



The Methodist Church

Supporting Methodist Charities

Guidance produced for churches in the
Birmingham Circuit by the
Service & Evangelism Forum

Revised March 2017

Purpose of Booklet

Dear Friends

This booklet contains information about the mission of Methodist Church Funds and Methodist Charities, and how we can contribute to them as the people of the Birmingham Methodist Circuit.

As Christians called Methodists we belong to local churches or ecumenical partnerships, but also feel part of a larger connected community, which we call the Connexion.

The Methodist Church is structured to reflect the sense of being connected to one another, based on the theology of the Christian community as the 'Body of Christ'. Just as the human body is made up of different limbs and organs that depend upon each other, so we, the followers of Jesus Christ, should have a common bond that makes us feel one another's suffering and joy. Therefore, we should put the welfare of the whole body before our own individual wants and needs.

It is this understanding of Connexion that must inspire our approach to resourcing these Funds and Charities, which seek the welfare of others both nationally and globally.

Rev Dr Neil Johnson
Birmingham Methodist Circuit

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Methodist Church Funds

What are the Methodist Church Funds?

There are 6 funds in total, being:

- The Methodist Church Fund (MCF)
- Two funds directed specifically towards mission:
 - The World Mission Fund (WMF)
 - The Mission in Britain Fund (MiBF) (formerly Home Mission)
- A fund specifically directed towards buildings and infrastructure:
 - The Methodist Church Fund for Property (MCFP)
- The Fund for the Support of Presbyters and Deacons (Auxiliary Fund)
- The Training Fund

Further information about each Fund is available on The Methodist Church in Britain website: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/world-church/resources/the-world-mission-fund/faqs-on-the-methodist-church-funds>

Why can't I support individual projects?

We support projects and publish information about them in retrospect, which is why we always encourage our supporters to either support a particular Fund or support the general Methodist Church Fund where your gift will be used where the need is judged to be greatest.

In addition, supporting particular projects can sometimes lead to popular projects being over-funded while other, equally worthy projects, are not given the same support. Naturally, we are keen to give each project the appropriate level of support which is why usually we encourage people to support the Funds not individual projects.

Donations to the Funds

For online donations please see the information in the relevant Fund section below (pages 6 to 10).

The Circuit holds paying-in books for five of the six Funds. To donate by cheque please make it payable to the individual fund as follows:

- The Methodist Church World Mission Fund
- The Methodist Church Mission in Britain Fund
- The Methodist Church Fund for Property
- The Fund for the Support of Presbyters & Deacons
- The Methodist Church Fund for Training

And forward it to: Shelley Roberts - Circuit Administrator (Finance),
Birmingham Methodist Circuit,
The Church at Carrs Lane,
Carrs Lane, Birmingham
B4 7SX

The Circuit will then pay these cheques directly into the Fund's bank account on behalf of the Church.

Gift Aid

Gift Aid on donations to Methodist Funds should be reclaimed at local church level. A separate cheque should then be forwarded to the Circuit using the same procedures as above. Some churches are registered with HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) as charities in their own right to recover gift aid, others use the facility provided by Methodist Church House.

Please note: The Circuit is not registered with HMRC for gift aid purposes so is unable to deal with gift aid declarations.

Advent Offering

The Advent Offering service is a Connexion-wide event that raises money for the ongoing work of the Mission in Britain Fund – see page 7.

Easter Offering

The Easter Offering is organised by Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB) and goes to the World Mission Fund. Donations are dealt with by the MWiB Circuit Treasurer, Hazel Nash, and full details are provided separately. For donations to MWiB itself please see the information in the specific section on page 18.

World Mission Fund/JMA (Junior Mission for All)

The World Mission Fund supports communities, projects and individuals around the world bringing hope and healing through our partner churches.

Read the latest World Mission Fund Review (website) for stories showing the difference it is making to people's lives.

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/world-church/resources/the-world-mission-fund>

Donations can be made online via Just Giving -

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/world-church/resources/the-world-mission-fund> or

send cheques (payable to 'The Methodist Church World Mission Fund') to the Circuit office as detailed on page 4.

District Representative – please contact District Office on 0121 449 0131.



Junior Mission for All (JMA) was created so that children would not be excluded from supporting and learning about the mission of the Church.

It is also about sharing the insights of God's people all over the world with children in our churches and produces excellent resources for children's work.

The JMA Promise is to:

Learn, pray and serve with the world-wide Church of Jesus Christ

One-fifth of money collected is donated to the **Mission in Britain Fund**

For further information, please check website.

[http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/junior-mission-for-all-\(jma\)](http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/junior-mission-for-all-(jma))

Donations can be made by cheque to The World Mission Fund to:

The Discipleship & Ministries Cluster of the Connexional Team
The Methodist Church, Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road
London, NW1 5JR

Tel: 020 7486 5502

Email: helpdesk@methodistchurch.org.uk

Mission in Britain Fund (formerly Home Mission)

About the Mission in Britain Fund

Mission in Britain is an essential part of the One Mission of the Methodist Church in Britain. Churches across England, Wales and Scotland are courageously living out the calling of the Church in their communities - that is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

Gifts to the Mission in Britain Fund enable us to support mission-orientated church projects through grant giving across the following categories:

Mission Action on Poverty and Justice

Ministering opportunities at Methodist Heritage sites

Chaplaincy

The use of church properties to serve local communities

Sharing the gospel with all ages

The Mission in Britain Fund (MiBF) supports many big and small projects in Britain.

For further details, see website: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/mission-in-britain>

You can donate online with Just Giving: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/mission-in-britain> or send a cheque, payable to 'The Methodist Church Mission in Britain Fund', to the Circuit office as detailed on page 4.

The Methodist Church Fund for Property

The Methodist Church Fund for Property supports the mission of the local Methodist churches in Britain as they plan ways of:

- Making premises more accessible.
- Reordering facilities for contemporary worship and the creation of performance/exhibition areas to enable the use of the arts in mission.
- Refurbishing older premises to meet today's needs.
- Building new churches and community facilities in changing/growing areas.

To donate please send your cheque, payable to 'The Methodist Church Fund for Property', to the Circuit office as detailed on page 4.

Grants Towards Your Property Project

Are you finding it difficult to get funding for your property project? In the present climate grants are becoming harder to find. That's why it is important for you to contact the Resourcing Mission Office in Manchester to see if you are eligible to apply for Connexional funding towards your project. Grants are available from both the Fund for Property and the Connexional Priority Fund as well as some smaller trust funds.

Grants are made by assessing the project and understanding the way in which the work you are doing is helping both the church family and the wider community. Whilst your project may only be concerned with the fabric of the building, the implications of the work may be much wider, since many of our churches offer the only community space within the local town, village or urban area.

Please do not be shy. If your building is a valuable community resource as well as being your place of worship and you are looking for funding towards your property project, we would be happy to hear about your ideas, and discuss with you the best funding options available.

To enable grants to be made churches are asked to make an annual contribution to the Fund for Property (See Schedule A). Birmingham District has given around £25,000 p.a. over the last few years.

Please continue to donate and ask for a grant if you need it.

For further details, see website: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/connexional-grants/what-do-we-fund/property>

The Fund for the Support of Presbyters and Deacons

Supernumerary ministers

This Fund provides grants to Supernumerary ministers, those becoming supernumerary, and their widows and widowers under the following general headings:

- To cover acute financial need
- For major repairs to property they own and occupy
- For garden maintenance
- For other major expenditures, such as replacement domestic appliances
- For nursing and residential care and other health-related needs
- For equipment and property adaptation to accommodate impairment and incapacity
- To cover removal expenses on retirement

Ministers and probationers

The FSPD also provides financial support for ministers and probationers in the active work and student ministers and their immediate dependents under the following headings:

- To cover acute, emergency financial need, normally through circumstances beyond their control
- For adaptation to manses, equipment and other expenditure to enable ministers to sustain or return to active ministry (or training)

The fund is also available to assist towards top-up fees for residential care. An annual grant may be applied for up to a maximum of £4,800.

To apply for grants from the Fund for the Support of Presbyters & Deacons, presbyters/deacons may contact Payroll and Benefits Section. Email stipends@methodistchurch.org.uk

Tel: 020 7467 5264

For further details, see website:

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/stipends-and-payroll/ministerial-grants/the-fund-for-the-support-of-presbyters-and-deacons>

To donate please send your cheque, payable to ' The Fund for the Support of Presbyters & Deacons', to the Circuit office as detailed on page 4.

The Training Fund

Methodists have contributed greatly to education in Britain, and throughout the world. Schools, universities, theological and Bible Colleges have been established and individuals have become leading thinkers in a broad range of disciplines.

The Church still encourages the Methodist people to think through their faith, partly through the route of higher education, and to support this Connexional funding is available to:

- Presbyters and Deacons
- Lay Employees
- Methodists involved in pioneering with Methodist Pioneering Pathways (MPP) within the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network (DMLN)
- Other Methodists interested in theological study

To donate please send your cheque payable to ' The Methodist Church Fund for Training' to the Circuit office as detailed on page 4.

For more information please see website:

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/learning/scholarship-research-and-innovation/scholarship/study-support>

Methodist Charities

Who are the Methodist Charities?

The Methodist Charities are:

- Action for Children (formerly NCH)
- Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust (LWPT) (formerly Local Preachers Mutual Aid) and LWP Homes
- Methodist Homes for the Aged (MHA)
- Methodist Ministers Housing Society
- All We Can (formerly MRDF)
- Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB).

Donations to Charities

Donations should be made directly to the Charity itself, for detailed instructions on how to donate please see the relevant section below (pages 12 to 18).

MHA and Action for Children have designated Sundays.

Gift Aid

Each charity is responsible for claiming their own gift aid on valid declarations. As mentioned above (page 5) Gift Aid on Easter Offering monies should be reclaimed by the local church and then paid over to World Mission.



Action for Children have been working in partnership with the Methodist Church for 147 years to give society's most vulnerable and neglected children and young people the support they need to reach their potential.

Thomas Bowman Stephenson, a Methodist minister from the North East of England, had a passionate commitment to social justice and campaigned on behalf of the vulnerable of his day. From the time he moved to London, Stephenson challenged the Methodist Church to address the plight of homeless children on the street.

Methodist Pioneers

Stephenson founded The Children's Home in 1869, with the help of two friends called Francis Horner and Alfred Mager. They called it The Children's Home as they wanted to provide the same quality of care that other children received in a loving home - a vision that was radically different to the workhouses of the day.

The work grew and developed, and it was initially Methodists, staff and volunteers who developed new ways of caring for children and young people. The National Children's Home (as it became known) has featured prominently in the history of child welfare as a leader and force for change.

Methodist support

Many of the supporters and volunteers come from local Methodist churches. They let churches know about their work in their area and support local Methodists who fundraise and campaign with them. The Methodist Church gives particular attention to Action for Children's work during worship on the second Sunday in July each year, Action for Children Sunday, and at Christmas.

Contact Details

Action for Children,
3 The Boulevard, Ascot Road,
Watford WD18 8AG.
Telephone 0300 123 2112
Email – ask.us@actionforchildren.org.uk

Website address www.actionforchildren.org.uk

Donations can be made online <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/donate/> or contact the office for further information/payment instructions.

District Representative – please contact District Office on 0121 449 0131.



LWPT

Best for worship. Best in time of need.

Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust

LWPT is an ecumenical Trust (Charity No.1107967) to help preachers and leaders of worship:

- grow and develop in knowledge, conviction and competence
- be in touch with other preachers and leaders of worship
- be aware of recent developments affecting preaching and worship leading

**Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
2 Peter 3: 18**

**Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.
1 Peter 4: 10**

**Discipline yourselves, keep alert.
1 Peter 5: 8**

LWPT also offers to preachers, leaders of worship and their dependents:

- access to financial support when they are in need at any stage in their life
- access to care and practical help when they are in need at any stage in their life

**Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.
Romans 12: 13**

Contact Details

Registered Office:
Unit 35 1st Floor Offices,
Orbital 25 Business Park,
Dwight Road, Watford, Herts.
WD18 9DA

Correspondence:

PO Box 2352, Watford, Herts.
WD18 1PY
Telephone: 01923 231811, Fax: 01923 296899
E-mail: lwptoffice@lwpt.org.uk

Website - <http://www.lwpt.org.uk/>



There are three LWP Homes:

Minehead, Westcliff on Sea and Woodhall Spa.

Westerley Christian Care Homes are operated by the charity and company limited by guarantee The Leaders of Worship and Preachers Homes (LWP Homes).

History: The origins of LWP Homes derive from the formation in 1849 of the Methodist Local Preachers Mutual Aid Association (MLPMA) and with the passage of time MLPMA felt the need to make specific provision for Local Preachers and their dependants in terms of residential care in retirement. This led to the formation of Mutual Aid Homes (MAH) in 1949. Both MLPMA and MAH were charities with specific focus on the Methodist Church, but in 2004 both charities expanded their horizons to embrace a more ecumenical approach: MLPMA became the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust (LWPT) and Mutual Aid Homes became the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Homes. Both are charities and companies limited by guarantee.

The Homes Today: The objects of LWP Homes are, for the benefit of the community and on behalf of the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust, to provide residential care for those in need on terms appropriate to their needs.

Priority for Admission: Priority is given to those involved in or training for leading worship and their dependants. However, the key criterion for admission of residents is that they have an enthusiasm to reside in and embrace an active Christian community

Contact

LWP Homes Head Office, 1 Winton Avenue, Westcliff on Sea, Essex.

SS0 7QU

CQC Nominated Individual: Adrian Needham

Executive Homes Manager: Mr Simon Lee

Operations Manager: Mrs Emma Dymock

Tel: 01702 342059, Email: homesadmin@lwpt.org.uk

Website address: <http://www.lwphomes.org.uk>

Please give to support the work of LWPT and LWP Homes.

LWPT events, financial help and support for residential care are all made possible by your generous giving.

You may prefer to give online, using your bank card: <https://www.justgiving.com/lwpt>



MHA (Methodist Homes) was founded by members of the Methodist Church back in 1943. Today they support and care for vulnerable older people of all faiths and none. Our services include residential, nursing and dementia care, sheltered housing and community schemes. We aim to provide the highest possible standards of care and housing to the 16,000 people we support around the UK.

There are two local Methodist Homes (Kingfisher and Herondale) and a Live at Home Scheme in Selly Oak.

Contact Details

Head Office:

MHA, Epworth House, Stuart Street, Derby, DE1 2EQ

Telephone: 01332 296200

Email: enquiries@mha.org.uk

Details of other office:

MHA, Brooklands Court, Tunstall Road, LEEDS, LS11 5HL

Telephone: 0113 271 5805

Website address - <http://www.mha.org.uk>

To make a donation please go to <https://www.justgiving.com/mha/Donate>

Alternatively you can donate using your mobile phone by texting MHAH16 & the amount (£1, £2, £3, £5 or £10) to 70070.

You can donate by calling freephone: 0800 085 6962 or by post by downloading and completing one of the forms on the website and post to: MHA, Epworth House, Stuart Street, Derby DE1 2EQ. By using a stamp, you can make sure that as much money as possible goes towards our important work with vulnerable older people. Please make cheques payable to MHA.

Local Circuit Rep – Lynn Weaver

District Rep – Lynn Weaver



The Methodist Ministers Housing Society provides housing for retiring Methodist presbyters and deacons who need it – whenever possible, in their preferred area. They also provide housing for their widowed partners (whether widowed during active work or retirement) and for Methodist ministers who have to retire early due to ill-health.

Their properties are mostly three-bedroom semi-detached houses and bungalows in some very nice locations around the UK. But they don't just secure you a home – they look after it too, repairing and maintaining it to the highest standards.

The Society has around 960 properties right across the UK – from Banff in the North of Scotland to as far south as Guernsey, and from Northern Ireland in the west to Lowestoft in the east.

The Society's vision is to provide housing for their current and future tenants for at least the next 40 years. This provision represents 20 per cent of all Methodist ministers – both retired and serving – and a third of all retired ministers.

To continue to provide this housing, they rely on the generous support of individual members of the Methodist Church, congregations and benevolent funds, in the form of donations, legacies, bequest and grants. Their tenants pay a modest rent to cover repairs, maintenance and insurance.

Contact Details

Address: Methodist Ministers Housing Society, 3rd Floor, Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR

Email: Admin@mmhs.org.uk

General Inquiries - 020 7467 5272

Fax - 020 7467 5231

Donations can be made online using a debit or credit card, or by cheque.

Please make your cheque payable to 'Methodist Ministers' Housing Society' and post it to above address.

Website address - <http://mmhs.org.uk/>



All We Can, the Methodist relief and development fund

Poverty is personal. So is the solution.

All We Can (formerly MRDF) exists to help people in the world's poorest communities become all that they can.

It works with talented local partners - community organisations, churches, and individuals - people rooted in poor communities, who understand local problems and are passionate about solving them. Its activities include:

- long-term development
- emergency relief
- campaigning against the causes of poverty
- education and advocacy

All We Can has its roots in the Methodist Church, and its vision, priorities and values are grounded in Christian principles.

Do all you can:

Sign up to All We Can's monthly E-news and newsletter

Receive the latest news from All We Can's partners working in some of the world's poorest communities, campaign actions and new resources to inspire you and your church.

You can make an online donation <http://www.allwecan.org.uk/make-a-donation/make-a-donation>. For further information/payment instructions please contact All We Can, 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JR, UK

Email: info@allwecan.org.uk | Tel: +44 (0)20 7467 5132

Website address: <http://www.allwecan.org.uk/>

District Representative – please contact District Office on 0121 449 0131.



Methodist Women in Britain

How we work, what we do, our history and heritage...

MWiB have a proud heritage stemming from the twin roots of Women's Work, founded in 1858 to support training and care for women missionaries, and Women's Fellowship, started in 1945 out of a concern to address social problems resulting from the war.

These two movements merged in 1987 to form the Women's Network of the Methodist Church, with a clear place in the Methodist connexional team. Change came in 2008 resulting in the launch in 2011 of Methodist Women in Britain as an independent, self-financing organisation.

Our aim today is to connect women with an interest in creative spirituality and a passion for global social justice.

Methodist Women in Britain's main decision-making body is the FORUM, which meets twice each year. Every district in the British Methodist Church has a representative on the Forum who meet along with the executive members, the Helen Kim Scholar and the Women's World Day of Prayer Methodist representative.

MWiB has a seat at the Methodist Conference and relates to many parts of the Connexional Team. However, MWiB does not have Connexional Team staffing, nor funding from the Connexional budget.

Contact Details

Methodist Women in Britain MWiB Administrator, PO Box 9298, Loughborough LE11 9FY.

Email: admin@mwib.org.uk

Telephone: 0300 030 9873

Please check website for further information: <http://mwib.org.uk/>

To make a donation online please click on link <https://mwib.charitycheckout.co.uk/> or contact the office.

District Rep - Mrs Carol Trigger



