

Aim and Purposes

Carrickfergus Church (CCC) exists to provide worship services and be embedded in the community of Carrickfergus. It has the responsibility of working with Pastor James Clarke and designated Leaders in promoting the work of the church and maintaining associated buildings.

Objectives and Activities

CCC is committed to including whoever would like to join them in worship services where worship, preaching, prayer and support are practised weekly.

CCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we aim to include people to live out their faith as part of our church by the following activities.

Our activities include but are not limited to:

- Sunday services open to all and free of charge with crèche and kid's facilities provided for all children up to the end of their Primary School education.
- We run midweek Connect groups for adults and youth.
- Food collections for distribution at seasonal times for those in need.
- Missionary offering to support local and worldwide missionaries
- Music Academy - connects and builds relationships with other local musicians and creatives both inside and outside of the church. We aim to share resources, host guest musicians and worship leaders
- Seasonal events - Community Christmas Tree, Easter week of family activities, Sports Sunday

Carrickfergus Community Church is a member of Evangelical Alliance, International Gospel Outreach and Associated Ministers Fellowship which enables us to be part of a greater work both in our area and worldwide.

All our activities are advertised on our website and social media and are open to all in the community.

Achievements and Performance

Pastors and Leaders

During 2023; Pastor James Clarke led the church including the highlights and challenges of maintaining the new building opening and Sunday Services with a growing congregation.

Worship and Prayer

Worship and prayer remain a focal point during our church services and day to day activities. Our worship is led by Ian McKenzie and a team of 10 musicians, vocalists, sound technicians and av technicians.

The Church Building

The church building remains in good working order with some work still to be completed in the carpark as finances allow.

The Outreach Centre

Community groups continued meeting in the Open Door Centre and we saw most groups grow to capacity; participants report the need and relevance of the groups.

Pastoral Care

The leadership team remains in touch with congregation members via Connect groups, messaging and one to one meetings.

Mission and Evangelism

Our main mission work is run via our outreach charity The Open Door Centre which houses weekly activities and events for our community. It has its own charitable status and more details can be found in its own annual report.

We believe in supporting local and international missionaries through financial giving and practical efforts. Our monthly missionary collection supports Helping Hands and Carrickfergus BabyBank; it also supports other local works as and when necessary. In 2023, we held special services for the missionaries in both organisations to share their work and to receive special collections.

Teams

We would like to thank everyone who works so hard to make our church an energetic and vibrant community of faith. We would like to mention all the leaders who give their time freely to benefit both the smooth running of programs and the pastoral care of others. Their invaluable contribution of time and effort keeps the church operational.

Financial Review

Reserves, Structure, governance and management information are contained in the Independent Examiners Report.