

ROUND THE CHURCHES

80: Limerick Methodist Church

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Limerick Methodist Church building, which is now the spiritual home of Christ Church, United Presbyterian and Methodist, was built in its original form in 1813.

It was an old-style building with road frontage onto George's Street, now O'Connell Street.

The church was the place of worship for the Welsh Guards who were stationed in a nearby barracks.

In 1938, with the Welsh Guards gone and a smaller local congregation, the building was substantially reconstructed.

The front portion of the old church was converted into the present sanctuary and an office block was erected to maximise the commercial use of the street frontage.

The result was a peaceful sanctuary in the city centre, but with the disadvantage of having no church-like appearance, as the sanctuary is entered through a hall passageway from the street.

In recent years the entrance way has been enhanced by the addition of a canopy and railings.

The church's central location in Limerick city has made it possible for the congregation to support many charities and outreach work.

The congregation in 2005 comprises members of many different nationalities, who come together to pray and play in the sanctuary and halls provided with much foresight by Limerick Methodists in 1938.