GEC TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Reg. Charity #1192107

01/04/25–31/03/26

The fifth fiscal year (25/26) of Gateshead Evangelical Church (GEC) was another encouraging year for the trustees.

Again, the trustees are grateful for the increased giving by those in regular attendance. The church continues to attract new people and retain its ethnic diversity with 17 nationalities amongst our regular attendance. This diversity continues to be reflected in both the trusteeship and the church leadership. With growing friction in many parts of the UK between incoming foreigners and natural born British citizens, we are grateful for the ongoing unity within our regular attendees and new comers to the local community.

Speaking of our local community, we continue to provide public benefit through various events which are free of charge to the local community. BBQs and Bouncy castles continue to be a popular event in summer months. We continue to make the premises available to the Council for elections to support and raise voter participation in the locality.

In the areas of essential building work and maintenance, we continued to maintain and improve the buildings. We are currently receiving quotes to replace the main entrance with better security and motion detecting doors to assist people with mobility issues entering and leaving the building.

In addition to continuing to financially support one charitable work abroad, we are continuing to set aside funds toward the hiring of future fulltime staff. To date, our entire working staff is made up of volunteers, though some are nearing retirement.

We are continuing to provide work experience for those in secondary school and university so they are better prepared to find and keep jobs when they secure them.

Finally, the trustees are grateful for the ongoing assistance of the Charity's Commission. The online seminars have been excellent and have greatly benefited the work of our new Safeguarding Officer, a GP with a real heart for children and special needs adults.

The Trustees of GEC

Christ is the Head of the body, the Church, Who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the pre-eminence. Col 1:18