

EDENDERRY 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 (NIC105617)

EDENDERRY 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

Edenderry congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
41 Edenderry Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone, BT79 0LX
Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105617)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Mrs Muriel Good	Mr Hamilton Gilmour
Mr Geoff Bingham	Mr Adrian Hamilton
Mrs Helen Burns	Mrs Joyce Thompson
Mr Roy Giboney	Mr John Gilmour
	Rev Robert Orr

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister:	Rev Robert Orr
Clerk of Session:	Mrs Muriel Good / Mrs Joyce thompson (June 23)
Treasurer:	Mr Adrian Hamilton & Mr Gareth Mitchell

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Elaine McKenna

BANKERS

Ulster Bank
Omagh Branch, 14 High Street, Omagh BT78 1BJ

SOLICITORS

McConnell & Fyffe
The Old Rectory, 21 Church Street, Omagh BT78 1DG

**EDENDERRY 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 and the ministers in active duty in the congregation have 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. Edenderry congregation of the 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 the congregation.

EDENDERRY 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.

Edenderry 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 purpose is to be a community renewed in Jesus Christ in order to live before God and for God. Our vision is, to become a living, vibrant community of God's people who declare and demonstrate the love of Christ to each other and to the wider community around us, which:

- is increasingly characterised by love for God, and love and concern for others;
- is committed to the historic Christian gospel as revealed in the Bible;
- is relevant to people of this time and place.

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision 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.

EDENDERRY CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND 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 and has a wide range of organisations including:

- Crèche / Promiseland / Breakfast with God / Bible Class
- Women's outreach

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 10:30am. 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 one Sacrament of Baptism, we did conduct one marriage service this year and gave thanks for faithful services and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

At 31 December 2023 there were 2 new communicant members and 87 families connected with the congregation. The average week attendance at morning worship is 60.

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 care visitor. The Sunday service is recorded and this can be recorded onto a CD to enable those who cannot attend to listen to the service in their homes.

Mission and outreach

The congregation contributes to various charities.

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

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

training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation continues to contribute to the denominations annual World Development Appeal, Sunday school project and any other special appeals but due to restrictions this year the number of charities was reduced.

In 2023 Edenderry Presbyterian Church gave the following;

- United Appeal was £3,893 including gift aid.
- Moderators Special Appeal was £60.
- World Development contributions totalled £885.
- The Mission team continued to support a local food bank. At Christmas the congregation donated a total of 26 food hampers to families in the Omagh area.
- Recycling Clothing Bin: situated in the car park of the Church, people from the wider community can donate any unwanted garments of clothing. In 2023 a total of £107 was raised and donated to Belfast City Mission.
- A donation of £843 was also made towards the work of the Scripture Union Worker within the local area.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and / or one of the elders, Mr Roy Giboney is currently our representative. 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 for 2023

Property

The total income received into the property fund during the year totalled £8,658 and expenditure totalled £3,239.

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

Organisations

Presbyterian Women

The PW Group is composed of some 20-25 ladies from the congregation and our sister congregation of Seskinore and meet once a month from September to April each year. PW encourages women to become disciples of Christ and aims to highlight the need for love and unity, obedience to God, Christian living and spiritual maturity, service using gifts and time and money to support local and global missions.

Helping Hands Knitting Club is a Social Networking Community Group

This group meet for a couple of hours once a month from September to April each year. Made up of ladies from our own congregation along with members from Seskinore and other neighbouring congregations the group enjoys friendship and fellowship while the needles are clicking. Everything from finger puppets, pencil cases, hats, scarves, jumpers, cardigans and blankets are knitted and have been sent to various parts of the world (for example Bucharest, Moldova, Zambia/Ukraine, Africa), to The Cancer Centre in Londonderry and the McCauley Home in Omagh. This group meet once a month to enable continued support for the various parts of the community and worldwide.

Promiseland

Promiseland is held every other Sunday during term time with approximately 11 children attending throughout the year. During the time in Promiseland the young people carry out numerous activities such as Bible studies, work sheets, singing, quiz sheets, prayer time and crafts and prepare for and lead the annual Children's Day and Nativity Services with all children taking part, singing, poems, bible readings, lifting collection etc. This year the Children's Day and Nativity services were celebrated in the Church. The group continue to support an adopted 14 year old girl who lives in Guatemala, Central America and send her money each month.

Breakfast with God

The congregation's teenage work runs under the heading Breakfast with God. The purpose of Breakfast with God is to help the young people find out more about God and enjoy friendship together. Up to 12 young people aged 11-17 are on the register with approximately 7 meeting each week Breakfast with God is running.

Sunday service fortnightly from September to May. There is usually a fun activity (a quiz, challenge, parlour game, etc), then Bible time finishing with food in the kitchen.

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Creche

We at Edenderry have a creche available during our Sunday Morning Worship, we currently have 7 babies and infants that use this facility on a regular basis.

Bible Study

A joint initiative with our sister church Seskinore, approximately 15-20 people attend on a weekly basis. Led by our Minister or another volunteer the group learn more about the Bible and have more in-depth discussion in relation to Bible passages and the context in which the passage was written.

Ladies Group

Formally known as WOW a group of approximately 12 ladies who met on a monthly basis to study various topics of the Bible, this was opened to a larger number of ladies in the and renamed Ignite. They meet every few months and have a social evening with fellowship , food and fun, this being the main focus of the getting together. On occasions the group will invite outside agencies to provide the opportunity for crafts, candle making etc.

Bowling Club

Due to main organisers having ill health or having passed away the Bowling Club no longer meets and is now closed. The hall is used for competitions for other bowling clubs.

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.

**EDENDERRY CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
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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 notice boards, 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.

**EDENDERRY 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. There were 87 contributing families during the year (2023:87) donating a total of £35,851 (2022: £34,501).

Total income of the congregation during the year was £63,219 compared to £59,828 in the previous year. The increase is mainly due to an increase in investment income as a result of higher interest rates, government support received for energy costs and grant aid received.

Total expenditure has increased from the previous year to £55,048 (2022: £50,358). This is largely due to an increase in donations to missions and charities and increase costs associated with congregational running costs and ministry and support staff.

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 20 February 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev R Orr (Minister)

Date 20/02/2024



Mrs Joyce Thompson (Clerk of Session)

Date 20/02/2024