

**DRUMINNIS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
(NIC105026)**

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Druminnis Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
146 Hamiltonsbawn Road
Armagh
BT60 1LY

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105026)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Rev. Samuel Finlay
Mr. Joseph Ronald Black
Mr. Trevor James Edgar
Mr. Reuben Samuel Thomas Lucas
Mr. William Isaac Dunne

Mr. James Barrett Megaw
Mr. William Noel McKee
Mr. Johnston Trevor Reid
Mr. Samuel Joseph Bingham

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister
Clerk of Session
Treasurer

Rev. Samuel Finlay
Mr. Joseph Ronald Black
Mr. Joseph Ronald Black

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Mrs Gail Thompson
7 Bawn Manor
Hamiltonsbawn
Armagh
BT60 1LT

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BANKERS

Ulster Bank Ltd
7 Upper English Street
Armagh
BT61 7BL

SOLICITORS

Maurice R.J. Kempton
23 College Street
Armagh
BT61 9BT

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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 Sessions 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 congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice in each year or as appropriate.

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. Members are elected if they obtain two-thirds of those who vote.

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. Druminnis congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Armagh 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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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

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion.

Druminnis congregation of the 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 congregation's mission is to Glorify God and enjoy him forever:-

- ❖ In Worship that is sincere, heartfelt and God-honouring
- ❖ In Preaching and Teaching that takes us into God's Word in an accessible, relevant and life transforming way
- ❖ In Fellowship that is Christ centred and practical as we support one another
- ❖ In Outreach that is compassionate, urgent and gospel clear as we serve our community and in mission to the ends of the earth

In Druminnis we do all these things in the prayerful hope that men, women, young people and children would put their trust in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord of their lives.

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ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several 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
- Boys' Brigade
- Youth Club
- Mothers and Toddlers (Chatterbox)
- Ladies' Group (Inspire)
- Mens' Group
- OWLS (Older, Wiser, Livelier, Seniors)
- Youth Fellowship

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 10.30 am (10.00 am during July & August). During the week the Bible Study provides an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the scriptures and for a time of prayer.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life at 5 Sacraments of Baptism. We also had 1 adult Baptism and gave thanks for faithful services and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

As of 31 December 2022, 144 members took communion at least once and 8 new communicants were admitted to the Lord's table. 138 families were connected with the congregation. The average weekly attendance at morning worship was 160.

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

Donations were made to several local and overseas charities including the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal, Royal British Legion Poppy Fund, Ukraine Crisis Appeal, Logos Ministries International, and the Presbyterian Children's Society.

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The congregation also 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 a 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 based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist 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 2022.

Property

The Church property remains in good order and no major repairs or refurbishment projects were required during the year.

Organisations

Sunday School and Bible Class

On return to face to face classes, an average of 40 -45 from age 3 – 16 met weekly on Sunday mornings

Chatterbox (Mums and Toddlers)

On return to face to face gatherings, our Mums and Toddlers group met on Tuesdays with approximately 35-40 infants and toddlers and their parents/minders. A team of volunteers provided activities and food for parents and children each week.

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Boys' Brigade

The three sections met on Thursday evenings from January 2022 onwards. Average attendance by section:

Anchor Boys - 24

Junior Section - 32

Company Section - 27

Youth Club

Friday night Secondary School age Youth Club took place from October onwards with a membership of around 18 young people. There were a wide range of activities in the Church Hall and in addition there were other occasional outings.

Youth Fellowship

Youth Fellowship met on Sunday nights fortnightly from September January 2022 onwards at which around 15 young people aged 11 – 15 explored Christian Faith in everyday life with games and supper each night.

Inspire

Our Women's group met monthly throughout the year for fellowship evenings which included guest speakers. There was an average attendance of around 22.

OWLS

Our Seniors met monthly this year for fellowship together and as well as a trip to the North coast they also organised a congregational social gathering to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III.

Midweek Bible Study

15-20 people met fortnightly on Wednesday evenings to study the bible together and pray for the life and work of the congregation.

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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 through the use of 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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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 donating a total of £70,455, compared to £63,409 in the previous year.

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £115,153, compared to £121,816 in the previous year. Total expenditure during the year was £107,069 compared to £125,230 in the previous year with our loan debt now being completely paid off.

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) 208 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 24th October 2022 and signed on its behalf by

Name: *SAM FINLAY*
Signature: *Sam Finlay*
Date: *24/10/23*

Name: *RONALD BLACK*
Signature: *Ronald Black*
Date: *24/10/23*