

EVERY NATION MINISTRIES BELFAST
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
(INCORPORATING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

The Trustees (who are the charitable company's Directors for the purposes of company law) have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year.

Objects of the charity

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 22 October 2014 and was registered as a charity on 11 May 2015. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The objects of the charity, as set out in the governing document, can be summarised as being:

- a) to advance the Christian faith in Belfast, Northern Ireland and throughout the world
- b) to relieve persons in need or hardship in Belfast, Northern Ireland and throughout the world

The charity seeks to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by being a community and internationally focused church in Belfast. In planning the activities the Trustees have had regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Governance

Responsibility for setting policy and for determining the parameters within which the charity should operate rests with the trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity. Responsibility for the day to day operation of the charity has been delegated to a leadership team led by Johann Vizagie. New trustees are recruited and appointed by the existing trustees, by a majority vote.

Review of Activities

Every Nation Ministries Belfast is centred around developing, serving, and bringing together communities from Belfast and the nations. Our values as a church continue to be to love God and love people well.

Sunday / weekly services

We have continued to see a steady growth in our congregation membership with Sunday attendees up from around average 110 people on a Sunday to approximately 140 members including children by the end of 2023.

Community Outreach and World Missions

Our EN Belfast missions team had the opportunity to visit the Ukraine in May 2023 to serve many refugees and families in the most vulnerable time during the ongoing war in Ukraine. Our team managed to provide and bring some much needed support to people in Ukraine. As a team and church we provided humanitarian aid, relief and emotional support. As a team and church we managed to raise £5,929 for our Ukraine mission trip to support this relief and mission work.

Danica went on a missions trip in October to Utrecht in the Netherlands to reach students and the community.

Our Global Café outreach continues to feed, serve and welcome many new newcomers to Belfast. We also received a generous grant of £2,391 to support our global café programme with some practical food and toiletries and bus tickets and to host outreach events and family fun days at church for some refugees and newcomers to Belfast.

Israel Study Tour

There was no study tour to Israel this year but we did start to make plans for a tour in 2024 and we received money from people who wanted to go. Unfortunately, due to the current turmoil in that region, we have decided to postpone the tour and nearly all of the money has now been returned.

Campus Ministry

As a ministry we are continuing to reach the next generation of leaders on the University campuses of Belfast through leadership development through our one to one discipleship courses and life coaching that we offer to students, by equipping the next generation of leaders on campus. In June we sent one of our campus leaders to Marseille to be equipped in campus ministry by our campus ministry team in Europe and Ireland.

Leadership Equipping

During the year we sent four of our leaders (Johann, Danica, Brian and Liam) to Manchester to attend a EN Western European leadership summit and retreat to further their leadership development and theological training. We also hosted two discipleship and leadership development courses for members to help them in their growth. In September we had the opportunity to send Brian, Danica and Johann with two core leaders and four other congregation members who raised their own funds to represent our church at our world conference in Cape Town, South Africa. The purpose of the conference was to receive some valuable equipping and to also network, plan, build and connect with many of our global leaders from over 70 nations that attended over 3 days.

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Staff / employment

During the year we had three employees. Johann Vizagie who is one of the Senior Pastors, Brian O'Neill who is our worship and associate Pastor and Christan Charleman who led our campus ministry until she left at the end of December 22. However we could not operate without our team of volunteers, which includes Andrea Vizaige who is the other senior pastor, and Danica O'Neill who is our administrator and also oversees our Global Café outreach among refugees.

Leadership, staff and oversight:

The ministry is led by our Senior Pastors Johann & Andrea Vizagie and Associate Pastor Brain O'Neill who serve the ministry full time.

The ministry partners with Every Nation Ministries across the globe and particularly in Europe. Every Nation Europe provides advice, accountability and leadership oversight to us on day to day operations as a ministry and charity. We also received leadership development courses to help us grow as an organisation and ministry in various areas of leadership and as a church.

Financial Review

We are thankful for the generosity of our members. It reflects a culture of generosity in the church to serve our community and world missions.

During the year the charity's income decreased by £5,000 to £153,000, and expenditure decreased by £18,000 to £140,000. As a result the charity has reported a surplus this year of £13,000 (2022: a deficit of £37) and net assets increased by £13,000 to £17,500. This comprised cash of £38,000 less other net current liabilities of £20,500.

This year, due to the generosity of our members, voluntary increased by £10,000 but we did not have a study tour to Israel this year (for which the income last year was £15,000) and so overall income has fallen by £5,000. Due to changes in staffing our staff costs fell by £15,000 and we saved £16,000 because there was no study tour to Israel this year. However we spent an extra £13,000 on a variety of ministry related activities following the easing of pandemic restrictions and to support the growth of the church. Therefore the overall increase in expenditure was £18,000.

Reserves Policy & Going Concern

The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £10,000, which equates to about two months of unrestricted expenditure, so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. The charity's free reserves did improve during the year and the charity ended the year with unrestricted cash of £2,500. This is still below the target set by the trustees and the trustees will be seeking to add to unrestricted cash each financial year until the target has been achieved. The trustees continue to monitor income and expenditure closely and they are satisfied that the charity can continue to operate for at least the next twelve months. Should the need arise, the trustees are confident that the charity's supporters would provide any funding that the charity might require to continue operating.

Risk Statement

Trustees regularly review the safeguarding policy to ensure compliance with safeguarding legislation and requirements. The trustees manage risks on a continuing basis and will be taking steps to strengthen these measures in light of increased attendance.

Responsibilities of trustees under company law

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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.

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Approval

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Hilary Perry
Hilary Perry (Jul 17, 2024 22:27 GMT+1)

Hilary Perry

Date: Jul 17, 2024