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Lagan Valley Vineyard Church

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023. 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 2019).

Objectives and activities
Objectives and aims
We are a local church based in the City of Lisburn, we exist to bring the life of Jesus to every person and every part of Lisburn and the Lagan Valley region. We exist to see those people and places discover and live in the fullness of God's design and destiny for them, joining God in making all things new. Our objects of LVV are for public benefit and are restricted to the following:

a) to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs (attached as a schedule to the Articles of Association) including but not by way of limitation through the planting of other Vineyard churches in such ways in Lisburn and such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as Trustees from time to time think fit;

b) to further Christian education in such parts of Lisburn, the United Kingdom and the world as Trustees may from time to time think fit;

c) to relieve sickness, financial hardship, and poverty and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling, training in life skills and support in such parts of Lisburn, the United Kingdom or the world as Trustees may from time to time think fit; and

d) to further or benefit the residents of Lisburn and the surrounding area without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education, foster cross community partnerships and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation leisure time occupations with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

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Objectives and activities
Significant activities

From September 2022 to June 2023 we began a training journey with our staff team to become "trauma informed", this was facilitated by two qualified practitioners from "connected for life". This training was hugely beneficial in raising awareness, skills and to help our staff team not just care for others but critically to look after themselves in dealing with and supporting vulnerable people and difficult individual, family and community issues.

October 2022 was the church's tenth anniversary, we ran a weekend celebration called "Awaken" this was a hugely significant time for the whole church community to celebrate, remember and dream about the future. Following Awaken we invited the church to give financially towards the refurbishment and fit out of the 12,000 square foot space adjacent to our current building. We exceeded our target and further developed the designs for the upstairs space. Having raised the funds we then submitted a planning application to the Planning Service to extend our current venue to incorporate the new space and hope to begin the works as soon as the relevant statutory permissions have been granted.

Sunday attendance continued to grow through the year and we undertook a staff reorganisation to better serve the mission and ministry of the church. In August 2023 we held a family meeting to share the new structure with the wider body of the church. Our normal church ministry of small groups, acute pastoral care, weddings and funerals continued as normal this year.

Tribes are the place we gather around the table to fellowship through feasting, read the ancient scriptures aloud, pray together and to practice the sacrament of communion through the breaking of bread and the drinking of the cup. The whole time being open to the work of the Spirit. There are a range of core groups that meet who follow centrally suggested teaching and discussion points based on the previous Sunday message but also interest groups (Marriage Course, Fostering & Adoption, Justice, Prayer, Board Games). For the year ended 31 August 2023 we had 26 different Tribe groups running which had over 273 people connecting and growing their faith within them. We also has 4 Tribes for young people with 30 people attending during the year.

Our Alpha school's ministry continued to grow from strength to strength with approximately 500 students involved across 4 local schools. We therefore recognised that the growing demands of the schools work could not be sustained by our youth pastor so in February 2023 we employed a part time schools coordinator to support. It has been a real highlight of the church's ministry over the last couple of years releasing 28 volunteers from across the church into schools across the region several times a week.

Our compassion ministry continues to develop its work with two focus periods of work of Love Lagan Valley at Christmas and in the summer. Both projects allow us to partner with multiple agencies across the city and wider region, including the local council and PSNI - our annual Christmas partners lunch was a real highlight. We hosted 2 CAP (Christians Against Poverty) courses with 24 people and 10 volunteers. We also trained 4 new CAP coaches and began giving monthly to CAP Debt Lisburn. Emma Wilson was appointed as the Trustee sponsor of CAP activities.

Our All-Nations programme hosted a monthly shared meal which averaged 60 people per meal from October 2022 to August 2023. There were over 100 people on the All-Nations register, including 9 different languages. For the year over 600 meals were provided and 90 people were taken to the beach in August 2023 as part of a summer trip. Successful fundraising activity covered the costs of all these activities. We also continue to collect and donate to a local food bank and on average we referred one person every 10 days to the food bank for food support, money advice or other services.

The Nua festival held its second annual festival in June with over 1,500 in attendance, this continues to be a partnership between LVV, Emmanuel Church and Centre 61 in Newcastle. The festival was a huge success and we are very much looking forward to next year's festival.

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Lagan Valley Vineyard Church

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Objectives and activities
Public benefit
The Charity's purposes for the public benefit are as follows:

The worship services are free of charge and open to all. The promotion of family stability and well-being, and increased ability to contribute positively to society for those attending. Provide support and guidance to those activities of its members that seek to promote, in Lisburn and surrounding areas, an understanding of the Christian beliefs as set out in the church's basis of faith, through practical expression of Christian beliefs and ideals in the local community.

Provide support and guidance to those activities of its members that seek to further Christian education, in Lisburn and surrounding areas, an understanding of the Christian beliefs as set out in the church's basis of faith, through practical teaching of Christian beliefs and ideals in the local community. The benefit of such support and guidance is to enable those members to be better able to serve in the local community.

Carry out acts of social concern to benefit persons in Lisburn and the surrounding areas. The church runs activities promoting good financial management to alleviate financial hardship and poverty which then further signposts individuals to receive actual support as well as opportunities to participate in prayer to relieve sickness. Annual Christmas hamper food give aways and ongoing food provisions to those in need. Providing improved community relations, intercultural cohesion, and an increase in understanding of cross cultural and multi-religious views creating a common ground and sense of belonging through our community initiatives and our weekly Sunday Celebrations as well as hosting specific multi-cultural events. The benefit of such support and guidance is to enable those members to be better able to serve in the local community.

Provide support and guidance to those activities of its members that seek to promote, in Lisburn and surrounding areas. We offer early intervention low level capacity building through befriending, mentoring and short term courses. Partnering with other charities and statutory bodies to provide more joined up thinking and service provision to those in need be that financial, health or relational. All activities discussed above are open to the public without discrimination and aimed mainly within Lisburn and the greater surrounding areas though some elements listed above have worldwide activities.

All acts are completely voluntary. Activities are monitored for growth in participation and have opportunities for feedback from members. There is a potential harm of creating a cycle of dependency in relieving financial hardship directly through gifts, however this does not outweigh the public benefit as we also provide additional services for longer term life skills to educate through these situations. Other than this we would state that there is no harm pr possibility of harm that could come from the benefits listed. The only private benefit to trustees may arise from our programme of ongoing training in good governance, finance etc.

The Charities beneficiaries are:

1. General Public
2. Pre-school (2.5-5 YEAR OLDS)
3. Children (5 years – 10yrs)
4. Youth (11-25 YEAR OLDS)
5. Parents
6. Unemployed/ Low Income
7. Adult Training
8. Women
9. Volunteers
10. Men
11. Ethnic Minorities

Financial review
Financial position
The results are set out on pages 9 to 12. Total income for the year was £1,048,413, comprising of restricted funds of £569,580 and unrestricted funds of £478,833. The main source of unrestricted funds was generated through general donations whereas the main source of restricted funds was generated through donations to our building project. Total expenditure for the year amounted to £530,205 meaning the total net income amounted to £518,208, of which, £457,783 was unrestricted.

At the end of the period the Charitable Company has £780,081 cash at bank, of which £142,000 was unrestricted. It is the aim of the Trustees, if possible, to maintain an unrestricted cash reserve equivalent to that of two months expenditure. The Charitable Company plans to continue its activities in forthcoming years.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Financial review
Going concern

The Board of Trustees meet regularly throughout the year, and by careful analysis of management accounts considers if there are any major risks to the future and to ensure that the Charitable Company is a going concern. The Board of Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charitable Company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Charitable Company and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate any exposure, for example, internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures outlined in our Finance Policy including authorisations for payments and segregation of duties. The Board of Trustees have considered the following:

- Can the charitable company continue its core activities for the next 12 months?
- Is there adequate management information to enable good decision-making?
- Are there sufficient cash flow to fund core activities?
- Are there sufficient unrestricted cash reserves available if general donations significantly reduce?

The board of trustees have taken into consideration all available information and are comfortable that the charitable company can continue as a going concern. The following factors have supported this assessment, and coming to this conclusion:

- There has been a small but steady increase in general giving across the year, even when excluding significant one-off unrestricted donations. Total income for the year was £1,048,413, comprising of restricted funds of £569,580 and unrestricted funds of £478,833.
- We met our fundraising target for the future building project which included additional contingency funding in case of price rises.
- A healthy cash balance has been maintained throughout the year. At the end of the period the charitable company has £780,081 cash at bank, of which £142,000 was unrestricted. It is the aim of the trustees, if possible, to maintain an unrestricted cash reserve equivalent to that of two months expenditure.
- The charitable company has no dependence on public sector funding.
- The charitable company has no bank loans or other long-term liabilities.
- Policies and procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, and visitors.

The board of trustees are aware of no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Future plans

Our plan is to continually seek to move forward with the objectives we have set out. Alongside the continued growth of our ministries and mission, the major piece of work for the next year will be the refurbishment of the extension. We hope to begin that work by Christmas and have it completed by the summer. We have also been exploring a partnership with Bryson Care's education programme being based in the new space.

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Lagan Valley Vineyard Church

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Structure, governance and management
Governing document
Lagan Valley Vineyard (LVV) is a registered Charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI) and is governed by its Articles of Association.

- Registered and approved with the Charity Commission Northern Ireland under NIC10475.
- Registered and approved by Companies House as a private limited company under number: NI619487.

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of Company law and who served during the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

- Mr JM Wilkinson
- Mr ARJ Masters
- Mrs E Wilson
- Mr AP Wilson
- Mrs RH Major
- Mr SJ Bradley (resigned 16 June 2023)
- Mr SD Tiernan (resigned 23 August 2023)
- Mrs HR Lewis (appointed 29 February 2024)

The board of trustees meet regularly throughout the year, and by careful analysis of management accounts considers if there are any major risks to the future and to ensure that the charitable company is a going concern. The board of trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charitable company and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate any exposure, for example, internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures outlined in our finance policy including authorisations for payments and segregation of duties. Policies and procedures are also in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, and visitors. These are reviewed periodically (at least annually) to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the charitable company.

Regarding the appointment of trustees, suitable candidates are considered on the basis of their skills, experience and involvement with the church. These candidates are discussed and agreed at a board meeting in advance of being invited to join. New Trustees receive appropriate induction and relevant training.

Following a training webinar hosted by Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action (NICVA) on Good Governance and Charity Regulation for Faith Organisations, the board of trustees agreed to complete the Code of Good Governance Health Check - this was undertaken and completed on 28 June 2023 during a regular board meeting. This step-by-step assessment provided a practical and evidence-based way to encourage and facilitate better governance and accountability on an ongoing basis. This health check helped identify areas where we wanted to make changes or improvements.

Reference and administrative details
Registered Company number
NI619487 (Northern Ireland)

Registered Charity number
104751

Registered office
39 Church Street
Ballynahinch
Down
BT24 8AF

Trustees
Mrs H R Lewis (appointed 29 February 2024)
Mrs R H Major
A R J Masters
J M Wilkinson
Mrs E Wilson
A P Wilson

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Lagan Valley Vineyard Church

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Reference and administrative details
Auditors
Moore (N.I.) LLP
Donegall House
7 Donegall Square North
Belfast
Northern Ireland
BT1 5GB

Solicitors
McFarland Graham McComb Solicitors
41-43 Batchelors Walk
Lisburn
BT28 1XN

Accountants
Ivan Shannon & Co
39 Church Street
Ballynahinch
BT24 8AF

Statement of trustees' responsibilities
The trustees (who are also the directors of Lagan Valley Vineyard Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors
The auditors, Moore (N.I.) LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28 June 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:
J M Wilkinson
A868284AFAC68425...
J M Wilkinson - Trustee