the Church during the year.

Jackie & Rhodrick

2023 has been an incredibly triumphant year despite the tough economic environment. Congratulations to the Church Council and Management team on a fantastic result! Gratitude to all the Nestling Staff members for a job well done, The Church membership for cash collections and covenants, donations, volunteering, and prayers. All of which are crucial in ensuring the smooth running of the Lord's work at St Helier Methodist Centre and Nestling Day Care.

Lastly but not least, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Jackie for outstanding management of both the Church and Nursery finances throughout the year ended 31 August 2023. And, for her services for well over a decade. Jackie stepped down on the 28th of March 2024. In the same breath we also welcome Ewa Powierska, who took over from Jackie.

Rhodrick Chatikobo CA(SA), ACA

ST HELIER METHODIST CENTRE					
NESTLING DAY CARE CENTRE					
BALANCE SHEET					
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023					
		2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
	Note				
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and prepayments		1,361		3,846	
Stock	5	-		-	
Cash at bank	7	374,622		279,127	
Cash in hand		-		-	
			375,983		282,973
LIABILITIES: Amounts due within one year					
Fees received in advance		14,119		26,173	
Parents deposit fund	8	12,250		11,500	
Sundry creditors and accruals	9	5,466		11,630	
			31,835		49,303
NET CURRENT ASSETS			344,148		233,670
Represented by:					
UNAPPROPRIATED SURPLUS			344,148		233,670

ST HELIER METHODIST CENTRE - NESTLING DAY CARE CENTRE

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

2023/2024			2023 Actual		2023 Budget		2022 Actual		2022 Budget	
Budget	INCOME	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
886,971	Fees receivable	1	800,928		740,589		649,489		649,230	
2,800	Interest receivable	2	5,021		80		123		80	
-	Other income (Donation)		45		-		10		-	
889,771			805,994		740,669		649,622		649,310	
	EXPENDITURE									
615,028	Staff costs	3	490,921		560,104		435,480		507,474	
3,000	Training (net of grants received)	3	891		3,000		2,647		3,000	
20,240	Toiletries & Food	4	19,008		18,240		14,829		16,240	
1,200	Art materials		1,123		1,200		1,066		1,200	
1,800	Equipment repairs & maint.		397		1,800		2,402		1,800	
99,000	Methodist Church service chg		90,000		90,000		90,000		90,000	
1,800	Rates		1,717		1,800		1,580		1,800	
2,500	Advertising/printing/stationery		1,188		3,500		813		1,600	
504	Telephone & postage		374		600		449		600	
1,600	Bin servicing		1,317		1,600		1,326		1,500	
22,000	Cleaning		17,338		22,000		14,073		18,000	
7,500	Accountancy	6	5,391		7,500		6,286		6,500	
25,000	Property maintenance & repairs		18,919		15,000		20,515		15,000	
10,500	Professional fees	10	9,261		10,500		9,011		8,500	
4,000	Sundries	10	4,498		4,000		2,505		2,200	
2,500	Toys & books & equipment		3,173		1,500		1,299		1,500	
818,172			665,517		742,344		604,281		676,914	
71,599	NET INCOME BEFORE GRANTS		140,477		- 1,675		45,341		- 27,604	
71,599	NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR		140,477		- 1,675		45,341		- 27,604	
	Balance brought forward		233,670				238,329			
	Transfer to SHMC Reserves		- 30,000				- 50,000			
	Balance carried forward		344,147				233,670			

ST HELIER METHODIST CENTRE

NESTLING DAY CARE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Fee income is much higher than anticipated as the Nursery was fully occupied for much of the year.

2 Interest received from the Central Finance Board amounted to £1,024. The remaining interest was earned locally by placing funds on to fixed and call accounts with Lloyds Bank. Interest rates were much higher than anticipated.

3 Staff costs have again been tightly controlled for the year which has resulted in another pleasing reduction in anticipated costs. The Nursery Manager is to be commended for her sterling efforts to control costs in an uncertain climate.

4 Food and toiletries expenditure remains tightly controlled and the result is once again pleasing, especially as food costs have risen substantially during the year.

5 There were no items of value held in stock at the end of the year.

6 St Helier Methodist Centre provides book-keeping and accountancy services via their own Treasurer, for which the Nursery pays their calculated share. The utilisation of on-line banking continues to prove very cost effective.

7 Cash at bank is made up of:	2023	2022
Central Finance Board monies	30,505	29,480
Lloyds TSB Jersey	344,117	249,647
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	<u>374,622</u>	<u>279,127</u>

8 The parent's deposit fund is made up of deposits in the sum of £250 each.

9 Creditors and accruals are:

	£
Allowance for food bills for August	2,604
Allowance for accountancy costs for July and August	942
Allowance for toys purchased but unpaid at year end	115
Allowance for equipment purchased but unpaid at year end	36
Allowance for telephone for Aug	45
Allowance for art materials expenses	402
Allowance for Jersey Early Years subscription unpaid as year end	50
Allowance for printing costs	199
Allowance for various cleaning invoices	1,073

	<u>5,466</u>

10 The Nursery has agreed a regular payment plan with Law at Work to cover the cost of various personnel and staffing advice and guidance.

ST HELIER METHODIST CENTRE							
GENERAL FUND							
INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2023							
2023/2024							
Budget	INCOME	Note	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	
56,667	Cash collections & covenants		54,200	56,667	55,781	56,667	
10,000	Inc tax refunds on covenants		10,852	10,000	9,727	10,000	
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66,667			65,052	66,667	65,508	66,667	
6,667	Less tf to 10% reserve fund		6,505	6,667	6,551	6,667	
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60,000			58,547	60,000	58,957	60,000	
12,096	Rent from flats 1&2		11,520	11,520	10,680	10,680	
25,000	Room Hire	4	29,334	20,000	22,209	20,000	
3,600	Donations		1,900	3,600	17,707	3,600	
99,000	Nursery rent		90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	
10,000	Bank deposit interest	5	16,532	250	1,925	1,800	
-	Quoted investment income		19	-	1	-	
(2,500)	Catering		(2,323)	(2,500)	(2,517)	-	
-	Holiday club		-	-	46	-	
100,000	Miscellaneous income		30,496	30,000	50,000	50,000	
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307,196	TOTAL INCOME		236,025	212,870	249,008	236,080	
	EXPENSES						
5,500	Accountancy/treasurer fees	6	4,804	5,500	5,104	4,000	
98,430	Circuit Assessment		77,152	77,152	88,891	88,891	
112,631	Staff salaries		102,388	102,388	99,265	99,231	
7,321	Staff soc sec Er costs		6,405	6,655	6,121	6,456	
18,500	Oil		18,023	15,000	12,834	12,000	
7,500	Electricity		5,748	7,000	5,548	6,000	
3,000	Water		2,850	2,400	2,359	2,400	
480	Rates		486	480	453	480	
600	Telephone		630	600	584	600	
10,500	Insurance		9,702	9,000	8,713	9,000	
3,500	Cleaning - Agencies		1,945	3,500	2,355	3,500	
1,800	Cleaning - Materials		1,534	1,800	1,195	1,800	
3,530	Printing, Stationery & Postage		3,083	3,620	2,632	4,140	
15,000	Repairs & maint - routine	7	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
50,000	Repairs & maint - planned	7	4,214	50,000	20,933	50,000	
3,000	Professional fees		2,825	3,000	2,575	3,000	
360	Jr Church & Youth work		191	360	96	360	
500	Sundry Equipment		-	500	-	500	
150	Messy Church		-	150	-	150	
1,412	Connexional Funding		1,412	1,412	1,412	1,412	
6,159	Miscellaneous expenses	8	4,909	6,158	85,932	6,158	
349,873			-----	-----	-----	-----	
(42,677)	RESULT - PROFIT/(LOSS)		(27,276)	(98,805)	(112,994)	(78,998)	

ST HELIER METHODIST CENTRE					
BALANCE SHEET					
31 AUGUST 2023					
	Note	2023		2022	
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at banks	1	37,375		54,087	
Cash at Central Board of Finance		433,960		468,971	
Petty Cash		205		1,091	
Debtors	2	12,240		4,070	
Prepayments	2	25,512		24,298	
Stock		1,537	510,829	2,169	554,687
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	2	6,697		10,580	
Accruals	2	8,029		7,519	
			14,726		18,099
			496,103		536,587
REPRESENTED BY					
General Fund (Unrestricted)			106,849		134,126
Minister's Discretionary Fund			1,899		2,966
General Property Fund (Restricted)			27,269		21,466
In & Out Collections (Restricted)			228		669
Mrs L S Nicolle Endowment Fund (Restricted)			1,264		1,246
Advertising Fund (Restricted)			430		430
Parking Fund (Restricted)			429		429
10% Charities Fund (Restricted)			5,262		9,289
Little Rascals Fund (Restricted)			1,000		1,000
Esperado Fund (Restricted)			2,085		2,685
M Tourtel Memorial Fund (Restricted)			6,268		6,314
Daryl De Gruchy Legacy	3		343,120		355,967
TOTAL CHURCH FUNDS			496,103		536,587

ST HELIER METHODIST CENTRE
OTHER FUNDS - 31 AUGUST 2023

In & Out Collections		General Property Fund		
31.8.22	Balance b/f	669	31.8.22 Balance b/f	21,466
	Various receipts	1,847	Tf from inc/exp	5,803
	Less paid to:		Closing balance	<u>27,269</u>
	Mind Jersey	64		
	Action for Children	1,009	Parking Fund	
	Leprosy Mission	69	31.8.22 Balance b/f	429
	Toilet Twinning	55	No movement in period	
	Mencap	238	Closing balance	<u>429</u>
	Christian Aid	89		
	World Mission Fund	76	Mrs L S Nicolle Endowment Fund	
	Grace Trust	214	31.8.22 Balance b/f	1,246
	Christians Against Poverty	399	Add interest received	18
	Paint for Youth Art work	75	Closing balance	<u>1,264</u>
		<u>228</u>		
			Minister's Discretionary Fund	
10% Charities Fund			31.8.22 Balance b/f	2,966
31.8.22	Balance b/f	9,289	Add from Elliott Design	750
	Transfer from Minister's Discretionary Fund - food vouchers	2,060	Add tf from General Fund	-
	Transfer from General Fund	6,505	Add general donations	743
	Less paid to:		Less local family hardship exps	500
	Action Aid	180	Tf to 10% fund for vouchers	2,060
	Watoto	552		<u>1,899</u>
	Jersey Child Care Trust	82		
	Macmillan	48	Advertising Fund	
	Jersey Lifeboats	26	31.8.22 Balance b/f	430
	All We Can for Syria/Turkey	5,000	No movement in period	-
	Children In Need	78	Closing balance	<u>430</u>
	Jersey Christmas Appeal Dec 2022	33		
	Breast Cancer	12	Little Rascals Fund	
	Spina Bifida	77	31.8.22 Balance b/f	1,000
	Kezia Mason mental health fund	43	Add nett income	1,705
	All We Can for Pakistan	2,000	Less expenses	1,209
	Marie Curie	82	Less transfer to General Fund	496
	Benevolent Fund (vouchers)	3,079	Closing balance	<u>1,000</u>
	Cancer Research Race 4 Life	100		
	Jersey Heart Support Group	61	Michael Tourtel Memorial Fund	
	Toilet Twinning	91	31.8.22 Balance b/f	6,314
	Bailiffs Appeal re Pier Rd explosion	1,000	Add bank interest received	256
	Christians Together	50	Less church youth expenses	302
	Closing balance	<u>5,261</u>	Closing balance	<u>6,268</u>
Daryl De Gruchy Legacy			Esperado Fund	
31.8.22	Balance b/f	355,967	31.8.22 Balance b/f	2,685
	Less paid for:		Receipts for the period	-
	Organ repair	4,690	Less:	
	New projectors plus ancilliaries	8,157	Tf to Esperado project	600
	Closing balance	<u>343,120</u>	Closing balance	<u>2,085</u>

ST HELIER METHODIST CENTRE - NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 AUGUST 2023

1	We continue to maintain a balance of cash in Jersey (and now mainly use Lloyds Bank) to cover general running costs. The Central Board of Finance offer better interest rates on cash deposits and so the majority of funds are held there.	
2	Separate schedules for debtors, creditors, accruals and prepayments are attached.	
3	The Daryl De Gruchy Legacy Fund is being used for specific one-off projects/expenses and its use is controlled by the Stewards.	
4	Room hire receipts were pleasing during the period and we remain very grateful to the Street Dance Team for their continued support. COVID-19 and the resultant activity restrictions resulted in the Centre being underused for some time which meant that Room hire receipts were adversely affected for two or three years but this trend has recently reversed. We are fortunate to have new organisations using the centre which is resulting in much improved income.	
5	Bank deposit receipts were pleasing and interest rates are currently much higher than they have been for some time. The current high rates could not have been forecast but are welcome.	
5	The Treasurer's fees were lower than budgeted. This is mainly due to Julie in the office undertaking many routine finance related tasks which in the past were undertaken by Jackie.	
7	The total repairs and maintenance costs include £4,214 in respect of repairs to the portico, and a transfer of £5,803 to the General Property Fund.	
8	Miscellaneous expenses (over £100) include:	£
	CCLI Licence	565
	TV licence	159
	Web hosting & domain renewal	221
	Growing Young Disciples course expenses for a member of staff	613
	500 Money is a Gift flyers	118
	G4S security cover for caretakers period of annual leave	345
	AGM report books	217
	Staff Christmas gifts	150
	Giving envelopes	281
	Sally/Danny leaving gift	200
	Methodist Recorder	209
		<u>3,078</u>

Office

It is difficult to believe that I have been in the role of Centre Administrator for almost 20 months, they say time flies when you're having fun, and it certainly has. I really enjoy the role and feel I have made some lifelong friends.

The long-term letting from Move More Jersey has continued this year. On a Friday morning Jersey Mencap come along to the centre and play Boccia, a similar game to bowls, this is followed by teas and coffees in the café which Di and Mirto continue to cater for, thank you Di and Mirto for your help. This event certainly brings a real buzz to the centre on Friday mornings.

All other long-term lettings remain unchanged; Emma-Jane Dance Academy, AA, Backbeat, Street Pastors – and Kairos in Ruby Ferguson House.

So far this year the Church has been hired by Music in Action, Jersey Music Association, Eisteddfod, St Georges prep school, Jersey Island Singers, and the Jersey Festival choir. We have several bookings for the coming year including a number of bookings from Music in Action up to May 2025, Family Nursing & Home Care fundraiser, JCG Leavers service as well as several bookings for Christmas concerts.

The School of Popular Music continue to hire the halls in the centre during school holidays and had a booking for the Easter break.

Foodbank work continues, with most referrals coming from Citizens Advice, we have also been supporting families from one of the local primary schools. The increase in living costs saw the number of people needing support in 2023 increase by 40%, the number of bags of food given out increased by 30%, with the amount of vouchers increased by 45%.

The Jersey Netball Association collected donations for us again this year during their league games in February, which Libby very kindly collected, thank you Libby. We also continue to receive regular donations from the congregation and St.Aubins, I would like to thank everyone who continue to donate, including those in the wider community.



Storm Ciaran which hit Jersey in November last year caused damage to the Church roof and after spending several months trying to get hold of a builder/roofer to quote for repairs, the insurance company appointed a loss adjuster to take this forward. Following a drone survey to identify where the majority of the damage occurred, scaffolding was erected, and repairs completed.

I would like to thank everyone for their ongoing support and feel that we are all one big family, which I feel privileged to be part of.

Julie

Stewards

As time has progressed there has been a change in which we now hold our monthly steward meetings. We now share these meetings with Georgetown, St Martin and Ebenezer.

This is proving advantageous as we have got to know the stewards from the other churches, and we get together to share different ideas which we find helpful.

Last year we started to look into the possibility of replacing some of the chairs in the church. As some of the chairs have got damaged it will be an advantage to have some lighter in weight as they are constantly being moved for concerts etc. As the current ones are quite heavy to move. This is an ongoing project, and a decision has not yet been made.

One of our delightful themes last year was “Creation, Caring For Gods World” which was an Earthday Icon created by Karen Blampied. The Icon was exquisite and this led easily into our Harvest theme “Rivers” which also complemented Tonys’ Sabbatical.

The “Rivers” theme was continued for our Christmas decorations designed brilliantly by Sue de Gruchy. One side of the Church signified the prophecies of the Old Testament and the other side the New Testament conveying the Christmas story. Many of the congregation helped by putting brush to canvas and the results were spectacular!!



The bookings for the hire of the Church for School Carol Services and concerts, etc. has been extremely high, so the stewards are very busy attending these events as we are still heavily booked for the next few months.



Our L/A services are very ably put together by Lou, Libby and Sue, with sometimes, the help of the youth. These services have been very well received.

Sadly, in December Pat Tourtel passed away and in March this year Peter Luce also. Both will be greatly missed by our Church Family as they were such staunch members for so many years. Our thoughts and prayers are sent to both families.

At the time of writing this report we have not yet been able to find a replacement for Tony when he leaves. We continue to hope and pray that this situation will be resolved in the near future. In the meantime, our shared services continue.

We still have many challenges ahead, but the Stewards will continue to work hard for the interests of Our Church family, and we are confident that God will help us through these challenging times.

We also thank the congregation for their support.

Val Macdonald, Senior Steward

Supporting the Minister

Worship

Stewarding events

Attending Church meetings

Welcoming congregation

Local arrangements



Nestling Nursery

2023 continued to be a challenging year in the nursery due recruiting good, qualified staff as recruitment is at an all-time low on the island. We have managed this by given 3 members of staff the opportunity to undertake the Team leader's level 2 course and 2 staff members of staff to undertake the Level 3 Management and leadership course to ensure the continuity of the operations of the nursery during staff holidays and absenteeism and to reward for all their contribution to the nursery. We will still continue to look at ways that we can attract the right candidate by looking at our whole package.

The nursery staff are very passionate about their continuous professional development and this year I planned more in-house training to give us the opportunity to train as one nursery team. All staff have successfully completed MAYBO training in January and Makaton Sign language in February. Promoting Children's Self-Regulation skills through play training will be implemented in April. This has been very beneficial for us as practitioners as this will keep us relevant in our practice by learning new appropriate skills to support and develop all the children to ensure that they have positive outcomes through their play to enable them to develop and thrive.

We are delighted to announce that Natalie Lempriere received the Wilma Allan award that was given by the Jersey Childcare Trust and presented to Natalie at Government House in November. Natalie was nominated by Louise for the award following her return to the nursery after being a full-time carer for her mother, and in a very short space of time completing her level 2 & 3 in childcare, showing a great deal of commitment & passion towards her work. Natalie is also responsible for all the charity events at the nursery. We are very proud of Natalie's achievements.

Last year at our moderation meeting with one of our regulators we discussed developing the garden area as this was an area that we have all agreed needs developing, this will ensure that we are providing a continuous provision by looking at the children's interests and capabilities. We hope to have our ideas into practice by summer 2024.

Louise Jones-Butel, Nursery Manager



The AGM met on May 14th, 2023, and was chaired by Rev Dawn Saunders in the context of Sunday worship and included an Agape Meal from The Franciscan Community

Call to Worship

Hymn 18 Be Still and Know that I am God.

Opening Prayer

Reading: Psalm 33:1-5

Prayer of Confession

Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it?

Giving God, you blessed us with saltiness, but we became bland.

You trusted us with your Word, but we did not keep it.

You lit a flame in our midst, but we hid it under formality and smothered it with our fears.

God, in your mercy: Forgive us. (*silence*)

Forgiving God, we believe that you have called us to be salt and light; that you offer us time and space and strength to begin again. Giving and forgiving God, we thank you.

With salt in ourselves may we be at peace with one another. **AMEN**

Hymn 571 As Your Family Lord See us Here.

The Peace & Sharing of a meal together

Readings Micah 6:6-8 John 6: 24-35

The Minutes of Last Year's Meeting were agreed and signed by Superintendent Rev Dawn Saunders.

Steward's report (Distributed at the AGM) We say a thankful farewell to Simba Mashiri and Kay Papworth after 6 years of dedicated service to Stewardship of SHMC. Val MacDonald on behalf of the Stewards offered a retiring gift to Simba Mashiri and has a gift to offer Kay Papworth as she was not present at the meeting, and appreciations were expressed for friendship and wise counsel throughout their many years of service to church and community

Election of Church Stewards and Communion Stewards: Steward Team: Val McDonald, Sue De Gruchy, Libby Farnon, Francis Quansah, AJ Bherwani, Martin Delap. The meeting was delighted to vote and welcome Lou Hicklin to the Stewards Team.

Property report Nothing further to add. (Distributed 2 weeks prior to the AGM)

Treasurer's report offered by Rhoderick Chaticobo. Amendment on page 17; Repairs & maintenance should say £50,000, not £50. Nothing further to add to the report and no questions. (Distributed 2 weeks prior to the AGM)

Hymn 504 May the Mind of Christ my Saviour

Reflection

Table Activity and Discussion

Hymn 706 Longing for Light, we wait in Darkness.

Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 465 Guide me O thou Great Jehovah

Blessing

Annual Church AGM & Communion Agenda 12th May 2024

Welcome & Call to Worship

Song

I Will Enter His Gates with Thanksgiving

AAW Talk

Children leave

Prayers

MWB 160

Minutes of AGM May 14th 2023

Presentation of Reports

As distributed

Promotions to Glory

Hymn 51

Great is thy faithfulness

Church Stewards Appointments:

Church Council Appointments

Financial overview

(Including nursery accounts)

Gospel

Matthew 28: 16-20

Minister's Comments

Hymn 571

As your family Lord, see us here

Communion

MWB 169

Children and youth return

Offertory during

Hymn 663

I, the Lord of sea and sky

Blessing

"A Sonnet of Appreciation"

**They're multifarious and magical -
The deeds which weekly happen in this Church;
They cover holy things or comical
And give support to those left in the lurch.
All age groups find a welcome in this place...
With toddlers' shouts to harmonise the hymns!
We welcome rainbow colours in each face,
With promise of Redemption for our sins.
We have been Blessed by Tony's leadership
And Cathy's golden voice caressing us
To give support to those with lives a'slip
Where Hope seems lost, and all's tumultuous!**

**We feel this Church has been a haven true,
Embracing all who come - many or few!**

Philip Le Brocq





**the
Centre**
ST HELIER METHODIST