

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

**Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**URNEY 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 2022 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Urney Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
55 Strabane Road,
Castledearg,
Co Tyrone,
BT81 7HZ

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105609)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Rev Charles Clements (retired 29/10/2022)
Rev Clarke Deering (appointed 30/10/2022)
Mr. Norman McMullan
Mr. Tom Henderson (deceased 31/1/2022)
Miss Rosemary Craig BEM (appointed 1/2/2022)
Mr. Mervyn Buchanan (appointed 1/2/2022)

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister in charge:	Rev Clarke Deering
Clerk of Session:	Mr Norman McMullan
Treasurer:	Currently vacant

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Hamill McIlwaine Chartered Accountants
28-30 Old Mountfield Road
Omagh
BT79 7BJ

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

BANKERS

Danske Bank
PO Box 183
Donegal Square West
Belfast
BT1 6JS

SOLICITORS

Babington Solicitors
74 Railway Street
Strabane
BT82 8EQ

**URNEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 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 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 congregations. 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 before each Communion Service (3), before each committee meeting and whenever a meeting is required.

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. Urney Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Omagh 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 each congregation.

**URNEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 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.

Urney 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 its members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregations mission purposes are summed up in our Mission Statement is:

Urney Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

We are the church on the hill, called to share the Good News of our Saviour Jesus Christ, crucified on a hill outside a city wall, risen and reigning in glory.

We are the church on the hill, a family of God's people called to live out God's Word as we:

- Love one another
- Pray for one another
- Bear one another's burdens
- Encourage one another
- And forgive one another.

We are the church on the hill, called to build bridges to our community and our world:

- In art and creativity
- In crafts and friendship
- In gardening and sharing the gifts of beauty and life we see around us
- In caring for the needy; in feeding the hungry; in welcoming the stranger.

We are the church on the hill, called to be a witness for Christ, a light to shine for Him and to point others to Him.

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

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday at 12.00 noon with visitors often joining us for the Service especially at Baptisms and at Harvest. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed in January, April and September 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 a fortnightly Bible study meeting jointly with our linked congregation of Second Castlederg.

Other activities that meet in the Church Hall are the Sunday School, Junior Arts Club (6 weeks per term), Urney Crafters and the 2 O'Clock club (both handcraft groups) and Urney Gardening Club (monthly).

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

Sunday Worship is usually held at 12.00 Noon, but there are also joint Services with Second Castlederg during the year. Average attendance is between 15-25 including children and we have 15 children in our Sunday School. Sunday School meets after the Children's Talk and Hymn when the children leave the service. There are 2 leaders with the children each week and all our leaders who are eligible have been checked by Access NI. We currently have the largest number of children (15) in Sunday School for many years and they continue to be involved in our All Age Services for Youth and Children's Day in June, at harvest in October and the nativity Service on the Sunday before Christmas.

During 2022, many of the Covid 19 restrictions that we had been adhering to in order to keep our members safe were gradually relaxed. We were able to remove social distancing and return to singing all of our hymns without masks. At Easter we once again placed gift bags of Easter eggs for every family in the pews along with an Easter message. As 2022 celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, our Youth and Children's Service focused on her life and her faith using material prepared by the Bible Society. We were able to hold two Harvest Services and following the morning Harvest Service we gathered in the church grounds to plant a tree to mark the platinum Jubilee. At our evening Service we were delighted to welcome friends and visitors and to enjoy a Harvest Supper together in the Church Hall. A Carol Service was held on 11th December with members taking part and sharing in Bible Readings, poems and prayers. The Bible Study Group meets fortnightly and comprises members of Urney and our linked congregation of Second Castlederg. Every third Bible Study is held in Urney Church Hall with 10-15 people attending. In 2022 we finished our series on Life Lessons from the Psalms and completed 12 studies on New Testament Characters. Both the questions for discussion and the Minister's comments continue to be emailed to Church members.

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

In 2022 our Craft Groups were able to resume in person and later in the year the Gardening Club re-opened. Support from the wider community for these organisations continues to be strong and we give thanks for the dedicated leaders and all their efforts to maintain contact with each other during the worst of the pandemic. The Junior Art Club met for a special Christmas event and it is hoped that further meetings will take place during 2023.

There were two baptisms during the year and one of our Trustees and a faithful member of Kirk Session died at the start of 2022. An Interim Kirk Session has been formed with the help of two Elders from Second Castleberg congregation

The number of families claiming connection with the congregation is 29 and the total number of communicant members is 52. The Minister of Second Castleberg and Urney, who had been in post for almost 7 years, retired at the end of October 2022 and the congregation is now vacant.

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 and those who are unable to attend Communion receive Home Communion twice a year. Members who are in hospital are visited faithfully and anyone who has been bereaved is supported through frequent visits and prayer. In 2022 there was a return to more normal visiting, where possible, both in private homes, Nursing Homes and Hospitals.

Mission and outreach

Urney congregation is small and located in a border area where in the past it has been difficult to reach out to the local community. But with initiatives such as the Gardening Club, 20'Clock Club, Junior Art Club and Urney Crafters, new friendships have been forged and relationships built. Our United Appeal Target for Mission in 2022 was £1373.65 and our total contributions came to £1370 and with Gift Aid of £351.25 we exceeded our target of honour. With the outbreak of war in Ukraine and the huge humanitarian crisis that resulted, the Moderator launched a special appeal which raised £880.

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

The annual collection for the Presbyterian Children's Society raised £190 with £90 in Gift Aid. The 2022 World Development Appeal was called "Rekindling Hope" and had its main focus on Lebanon. Along with its own political, economic and social difficulties worsened by Covid 19 and the devastating explosion in Beirut Port in 2020, Lebanon hosts 1.5 million refugees from Syria. Being a refugee not only labels you as 'stateless' but it also means that you are less likely to access education for your children, health care and employment. The 2022 project supported a Tear Fund led project that aims to provide schooling, health care and self-employment in an area in southern Beirut and raised £170 plus £60 in Gift Aid. We also supported a project in Sudan where as many as one in every three people have been displaced from their homes by conflict. Members also donated items for the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox Appeal organised by 2nd Castlederg PW and gift cards, vouchers and gifts were donated to the Christmas Family Appeal run each year by the Salvation Army and St. Vincent de Paul. The Sunday School has continued to collect 20ps in Smartie boxes and during 2021 this raised £270 including donations from church members and the Sunday School donated what was raised equally between Smile Train and Sightsavers. In 2022 they collected a total of £190 which will once again be shared out to charities of their choice. The annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal received £130.00 through donations at our Remembrance Service. The Craft Groups donated hand-made quilts for families in Zambia and held a Coffee and Crafts event in November raising £2620.00 with £1310 going to Foyle Search and Rescue and £1310 for Bowel Cancer.

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. Once again in 2022 Presbytery meetings were held in person.

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. The Assembly returned to its usual month for meeting and the Minister and an Elder from the congregation were able to attend.

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

Sunday School

Sunday School meets after the Children's Talk and Hymn when the children leave the service to meet in the Church Hall. There are currently 15 children attending. We followed the Go Teach Programme. We had 4 leaders working in a rota system with two classes.

From January to June five children were using the Beginner's Come Learn Booklet and the rest of the children followed the Go Teach/Teen Search syllabus, all on the same Biblical topic. In September one child moved on to the Primary book and the rest of the children continued as before.

Our Children's Day Service on 26th June followed the book, "The Queen who Chose to Serve", in celebration of Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee. Prizes were awarded and gifts given. The young people read Harvest poems and readings at our Harvest Service on 16th October, while the little ones performed a piece entitled "Colours". A Family Fun Evening was held in the Hall in the form of a Beetle Drive on Friday 16th September. The families of Christ Church Urney, our neighbouring Church of Ireland Church were invited to join our Sunday School young people and their families. Great fun was had by all. The evening ended with pizzas and a return invitation for 2023. The children supported the Sunday School Smartie Box collection raising £270.00. This money was divided between Smile Train and Sight Savers, giving £135.00 to each charity.

Urney Ladies WhatsApp Group

An Urney Ladies What's App Group was created at the start of lockdown for the women of the church to keep in touch. The main benefits of the group were the support the members gave each other and a means to let everyone know what was going on within the church. This has been continued throughout the year.

Urney Crafters and The 2 O'clock Club / Urney Craft Clubs

The dedicated Urney Crafters meet at 10.30a.m. on Wednesdays, They enjoyed fellowship together sharing their knowledge of various crafts and planning activities. They continued with their Crafty Ladies What's App Group, with crafting ideas and craic flying back and forth. The 2 O'Clock Club joined the Urney Crafters each Wednesday from 2-4pm. Our membership took time to increase after lockdown. Unfortunately we lost good friends and some members were nervous about mixing in a public place again. At the end of the year 11/12 attended on average.

These ladies enjoyed a social time together having a bit of craic and a cup of tea while doing various crafts for themselves and others.

The members knit, crocheted and sewed many items for baby units (hats, cardigans, blankets etc.) distributed to various hospitals, when the restrictions allowed.

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

The story of the quilts which travelled from Urney to Zambia.

In 2016 the 2O'clock Club started to join hexagons together to make The NI Big Sock to be entered for the Guinness Book of World Records. This was a Northern Ireland wide project but unfortunately it was not completed and the crafters were left with approximately 14 m x 10 m of patchwork. The Urney Crafters subsequently decided to make quilts of varying sizes to use up the material and backing kindly donated by friends, hoping that they would eventually be used in a deserving cause.

After much searching for an outlet, they contacted Gareth Hayes from Hope Drop Inn Newtowncunningham in Co Donegal, who said they would gladly accept the quilts for a young girls' home in Lusaka, Zambia, which they had officially opened the day before! Wonderful timing! On Wednesday 16th March the groups met with Pastor Gareth and Pastor Elijah who runs their Hope Mission in Lusaka. They spoke to the members of the work they were undertaking and how they were also supporting children in the Street Orphan program they run, called Hope Mission Zambia, providing food, shelter and pastoral support.

The group were delighted to be able to present 20 quilts to Gareth and Elijah, who assured everyone that the quilts would be taken to Zambia as soon as possible and given to the young girls as their own personal quilts. This was a wonderful outcome for all concerned. (They arrived within the next week)

When the Crafters listened to the story of the work Pastors Gareth and Elijah were doing they checked their funds and gave them a cheque for £1000.00 for the work of Hope Drop Inn Ministries.

Before lockdown the Urney Crafters and the 2 O'Clock Club planned, designed and worked on a Summer Panel. It was the second of four panels of the seasons showing God's beautiful world. To do this the members had opportunities to use patchwork, embroidery stitches (like French knots, long stitch and stump work), also applique, button art, knitting and crochet. When they got back together they completed this Summer Panel.

After a short break and over several months, they worked on and completed the third, the Autumn Panel. Other work was continuing alongside the panel.

A bag making workshop took place, resulting in various useful shopping bags being made out of donated material.

A Craft Fair was planned for Saturday 12th November and these bags and many other crafts were completed for sale. (Toys, Christmas decorations, panels, blankets, throws, various cards and other crafts) The Craft Fair was a resounding success with many customers coming from near and far. £2620.00 was raised with £1310 going to Foyle Search and Rescue and £1310 for Bowel Cancer.

Also between the Crafters and the Gardening Club any donations were dropped into an ongoing bucket for Air Ambulance NI.

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

Urney Gardening Club

Urney Gardening Club met in the Church Hall in April for the first time since lockdown with about 35 attending. The members met on the last Tuesday of the month from 3.00-5.00pm, not on the usual Wednesday, so that there was no overlap with the Craft Clubs, due to Covid restrictions. Sadly six of our members died since our last meeting before lockdown. The membership attending was made up of church members and many from the surrounding areas. The club has many keen, knowledgeable gardeners and also those who enjoy the social aspect of the club.

At the April meeting Gail Campbell, from the local Alt Nursery and a member of our congregation, gave an enjoyable, interesting talk and demonstration and she also had plants for sale. Many members expressed their pleasure at being back together again as they looked forward to meeting each other so much.

On May 31st Gordon Toner's talk was about Alpines. He and his wife travelled from Limavady. Gordon is an expert and the members appreciated his presentation and slides on this topic. The members remember with fondness their visit to his garden some years before.

The June meeting took the form of a visit to Adrienne Kelly's Oak Gardens, 219 Glenshane Rd. About 25 members enjoyed the beautiful "rooms" created in this widespread garden and also the welcome cup of tea at the end.

In September the Club returned to the usual meeting day, the last Wednesday of the month at 3.30.-5.00pm. On 28th Kenny Crawford, from Irvinestown, discussed "Autumn Planting" and reminisced about his first visit to the Club when it first started, expressing pleasure to see how it had grown and had such a widespread membership.

On October 26th David Hardy, from Esker Farm Daffodils, gave an interesting talk describing how he grew his bulb propagation business from small beginnings eventually sending his bulbs worldwide. He had examples of his bulbs for sale. The Club hopes to visit Esker Farm in the future. The Gardening Club was formed in 2012 and so celebrated its 10th Anniversary Christmas Party with an exciting, inventive Flower Arranging Demonstration by the wonderful Milton Porter. The festivities concluded with the consumption of a great array of delicious desserts supplied by the members.

Urney Junior Art Club

The Art Club for children of Primary School age met for one session in December as a taster to see if it should resume. Only 3 children attended due to illness and fear of infection which was rife at the time. Three leaders from the church were willing to try to reopen but it was decided to see what the New Year would bring.

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

Volunteers

The Trustees are indebted to all of those who dedicated their time and gladly use their gifts and abilities to serve God and be a blessing to each other and this community. In being so generous with their lives, our work and witness continues to be maintained.

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.

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

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering which totaled £13,036 in 2022 (£12,825 in 2021). Total income for 2021 was £29,371 (£28,018 in 2021).

Total expenditure increased from £24,634 to £27,973 in the year.

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) 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 4-5-23 and signed on its behalf by

Mr Norman McMullan

Norman McMullan
4-5-23

Rev Clarke Deering

Clarke Deering
4-5-23

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF URNEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND**

We report on the accounts of Urney Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 14-20.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you 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
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Direction given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of 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 Charity Commission.

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 or 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 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.



Hamill McIlwaine
Chartered Accountants
28-30 Old Mountfield Road
Omagh, Co. Tyrone
BT79 7BJ
Date: