

**MALONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONGREGATION OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Trustees Annual Report  
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104270)**

**MALONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Malone congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
452 Lisburn Road  
Belfast BT9 6GT

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104270)

**CHARITY TRUSTEES**

The Charity Trustees who served during the year or who were trustees at the date of this report were the ruling Elders of Malone.

Mary Angus	Alan Scott
Denis Annett	Elizabeth Scott
David Dunwoody	Nigel Sands
Noel McQuitty	John Tate
Pat Gray	Sue Tate
Mervyn Morrow	Keith Walsh
Debbie McDowell	Jill Gilpin
John Kenny	Gillian Brown
John McKeown	Carolyn McGrath

**PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS**

Minister	Rev K Viner
Clerk of Session	Mr J Tate
Treasurer	Mrs L Kenny

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Chris Fleming FCA  
Allen Fleming  
Old Bank House  
161-163 Upper Lisburn Road  
Belfast  
BT10 0LJ

**BANKERS**

Danske Bank  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast  
BT1 6JS

**SOLICITORS**

John McKee Solicitors  
The Linenhall  
32-38 Linenhall Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8BG

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**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

**STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

**The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Session has delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

The Kirk Session consists of the ordained minister and the ruling elders of the congregation. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the minister in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk Session are held monthly (except July and August)

To be chosen for the office of the eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member and a regular attendant on its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office can be either by the congregation or by the Kirk Session.

**Presbytery**

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Malone Presbyterian Church congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the South Belfast Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The membership of the Presbytery consists mainly of the active ministers of congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly, ministers who have retired from active duty and an elder appointed by the Kirk Session of the congregation.

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**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

**The General Assembly**

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

**DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

Malone Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregations mission purposes is

Rooted and grounded in love

The setting of Malone offers us a picture to illustrate Paul's description of being rooted and grounded in God's love. Our church building is surrounded by mature trees that offer an oasis at a busy city junction. It is our prayer that, like the mature trees at Malone, everyone in the Church Family at Malone are rooted and grounded in God's love wherever we may be in life, so we can enjoy or at times withstand, the seasons of life.

We recognise that all that we are and all that we do finds its perfection and fullness in God's love - an extravagant, generous, unconditional, sacrificial and redeeming love. A love that we discover in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. When we are rooted and grounded in God's love then we are able to demonstrate that love more fully in all we say and do.

Living and growing together

Malone is a congregation of people who are a Church Family and are made up of all ages and from different backgrounds but we have one thing in common - we all want to know

## **MALONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND**

### **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

God more and become more like Jesus. We know this is not easy, but we are trying to live and grow together in God's love. We recognise we need the Holy Spirit to give us the power to do this - this is the Spirit of peace and unity.

We live in a busy and sometimes complex culture and society so we also recognise we need Jesus every day. Jesus taught us to love God with all our heart, our soul, our mind and our strength, and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Even more so Jesus' command to love our enemies (Luke 6). As we worship and serve God here at the junction of the Lisburn Road, Balmoral Avenue and Stockmans Lane, and in many different places across Belfast, the UK, and indeed the world, and through our professions, family connections and travels, we seek to show others the love of God so they would join us in living and growing together with Jesus.

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision as a family of God's people by being:

- A Covenant Community: where our relationships are rooted in the promises of God by living faithfully toward him and toward one another
- An Intergenerational Community: where adults intentionally take the lead to engage with, encourage and nurture younger members to maturity in Christ.
- An Outward looking Community: where we want the blessings of God that belong to us in the gospel to become blessings for others beyond the bounds of our community.
- As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, we believe that the Bible is the supreme authority over all we do, and that the Westminster Confession of Faith, along with the Larger and Shorter Catechisms set out what we understand the Bible teaches on key matters of Christian faith and practice.

### **ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper was observed on 5 occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation holds regular bible study meetings and has a wide range of organisations including

- Sunday School (JAM)
- Connect
- Refuge (YF)
- Saturday Night Live (Youth Club)
- Babies & Tots
- 7.30 Prayer Group
- Small Groups
- Presbyterian Women

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### **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

- Koinonia Coffee Morning
- Bowling Club
- Tennis Club
- Badminton Club
- A Wee Yarn

### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

#### **Worship and prayer**

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11am.

As well as our regular services during the year we gave thanks for faithful services and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

At 31 December 2023 there were 225 communicant members and 164 families connected with the congregations.

The average week attendance at morning worship is 130.

#### **Pastoral care**

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the minister, elders or by one of the congregation's pastoral visitors.

#### **Mission and outreach**

At a local level the congregation supports Storehouse, International Meeting Point, The Presbyterian Children's Society and Presbyterian World Development Appeal. The Presbyterian Women raise money and support the Mission of PCI centrally and the Children's ministry regularly support the Charity 'Stand by Me'. We also support local schools by leading assemblies and contributing to their RSE curriculum. The congregation supports the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally

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### **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assists with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership, and pastoral care.

#### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

#### **General Assembly**

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

#### **Property**

Church property consists of the church sanctuary, halls and manse.

#### **Organisations**

- Sunday School (JAM) and crèche. Children aged 0-11 meet on a Sunday morning during the Church service.
- Connect: Meet for food and fellowship on Sunday morning and is open to year 8+.
- Refuge (YF): Youth fellowship programme for year 8 and above held on a Sunday evening.
- Saturday Night Live: for P6 and above. Meeting on a Saturday night.
- Babies & Tots: Meet on Monday Mornings during term time.
- Bowling Club: Meet on Thursday Evenings over the winter months.
- Koinoina Coffee Morning: Meet on a Tuesday for friendship and fellowship.
- Presbyterian Women: Meet on the first and third Mondays between September and May
- 7.30 Prayer Group meets every Thursday morning
- Small Groups meet fortnightly for study and prayer
- Choir: Rehearsals held on Thursday evening in preparation for Sunday mornings.
- Tennis Club: Meet Saturday afternoon, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening.
- Badminton Club: Ladies, meet Wednesday afternoon from October to April. Mixed, Wednesday evening and Saturday afternoon.
- A Wee Yarn meets fortnightly with the purpose of developing skills, making crafts for charity and providing friendship.

**MALONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

**Volunteers**

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

**PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT**

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known using noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The benefits are demonstrated through regular evaluation of the services and informal and ad-hoc feedback from members, their families, and members of the public.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

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TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were 133 contributors during the year (103 in previous year, 2022] donating a total of £105,370 (£105,306 in previous year, 2022).

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £185,374 compared to £180,582 in the previous year.

Total expenditure was £180,889 (£177,590 in 2022).

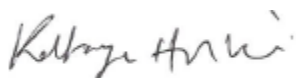
**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to prepare a receipts and payment account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

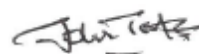
The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and signed on its behalf by



Rev K Viner

13<sup>th</sup> June 2024



J Tate

13<sup>th</sup> June 2024