

Lisburn Christian Fellowship

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2018

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2018. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To advance and strengthen Christianity in the area of Lisburn and elsewhere by carrying out the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 28: 18-20) by:

- (a) Conducting public meetings for Bible Study, prayer, praise and worship of God;
- (b) Building up, supporting and assisting established Christian Churches in the area of Lisburn and elsewhere by whatever means possible;
- (c) Raising up a Body of people who will live out their lives in a way that will bring glory to God;
- (d) Sending persons out to establish or assist other works in other places, both in this country and abroad, as the occasion arises; and
- (e) Serving the people in the area of Lisburn and elsewhere in order to meet their spiritual and temporal needs to the glory of God.

Lisburn Christian Fellowship

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary main activities undertaken for the public benefit

As the principles of Christianity are taught, members are more likely to become better citizens, volunteering and engaging with others and the wider community, providing friendship and support. Children, young people and adults benefit demonstrated through activities offered to the community. We do not think there is any harm from this purpose. The benefit is for members of our church and members of the public who access our activities.

We give support in overseas locations by means of visits, financial support and involvement in projects. Apart from specific Members Meetings, our activities are open to the public. Conducting public meetings for bible teaching, prayer, praise and the worship of God. The public benefit includes opportunity for spiritual experience and growth in the Christian faith helping folk overcome fears and anxieties, receive and give support in life's challenges, helping the ill and giving general support. In addition, meetings give a sense of belonging and forming friendships, demonstrated by members' and visitors active participation in Sunday services, prayer and other events. Feedback shows the outworking of faith through voluntary work, support for the ill and a sense of belonging. We do not think that harm comes to the public from these activities. The benefits are for church members and to visitors who attend our events. A private benefit could be that Individuals are supported and helped.

Building up, supporting and assisting established Christian churches in the area of Lisburn and elsewhere by whatever means possible. The public benefit of Christian unity, reducing barriers to mutual support and the utilisation of shared skills. We do not consider there is any harm from these activities. This purpose benefits the wider church and the general public. In relation to private benefit, participants have opportunity to work and serve in teams.

Raising up a body of people who will live out their lives in a way that will bring glory to God. People benefit by becoming better citizens more aware of the needs of others, demonstrable by members involvement in charitable work, including overseas.

We encourage service in the local community and beyond. We cannot see how this purpose would be harmful. The benefit is for members of the local church, the wider church and those served by us. A private benefit could be the development of members' life/interpersonal skills.

Sending persons out to establish or assist other works in other places, both in this country and elsewhere as the occasion arises. There is benefit in the fulfilment of callings for individuals who engage in this work, demonstrated by positive feedback from missionaries and our partners. In addition local members have found an outlet for service and support. There could be possible effects of travel or exposure to disease. This primarily benefits those who have gone out from our church and those they work with. The development of life skills could be a private benefit.

Serving the people of Lisburn and elsewhere in order to meet their spiritual and temporal needs to the glory of God. The local and wider community benefit from the advice, help, practical support and care offered through our church. This provides a social and spiritual outlet for church members to express their faith and Christian values. Continuing high attendance numbers at activities, and good feedback, is evidence that the stated benefit is being realised. We do not think there is any harm from this purpose and it is of benefit to members of the public who wish to take advantage of our activities. Private benefit could be the formation of friendships with non- church members and the use and development of personal skills.

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Lisburn Christian Fellowship

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

What LCF does

We hold regular Sunday morning meetings for worship, Bible study and prayer, including Kids church and Youth church. We have regular prayer events, small groups for fellowship and prayer, regular praise events and a mission prayer meeting.

We hold a weekly children's 'Popcorn' event. For youth there is a "Connect" youth club plus a youth cell and for adults, a men's "Band of Brothers" group and ladies 'Thrive' activity. We also encourage attendance at our adult small groups.

Locally, in Lisburn we are active members of the Lisburn City Centre Churches, who meet for fellowship and prayer and to organise inter-church activities. We give financial and practical support to the inter-church CAP centre in Lisburn which provides help to those in debt. Furthermore, we partner with other churches in their public outreach and in inter-church prayer projects. We have a link with the Hill Street Residents Group and with them have organised a number of events for the folk who live in Hill Street estate.

We have a commitment to mission and support through prayer, communication, giving and visiting. We support a Christian centre in Co. Mayo; a church in Serbia; an outreach in Gran Canaria and a member who is currently part of an outreach in the Pacific Islands. We are currently actively developing links with workers in East Africa. We also have contact with Christians in Nigeria and have a partnership with a church in Willesden Green, London.

Summary of main achievements of LCF during the year

- We supported the families of 2 of our members who passed away this year.
- We joined the Inter-church Walk of Witness on Good Friday and also participated in the monthly prayers for our City as well as meeting together regularly with other City Centre churches.
- We trained and took a team to visit a church in Sombor, Serbia.
- We also took a team to Mayo to work with children and young people in partnership with local Mayo churches.
- We worked with the Hill Street Residents Group supporting their summer event and providing kids activities for one week plus carol-singing at Christmas.
- We held "Days of Refreshing" to encourage the spiritual refreshment of participants.

Trustees Report 2017/18

- We continued to meet regularly for Worship, Bible Study and Prayer and followed studies primarily in the book of 1 Corinthians.
- We continued to support the inter-church Lisburn Foodbank and Christians against Poverty.
- We held regular events for men and women, giving opportunity for mutual support and the development of friendships.
- We supported those who had lost loved ones this year.
- We continued to support those on mission including praying for them, giving financially, keeping members informed and visiting them. We visited Mayo, Serbia and Gran Canaria, with teams going to Mayo and Serbia.
- We carried on our "Popcorn" kids club and also youth activities on Sundays and during the week.
- We engaged in regular prayer for our church, city and nation.
- We continued to provide support for members through regular home group meetings.

Lisburn Christian Fellowship

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

LCF's policy on reserves

The Trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Considering the variable income and fixed commitments, the review concluded that to allow the charity to be managed effectively and to provide a buffer for allowing uninterrupted services, a general reserve equating to approximately three months of unrestricted fund expenditure should be maintained.

Church loan

The church is paying off a loan of £40k over 5 years from November 2015. The balance at 31 March 2018 was £6,679.

Other financial details

The church's principal source of funds is by donation from the church membership through Sunday offerings, standing orders, and special appeals for building and repair funds, missions etc.

Expenditure supports the key objectives of the charity by employing a church leader to provide spiritual leadership and pastoral support, by maintaining a building for the purposes of public meetings, providing financial support for the delivery of services provided for members and for people in Lisburn and elsewhere and providing regular financial support for persons sent out to establish or assist other works in other places, both in this country and further afield.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Trustee selection methods

- Trustees must agree with the Statement of Faith set out in Part II of the Schedule.
- A new Trustee or Trustees shall be appointed at any time by a two-thirds majority of the surviving Trustees and such appointment or appointments shall be set in motion at the first meeting of the Trustees following upon the number of Trustees falling below four.
- It shall be lawful for any Trustee voluntarily to retire on giving one calendar month's previous notice in writing to the other Trustees or the Secretary of the Trust.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

101964

Principal address

2 Queens Road
Lisburn
Co. Antrim
BT27 4TZ

Trustees

Mr Mark Gillespie
Mr Robert Hanna Mairs
Ms Janette McKnight
Mrs Eleanor Murdock
Mr Frederick Arthur Edward Orr
Mrs Angela Toal

Lisburn Christian Fellowship

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2018**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent examiner

John McCleary FCA
McCleary & Company Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Ratheane House
32 Hillsborough Road
Lisburn
Co. Antrim
BT28 1AQ

Bankers

Ulster Bank Limited
18 Bow Street
Lisburn
Co. Antrim
BT28 1BN

Solicitors

F A Edward Orr
9A Church Square
Banbridge
BT32 4AS

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25 November 2018 and signed on its behalf by:



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Mr Mark Gillespie - Trustee