

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
District Advance Fund
Trust No. 16023

Report to Synod for the period 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024.

1. Ministry Grants Paid

Circuit	Project	£
Leicester West	Circuit Mission Enabler	8,000
Loughborough	Youth Lay Pastor	6,500
Melton Mowbray	Circuit Administrator Costs	5,000
East Mercia	Making Connexions	3,000
East Mercia	Growth & Nurture Support Worker	8,000
East Mercia	Corby Lay Community Chaplain	6,000
East Mercia	Paddox Families & Children's Worker	3,000
Peterborough	Westgate New Church – BOB	4,000
Peterborough	Lay Pastoral Assistant	8,000
Nene Valley	Circuit Operations Manager	6,000
District / Northampton	Support for Podcasts (One Voice)	3,000
District	District Mission Enabler	60,000
District	Overstone Chaplain	35,000
District	Ecumenical Subscriptions	8,661
District	St. Philip's Centre	10,000
District	FEAST	28,000
District	Youth Work	8,750
District	Contribution to General Expenses	18,016
District	Safeguarding	47,500
District	Digital Enabler	30,000
		306,427

The following grants had been paid but were not fully required and were repaid by the recipients.

Circuit	Project	£
Melton Mowbray	Circuit Administrator Costs	1,000
Northampton	Community Action Manager, Emmanuel Group	6,040
East Mercia	Making Connexions	3,500
		10,540

2. Property Grants Paid

Circuit	Project	£
Wantage & Abingdon	Lydalls Close Manse	4,000
Wantage & Abingdon	Didcot MC – Solar Panels	2,766
West Oxfordshire	Carterton MC	1,937
Banbury	Hinton MC – Phases 1 & 2	48,464
Nene Valley	Raunds MC – "Rise Up and Build"	50,000
		107,168

3. Mission Start-Up Grants

Circuit	Project	£
West Oxfordshire	Carterton MC – Lego Church	1,000
Hinckley	Hinckley Lego Church	1,000
East Mercia	Kettering Youth Group	1,000
Nene Valley	Earls Barton Community Centre	5,000
Nene Valley	Irthlingborough Community Garden	4,400
Nene Valley	Hope MC – Little Doves	5,000
		<u>17,400</u>

4. Future Commitments

2024/25	Property	70,600
2024/25	Ministry	365,972
2025/26	Ministry	316,333
2026/27	Ministry	262,083
2027/28	Ministry	204,783
2028/29	Ministry	162,733
		<u>1,382,504</u>

5. Summary of Accounts

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Levies rec'd from Circuits	160,322.63	Ministry Grants Paid	295,887.17
CPF distribution	397,291.56	Property Grants Paid	107,167.52
Interest	73,965.88	Start-Up Grants Paid	17,400.00
Pension Res. (incl. interest)	16,283.88	Management Charge	3,227.65
Total Income:	<u>647,863.95</u>	Total Expenditure:	<u>423,682.34</u>
Total Income	647,863.95	Balance from 31.08.23	1,132,508.75
Total Expenditure	<u>423,682.34</u>	Net Income	<u>224,181.61</u>
	<u>224,181.61</u>	Balance at 31.08.24	<u>1,356,690.36</u>

In addition to the transactions detailed above, a bridging loan of £405,000 has been advanced to the East Mercia Circuit to enable the purchase of a replacement manse in advance of the sale of the existing property. It is anticipated that this will be repaid in the first few weeks of the 2024-25 year.

6. District Officer's comments and report.

Many circuits and churches continue to be unwilling to commit to new projects as we recover from the effects of the pandemic, but the number of applications received has increased this year. However, we have also experienced the abandonment of a few projects and unused funds have been returned to the DAF. We are encouraged by the number of start-up grants that have been awarded and hope that they will lead to larger projects in due course.

We intend to keep the uncommitted balance as low as possible and our policy of committing the costs of some lay employees for five years has resulted in a small over commitment of £25,814 compared with an under commitment of £53,502 at the start of the year.

Circuits with large Circuit Advance Fund balances (over £100,000) are encouraged to use their funds imaginatively and grant applications are normally only considered if a Circuit contribution is being made. The DME is in contact with Churches and Circuits to advise and support them and he will ensure that new proposals follow the Mission Policies of the District and Circuits and the priorities of the Methodist Church.

7. Monitoring and Evaluation

In addition to continuous and routine informal monitoring, if a personnel project has been awarded a grant for more than one year, the second and subsequent payments will not be made unless an Impact Monitoring and Evaluation report of the activities undertaken has been received and approved by the F & G Committee.

A Property Panel advises Churches at an early stage, particularly for larger property schemes and property schemes that were approved over 3 years ago are reviewed to ensure their continuing viability.

All recipients of a grant from the DAF are expected to provide a report at the end of the project.

Presented by: Andrew Lewis
Position: District Treasurer and Grants Officer
Date: September 2024