

The Church's Ministry Among the Jews

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019

Trustees and officers

The trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Canon Gill Withers
	Gwen Thompson
	Marylyn McCormack (resigned 18 October 2023)
	Rev Billy Holmes (appointed 25 November 2023)
	Jane Stewart
	Samuel John Beggs
	Patricia Davidson
	Neil Glass

Objectives and activities

The objects of the society are three-fold, Evangelism, Education and Encouragement. This permeates through everything we do.

1. Evangelism - Creating opportunities to consider the claims of Jesus as Messiah. Seeking to share the Gospel in culturally sensitive ways with Jewish people and others and supporting others involved in this work.
2. Education - Teaching, particularly in the church, the Jewish roots of our Christian faith. We also love to demonstrate in practical ways the revelation of Yeshua contained within the Biblical Feasts and Festivals.
3. Encouragement - Encouraging and supporting the spiritual growth of Messianic believers and Congregations. We offer support of the work CMJ Israel are doing among Messianic believers in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and the Galilee.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

Public benefit

The trustees believe that our purposes satisfy the public benefit requirements. The Society is established to advance the Christian faith by proclaiming the gospel to all people, to support engagement between people of the Jewish faith and people of the Christian faith and to continue to provide a ministry through which Jewish people may come to recognise Jesus as their Messiah.

The public benefit which flows from this purpose includes the promotion of religious harmony between the Christian and Jewish faiths and communities by encouraging among them a greater understanding and appreciation of each other's faith, beliefs and practices and their common ground and to this end promote friendship and mutual trust. The benefit received is encouragement, help and support for the spiritual growth of Messianic Believers and Congregations. The second purpose seeks to remind the Christian Church about its Jewish roots.

The direct benefit which flows from this purpose is a greater knowledge and understanding of the Jewish roots of the Christian faith and the revelation of Jesus contained within the Biblical Feasts and Festivals. The benefit received relating to our purposes can be demonstrated through the feedback we receive from Churches, groups who invite us to speak about our work and from individuals who attend organised events. It can also be demonstrated through an increase in the number of people requesting to be added to our contact list and to receive the CMJ Ireland Newsletter. There is no harm or private benefit as a result of our purposes being carried out.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

Achievements and performance

2023 has seen the slow but steady recovery of our activities after the 'stagnation' of Covid 19 restrictions.

We began the year with the ongoing series held online of 'Behold The Man' hosted by Gwen Thompson, and this was well received by our supporters and others who logged on to the teaching sessions. We also continued the teaching sessions with a series entitled 'Exploring the Richness of Hebrew Biblical Roots' by Judy Czapski which continues to develop our aim of teaching on the Biblical Roots of the Christian Faith.

Our Spring Conference in April featured Gwen Thompson again as she related her experiences and learning from the time she spent in Israel working with CMJ in Jerusalem.

This year CMJ celebrated 200 years of the work in Israel and we hosted a tour by the historian and writer Kelvin Crombie which included speaking at various events in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland and researching historical links with Field Marshall Montgomery who was raised in Donegal.

We continue to hold monthly prayer meetings online, undertake speaking engagements and carry out Passover demonstrations. We also exhibited again at the Bangor Worldwide Mission convention as in previous years.

The horrific events of October 7th in Israel prompted a response from CMJ Ireland as we sought to provide much needed financial and practical support through CMJ's 'Mercy Fund' to those impacted by this event and that is ongoing.

Our Autumn Conference was held in November where we were able to receive video updates from the staff of CMJ Israel about the ongoing work there. This was followed by our AGM where the new Chair, Rev Billy Holmes, was elected and the Committee agreeing to serve for a further term.

Financial and prayer commitment from our faithful supporters continues to be strong and for this we are extremely grateful as it enables the ministry to continue to support the work both in Northern Ireland and Israel as the need arises.

Financial review

Total income for the year was £97,775 (2022: £16,449) and total expenditure was £36,573 (2022: £11,131). Donations of £31,060 (2022: £5,000) were made in the year. Total reserves at 31 December 2023 amounted to £240,941.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

Structure, governance and management

CMJ Ireland was founded in 1810 and is governed by its constitution. There are two sections of the Society, a Northern section and a Southern section. Each section of the Society elects, from its membership a Committee to manage its affairs, CMJ Ireland (Northern Committee) and CMJ Ireland (Southern Committee) and each Committee appoints certain of its members to a General Committee of the Society. The Southern Committee is currently in abeyance.

1. The Northern Committee achieved registered charitable status in 2016. It is currently managed and run by the trustees as stated above - all volunteers.

An annual AGM provides accountability to supporters and allows for changes in committee. We have a membership voting scheme, monthly committee and prayer meetings and send a quarterly newsletter to supporters.

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Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and 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 statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

31 Oct 2024

Approved by the trustees of the charity on and signed on its behalf by:

Patricia Davidson
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Patricia Davidson
Secretary and trustee