

**SLOAN STREET LISBURN 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 (NIC105229)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

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

Sloan Street Lisburn Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
2C Sloan Street, Lisburn, Co. Antrim, BT27 5AG

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105229)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Rev Andrew Faulkner
Dr Brian Craig
Mr Kenneth Irvine
Mr Paul McCarroll
Mr James McDowell
Mr Nelson Small

Dr Ivan Wiggam
Mr Gary Wilson
Mr Clifford Morrison
Mr Alan Templeton
Mr Graeme White

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister
Clerk of Session
Treasurer

Rev Andrew Faulkner
Dr Brian Craig
Mr Paul McCarroll

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

McCleary & Company, Garvey Studios, 14 Longstone Street, LISBURN, Co. Antrim, BT28 1TP

BANKERS

Danske Bank, 62 – 66 Bow Street, LISBURN, Co. Antrim, BT28 1YS

SOLICITORS

Donaldson McConnell & Company, 8 – 10 Graham Gardens, Lisburn, BT28 1XE

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 on the third Monday of January, March, May, September and November.

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. Sloan Street Lisburn 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.

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, administrative 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.

Sloan Street Lisburn 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 Vision statement is: *Making and Growing Disciples of Jesus Christ.*

The Congregation aims to live out its Vision and Mission 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.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lord's 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 along with small home groups and has a wide range of organisations including:

- Treasure Seekers and Adventurers
- Going Deeper
- Mothers and Toddlers
- Girl's Brigade
- Badminton Club
- B.B. Old Boys
- Presbyterian Women
- Mixed Fellowship (Bowling) Club
- Boys' Brigade
- Tuesday Night Kids' Club

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11.00am and 6.00pm. During the week the Bible Study provides an opportunity for members to meet 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 conducted one marriage service and gave thanks for faithful services and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

At 31 December 2023 there were 211 communicant members and 237 families connected with the Congregation. The average weekly attendance at morning worship is 200 and 60 at evening worship.

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 the congregation's pastoral visitors.

Mission and Outreach

At a local level the congregation supports a number of members who serve in a range of mission agencies both at home and overseas. Regular updates and prayer requests are provided through the Mission Support Committee and missionaries are given the opportunity to provide personal updates whenever they are home on furlough.

In addition to our support for those from within the congregation actively involved in mission at home and overseas, 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 congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributes to the denomination's 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 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

Remedial repairs to Church property continued to be made when required throughout the year.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

Organisations

Our Sunday Children's programme, Adventurers for ages 3 – 5 and Treasure Seekers for ages 6 - 11 moved to an online presence and attracted an average of 20 children in the age range of 0 -11 where an attractive programme of teaching and learning was provided by our volunteer leaders. Sunday evenings, Going Deeper, a programme specifically aimed at those aged 12 – 18, also used the online facility when opportunities to share together and explore their faith and developing their spiritual well-being.

A new children's ministry was established in September 2023 – Tuesday Night Kids' Club for children of primary school age. This will act as an alternative to The Boys' Brigade and The Girls' Brigade ministry that has existed for over 70 years.

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.

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 146 contributors during the year (146 in previous year, 2022) donating a total of £165,101 (£152,170 in previous year, 2022).

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £445,893 compared to £264,268 in the previous year.

Total expenditure decreased from £219,921 to £190,695

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.

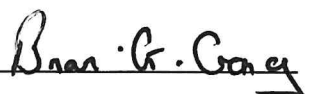
The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for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

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 31 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by

Signed 

Paul McCarroll

31 October 2024

Signed 

Dr Brian Craig

31 October 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SLOAN STREET LISBURN
CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND**

We report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages eleven to seventeen.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charities Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

Our examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

Our role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving us cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SLOAN STREET LISBURN
CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND (cont'd)**

Independent examiner's statement

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland; we have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



McCleary & Company Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Garvey Studios
14 Longstone Street
Lisburn
Co. Antrim
BT28 1TP

Date: 31 October 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2023


	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	158592	299893	-	458485	193648
Charitable activities	3	8712	16322	-	25034	56625
Other trading activities	4			-		-
Investment Income	5		15721	-	15721	14355
Other	6			-		-
Sale of Investments						
Sale of fixed assets						
Loans Received						
Total Receipts		167304	331936	-	499240	264628
Payments						
Raising funds	7	812			812	812
Charitable activities	8	168759	49514		218273	218425
Investment costs						
Other	9		684		684	684
Purchase of Investments						
Purchase of fixed assets						
Loan Repayments						-
Total Payments		169571	50198		219769	219921
Net receipts / (payments)		(2267)	281738		279471	44707
Transfers between funds		(154022)	154022			
Net movement in funds		(156289)	435760		279471	44707
Funds brought forward		248643	226255		474898	430191
Funds carried forward	12	92354	662015		754369	474898

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

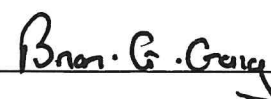
As at 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation					
Bank and Cash at start of year	248643	226255	-	474898	430191
Net movement in funds	(156289)	435760	-	279471	44707
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bank and Cash at end of year	92354	662015	-	754369	474898
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Bank & Cash Balances					
Bank Deposit Accounts		476823		476823	75352
Bank Current Accounts	92354	185192		277546	399546
Cash in Hand		-		-	-
				-----	-----
				754369	474898
				=====	=====
Other Assets					
Fixed Assets – Note 10					
- Church Premises				5,132,207	4,744,149
- Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment					
- Vehicles					
Investments – Note 11					
Gift Aid receivable on donations					
				-----	-----
				5,132,207	4,744,149
				=====	=====
Liabilities					
Loans					
				-	-
				-----	-----
				-	-
				=====	=====

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 31 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by

Signed 

Paul McCarroll

Signed 

Dr Brian Craig

SLOAN STREET LISBURN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000 the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation’s discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation’s general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Recorded giving:	131905	33196		165101	152170
Loose collections	1565	-		1565	1463
Donations and gifts	-	-		-	-
Gift Aid	25122	6036		31158	30724
Legacies and bequest		260661		260661	9291
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	158592	299893		458485	193648
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2023

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Income from charitable activities	8712	13830		22542	56023
Organisation's Income		2492		2492	3602
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	8712	16322		25034	56625
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

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4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	-	-	-	-	-
Trading income	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest					
General Investment Fund					-
Rents investment properties		14250		14250	14250
Other investment income		1471		1471	105
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		15721		15721	14355
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2023

6. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	-
Prior Year Bank Transfer	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

7. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes	812			812	812
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	812			812	812
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	23231			23231	21081
Presbytery fees	772			772	935
Ministry and support staff costs	81423			81423	75985
Congregational running expenses	60813	11365		72178	53499
Donations to Missions and charities	1200	35049		36249	62284
Organisation's Expenses		3100		3100	3441
Governance costs	1320			1320	1200
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	168759	49514		218273	218425
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2023

9. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Investment properties expenses	-	684	-	684	684
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	684	-	684	684
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. FIXED ASSETS

The congregation owns the Church premises situated at 2C Young Street, Church Halls at 39 – 41 Young Street and a Manse located at 23 Clonevin Park, Lisburn and the associated fixtures, fittings, plant and machinery. These have an insurance value of £5,132,207 (£4,774,149 in 2022).

11. INVESTMENTS

The congregation has the following investments. Amounts are shown at market valuation.

	2023 £	2022 £
General Investment Fund	-	-
Property	-	-
Other investments	-	-
	-----	-----
	-	-
	-----	-----

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2023

12. FUND BALANCES

Fund	Balance at start £	Receipts £	Payment £	Surplus / (Deficit) £	Transfer £	Balance at end £
Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	248643	167304	169571	(2267)	(154022)	92354
	248643	167304	169571	(2267)	(154022)	92354
Restricted Funds						
Property Fund	116117	32811	11393	21418	-	137535
Student Bursary	1708	-	1708	(1708)	-	-
Music Fund	10630	3400	5012	(1612)	-	9018
Organisations' Funds	8669	2492	3100	(608)	(350)	7711
Mission Society	11110	20671	14115	6556	-	17666
Appeals	2669	10430	14870	(4440)	3545	1774
Dorothy Martin Bequest	48007	1128	-	1128	-	49135
Myrtle Patterson Bequest	27345	343	-	343	-	27688
Bequests	-	260661	-	260661	150827	411488
	226255	331936	50198	281738	154022	662015
Endowment Funds						
Total	474898	499240	219769	279471	-	754369