



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

**Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105185)**

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## **ANAHILT 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**

Anahilt Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
16 Windmill Road  
Hillsborough  
Co Down  
BT26 6LT

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105185)

### **CHARITY TRUSTEES**

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

Mrs Lesley Jayne Bartholomew

Mr Noel Graham

Mr Laurence Hooke

Mr Michael Robert Ramsey

Mr Paul Kennedy

Rev Laszlo Orban

### **PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS**

Minister

Rev. László Csongor Orbán BTh, MTh

Clerk of Session

Mr Laurence Hooke

Treasurer

Mr Noel Graham

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Miss Mechelle Law  
45 Tullynore Road  
Hillsborough  
BT26 6QE

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**ANAHILT CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

**BANKERS**

**Danske Bank**

**SOLICITORS**

**W.G Maginess & Son**

**68 Bow Street**

**Lisburn**

**BT28 1AL**

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## **ANAHILT CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND 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 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.

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. Anahilt congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Dromore 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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## **ANAHILT CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND 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**

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

Anahilt 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 purposes is currently under review by the Trustees. Under the guidance of its new minister who was appointed in November 2021, a new mission strategy fit for the life and work of Anahilt Presbyterian will be completed shortly.

### **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 three Sundays 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, worship and prayer meetings and has a wide range of organisations including:

- Bowls Club
  - The Ark
  - Girls' Brigade
  - PW
  - Youth Fellowship
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**ANAHILT CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

**Worship and Prayer**

The Congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 10:30am and also is served by a monthly evening service shared with Drumlough Presbyterian at 6.30pm (usually held at Drumlough's premises). Other special services are held and are advertised. The Midweek Bible Study (Wednesday 8pm, shared with Drumlough) provides an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the scriptures and for a time of prayer. Mission Partners also visit regularly at our Midweek.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life at Sacraments of Baptism, we conduct Marriage Services and give thanks for faithful service at Funeral Services and seek to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

At 31 December 2023 there were 106 communicant members and 103 families connected with the congregation. The average weekly attendance at morning worship is around 80.

**Pastoral care**

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

CD recordings of our services are delivered to members of our congregation who are unable to attend due to ill-health or age.

**Mission and outreach**

At a local level the congregation serves the community with our activities which are open to all. We also hold community events, connecting with and serving the community while raising funds.

Midweek mission evenings have guest speakers connected to various missions.

We supported global mission with other special offerings, including 10% of our harvest offering going to Tear Fund.

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## **ANAHILT CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

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 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 congregations in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The Congregation also contributes to the denominations annual World Development Appeal, Sunday School Project and any other special appeals.

### **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.

### **Property**

Property was maintained but no special projects undertaken

### **Organisations**

#### **The Ark**

The Ark is our children's ministry at Anahilt and meets every Sunday during Church.

#### **Bowling Club**

We meet every Friday at 7:00pm from the end of September through to Easter. We have around 18 members but are always looking more members of all ages. We play a lot of friendly matches with other local churches.

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**ANAHIT CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

**Girls' Brigade**

The GB meets on Wednesday nights. It is for Girls aged 3 to 18. Events for the year included Enrolment service, Annual display and Christmas Party and an annual outing is arranged for the girls one suitable for the younger section and one for the older section. The Girls all completed badge work during the year which covered various activities.

**Presbyterian Women**

Anahilt P.W. are a group of women who meet for fellowship and to support mission work. Various speakers from missions and /or activity leaders are invited each month

**Youth Fellowship**

This is an informal gathering for teens and student age from Drumlough & Anahilt congregations and friends not from our churches. Everyone is welcome. There are two leaders, one from each church.

**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.

**ANAHILT CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

**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.

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

**ANAHILT CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES  
ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Congregation's main source of income is through members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering and loose collection.

There were 103 recorded families contributing during the year donating a total of £55,647.

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £82,537.

Total expenditure was £70,756.

We are delighted that our income has been more than sufficient to cover the outgoings with a surplus available to allow us undertake updating projects.

**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 Congregations 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 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 and signed on its behalf by

Name *A Gibson*  
Date *19/11/24*

Name *Davene Hoole*  
Date *19/11/24*