

**JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**DIRECTORS' REPORT**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023**

**Company Registration Number: NI619075**

**Charities Registration Number: NIC100630**

**JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH  
DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023**

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**JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH  
DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023**

Charity Name: Journey Community Church

Charity Registration: NIC 100630

Principal Office: 3 Orchard Close, Antrim, BT41 2RZ

**Trustees:**

Pastor John Ashe (Chairperson)

Ms C. McKee (Secretary)

Mr I. Somerville

Mrs R. Ashe

**Elders:**

Mr J. Walker

Mr A. Khairrudin

Mrs E. Khairrudin

Mr G. Smith

Mr E. Cooke

Mr T. Leavy

Mrs R. Brubaker

Mr M. Brubaker

Mr I. Watt

Bank: Danske Bank  
10 Donegall Square W, Belfast  
BT1 6JS

Accountant: Stevenson and Wilson  
22 - 30 Broadway Avenue, Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

## **JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023**

The Directors (who are also the trustees) are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st August 2023, which are prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes. The directors have adopted the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP – FRS102), in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

### **Reference and administrative details**

Registered charity name:	Journey Community Church
Charity Commission registration number:	NIC100630
HMRC charity reference:	NI00408
Company registration number:	NI619075
Principal office and registered office:	3 Orchard Close Antrim. BT41 4RZ

### **Directors and Trustees of the Company**

The directors who held office during the year were as follows:

Pastor J. Ashe (Chairman)  
Mrs. R. Ashe  
Ms. C. McKee  
Mr. I. Somerville

### **Structure, governance and management**

Journey Community Church was incorporated 25th June 2013. It is currently managed by the trustees and all decisions are passed by a majority vote at their regular trustee meetings.

The Company is a charity limited by guarantee without share capital which avails of the "Limited" exemption. The company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. In the event of the Company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. The Board is responsible for the overall governance of the Company and is actively involved in the day to day management of the organisation. Directors are appointed in line with the Memorandum & Articles of Association of the company. The Board of Directors are also known as Trustees for the purposes of the Charity Commission.

### **Risk management**

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Company, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to major risks. Risks identified, such as the financial viability and sustainability of the charitable company, have been reviewed to ensure that a level of funding is maintained that is necessary for the charitable company to continue to meet its objectives. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of company policies such as the policy on financial at the regular trustee meetings and

## **JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023**

segregation of duties where possible. The directors have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Financial risk is reviewed on a monthly basis having due regard to ongoing income and expenses.

### **Objectives and Activities (and how they deliver public benefit)**

The Church's objects and purpose are specifically restricted to the promotion and advancement of the Christian faith, the advancement of education, the relief of poverty, sickness, hardship and distress and the promotion of the benefit of the inhabitants in the Antrim area of Northern Ireland primarily and in any other part of the world as the directors may think fit ("hereinafter called the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, gender, disability/ability, race, ethnic origin, political, religious or other opinion with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants and in particular:

- (a) To advance the Christian faith and promote Christianity in such ways and in such areas as the Directors from time to time may think fit, and in particular but not exclusively through the provision of preaching, the distribution of Christian literature and the education of people in the area of benefit through evangelism and the provision of biblically based teaching, discipleship training, meetings, bible studies and social activities;
- (b) To train Leaders and Pastors and volunteers so that they may work on projects promoted by the Church in the area of benefit;
- (c) To train Christians so that they may seek to plant churches and to encourage new, and strengthen existing, partnerships with churches and evangelical groups in the area of benefit;
- (d) To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in the area of benefit as the Directors may from time to time may think fit.

The Company is a non-profit making entity. The principal activity of the company is that of an evangelical community church which is registered according to the law of Northern Ireland to advance the Christian faith.

Journey Community Church holds weekly Sunday morning worship services and a monthly evening service. It also facilitates regular fun events and outreach work which includes a holiday bible club, sports academy and various evening activities. There is no entry fee charged for any of the charities activities and these are primarily held within the curtilages of Antrim and Downpatrick towns to benefit these communities and promote the underlying principles of the Christian faith.

### **Public Benefit**

Journey Community Church strives to ensure that they provide public benefit. Public benefit is at the heart of what it means to be a charity. To achieve this objective, Journey Community Church meets the following purposes:

Purpose (a) - The direct benefit from this purpose is the provision of instruction and encouragement on living a moral and law abiding lifestyle. The benefit will be demonstrated by the growth of attendance and through feedback from beneficiaries via comments on social media, emails to the church and pastor, verbal approbation from community representatives and positive feedback from local council and funding bodies. To our knowledge this purpose will not lead to any harm but if such occurs it will be far outweighed by the benefit. The beneficiaries are regular attendees of Journey Community Church

## **JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023**

adults, children and the aged) and inhabitants of the Antrim and Downpatrick areas and all others who wish to attend our meetings. We have identified no private benefit flowing from this purpose.

Purpose (b) - The direct benefit from this purpose is that those attending any of our services or events will be able to avail of help, support and assistance from well-trained people well able to meet their practical, emotional and spiritual needs. This benefit will be demonstrated by the ability of those trained to be able to effectively assume positions of leadership and responsibility and that the public will be aided and protected. Records will exist as people complete training in areas such as child protection and leadership development. To our knowledge this purpose will not lead to any harm but if such occurs it will be far outweighed by the benefit. The beneficiaries are those being trained but also the wider public (adults and children) who will benefit from the availability of trained persons at our regular meetings and large public events. Private benefit from this purpose may be that training provided may also be of use outside of the charity situation but this is incidental.

Purpose (c) - The direct benefit from this purpose is the promotion of good relations with other similar organisations and the strengthening of partnerships to contribute to and tap into a larger wealth of experience and skills with which to assist the community. In training members to plant new churches we will provide new opportunities for advancement of moral standards. This benefit will be demonstrated by the planting of other churches and by good relations and co-operation with other churches and groups. To our knowledge this purpose will not lead to any harm but if such occurs it will be far outweighed by the benefit. The beneficiaries are local, national and multi-national individuals, communities and organisations. There may be slight benefit to some relating to resources now available to them through charity contacts, but this is incidental.

Purpose (d) - Direct benefit from this purpose is the welfare and well-being of the public will be enhanced and improved by services provided by the charity. For example, free events which enable those in financial difficulty to attend, giveaway of hampers at Christmas, the intended establishment of a regular prayer/counselling service. The future establishment of a hardship fund to help those in need. Benefit demonstrated by regularly held free public events, endorsed and part funded by local council, large quantities of provisions distributed via Christmas hampers, positive feedback from beneficiaries via social media, by email and verbal approbation. We have been unable to identify any harm flowing from this benefit. Who is the benefit for? The beneficiaries are primarily adults and children in the Antrim area and surrounding towns but it is probable that people from further a-field will also visit to avail of our events and services, as there are no geographical restrictions. Private benefit may occur during training whereby the person may avail of counselling services themselves during the training process but this benefit is incidental and necessary to properly equip the person being trained.

### **Financial review and funds policy**

The company is a non profit making entity. During the year the charity received income totalling £498,065 and had expenditure of £438,497, so recorded a surplus before depreciation of £59,568. The depreciation charge for the year was £80,119, so this resulted in a deficit for the year of £20,551. The directors expect the charity to report an overall surplus in the incoming year.

The principal funding source of Journey Community Church is from freewill offerings given at church services and by online giving.

The directors consider it prudent to hold monies in reserve in the event that unforeseen circumstances may arise that could lead to financial difficulties which might put its future into jeopardy.

## **JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023**

At the year end the charity had £28,602 of cash funds to meet the continuing running costs of the company. The directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves taking into account the risks that they have recognised. The reserves policy requires that reserves are maintained at a level which ensures that the core activity of the company could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty. The company plans to continue its activities in the forthcoming years.

### **Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others**

The charity does not hold any funds on behalf of others.

### **Small companies provision statement**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Statement of directors' responsibilities**

The directors (who are the trustees of Journey Community Church) are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under Company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP-FRS102;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In the case of each director in office at the date the Directors' Report is approved:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant accounts information of which the charity's independent examiners are unaware; and
- they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant accounts information and to establish that the charitable company's independent examiners are aware of that information.

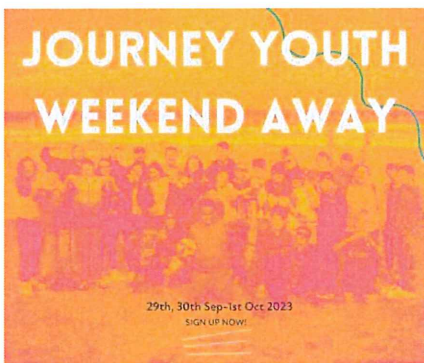
**JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH  
DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023**

**JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR**

**September 2022**

After the Kingdom Come Conference in August 2022, we sensed a need to sustain the spirit of prayer and worship within our Church community. Thus, we introduced the Friday Revival nights, providing a space for people to gather and engage in heartfelt prayer and worship, with a specific focus on revitalizing faith in Ireland. Concurrently, we embarked on a week of intentional prayer and fasting in mid-September.

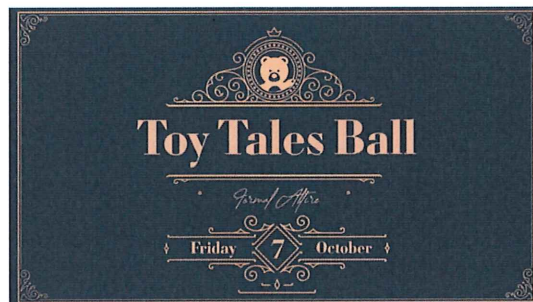
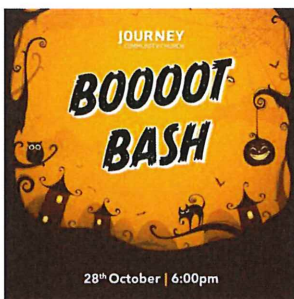
Additionally, we launched our Alpha Course, designed for those seeking answers about faith and Christianity. At the end of the month, our Youth went on a weekend retreat to Exodus in Coleraine, where 30 young individuals and their leaders came together for a time of fellowship and growth



**October 2022**

In October, we hosted our Toytales Charity Ball to fundraise for Toytales Christmas Appeal. We also had a baptism service in which 10 people were baptised.

At the end of October, we held our second Boooobash event in our Church carpark with 20 cars participating in this trick or treat style event followed by a fireworks display.



## **JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023**

### **JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR (Continued)**

#### **November & December 2022**

In November, we held a Baptism service in Downpatrick with six people getting baptised. We also began a new level 1 Theotherapy Course both online and in person with over 50 participants.

The highlights of December included Walk through Bethlehem event, hosted at both of our sites, enchanted visitors with its immersive nativity experience, complete with live animals, crafts, and interactive displays that transported participants back in time.

Our Christmas services were also a great success with Christmas Chaos and Carol Services in both locations.



#### **January/February 2023**

In January we held our Pray31 initiative where we join as a congregation and pray for specific themes each day, as well as our week of prayer and fasting in mid-January. We changed up our Revival nights and hosted Creative Nights which encompassed the prophetic, movement, words and painting.

A team of 20 members of both Antrim and Downpatrick went on a trip to Israel to explore the sites and historical places Jesus would have been. This trip had a profound impact on those who went.

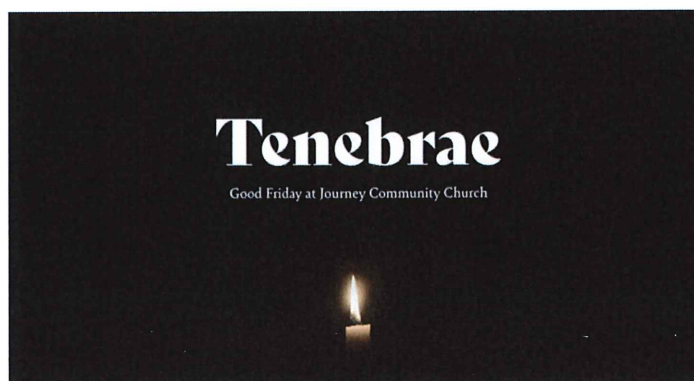
#### **March/April 2023**

March and April were very busy in the life of Church, starting with our Kids team hosting a mission trip alongside Causeway Coast Vineyard and Vibe Armagh. Our Downpatrick team took part again in the town's St Patrick's parade, this year with a Willy Wonka theme, giving out thousands of chocolate bars, with an invitation to church.

Come Alive – Youth Conference – In March we ran our first Youth & Young Adults Conference alongside a team from Bethel Young Saints, based in Redding, California. This weekend was attended by youth groups and young people from all over Ireland and was a great success.

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**JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR (Continued)**



'Tenebrae' was a special service on Good Friday as we observed the final part of Holy Week commemorating the sufferings and death of Christ. This was a unique service that brings to life the main characters who played their own part in the final days leading to the crucifixion of Jesus. The congregation are submerged in the story through drama, song and spoken word the unfolding of the Tenebrae meaning 'darkness' to the resurrection that served as an emblem of triumph over sin and death.

On Easter Saturday and Easter Monday our two Churches took part in our annual Eggsplosion event in both Antrim and Downpatrick. There was a great turn out in both locations and was the first time we got to use our new Downpatrick building for a community event.

**May/June 2023**

May & June, the focus was on the new building in Downpatrick and moving out of our previous building. The Downpatrick team worked hard painting and prepping the new building as well as installation of new staging and lights/sound systems to get it ready for services. This building has huge potential for community outreach and it is hoped that in future we will be able to use it for hiring out to community groups and our team are looking at options of putting a coffee shop in there.

**July/August 2023**

In Antrim and Downpatrick, we organised our Holiday Bible Club and Impact weeks with the theme 'Stellar'. In the afternoons and evenings, we led street clean ups and gardening projects in local housing estates. For the people we helped, and their neighbours, it was a huge help and was made a big impact for those who would otherwise not have been able to do these jobs for themselves.

In August we were invited by BBC radio to record a Sunday Service to go out via Radio Foyle. This was a wonderful opportunity for our Church to provide worship and teaching to a radio audience, we would otherwise not reach and the feedback was very encouraging from those who engaged with it.

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**JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR (Continued)**

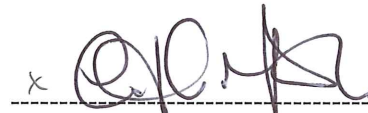
**Kingdom Come Conference 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> August at Shanes Castle**

This was definitely a highlight of the year, running our second Kingdom Come summer Conference at Shane's Castle in Antrim, with guest worship leaders and speakers such as Upperroom, Bethel Music, Jordan DiMarco and Lou Engle. Over the weekend we had seminars, prayer & healing tents, prophetic art and a tent for kid's ministry. It is difficult to put in to words the significance of this event for not only our Journey churches, but Churches across Ireland.



Approved by the Board on 30th May 2024 and signed on its behalf:

  
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Pastor John Ashe

x   
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Ms Catherine McKee