

Trustees Report Year 1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022

The Trustees of Iron Hall Evangelical Church (Iron Mission Hall) submit their annual report and the financial statements for the year ending 31st December 2022.

1. Name of Charity as it appears on the Register: Iron Mission Hall (Iron Hall Evangelical Church)
2. NI Charity Commission Number: 107368
3. The Purpose of your Charity: The charity's purpose is 'The Advancement of The Christian Faith and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God'.
4. Names of Charity Trustees as at 31st December 2022: Mr Paul Murray (Chairman) Mr Bill Macmillan, Mr Hugh Martin, Mr Colin Murray, Mr Peter Ritchie, Mr Lewis Roberts.
5. All of the Trustees are aware of and have regard to the Charity Commission's Public Benefit Requirement.
6. Trustees Report for Activities of Iron Mission Hall (Iron Hall Evangelical Church).

The Iron Mission Hall (Iron Hall Evangelical Church) is an independent local church constituted by a Trust Deed executed on 20th March 1934.

The day-to-day spiritual care of the assembly is the responsibility of the elders and the day-to-day practical matters are overseen by the deacons. The responsibility of leading specific works and departments within the church is undertaken by church members who are appointed by and responsible to the elders. The workers in all the activities carried out by the church are made up of church members and augmented by some people who are regular attendees but not in membership. The elders meet each month to pray and discuss matters regarding the work of the church and at additional times if emergencies require. The elders also meet with the deacons once a quarter for fellowship, prayer, and discussion of the work.

The Iron Mission Hall (Iron Hall Evangelical Church) was registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 10th February 2020 as required by the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and complies with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in July 2014 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Mr Scott Murray alongside Mr Graham Grant who is a church member has fulfilled the role of honorary independent examiner of the financial statements. The Trustees thank Scott for his willingness to fulfil this role and the time it has taken him to examine the church's records and form his report.

Risk

The Trustees consider that there are two main areas of risk which they must monitor on behalf of The Iron Mission Hall (Iron Hall Evangelical Church)

Financial –The church relies on the income received from freewill offerings without which The Iron Mission Hall (Iron Hall Evangelical Church) would not be able to achieve its' charitable objectives. If there were to be a reduction in offerings received, the Trustees would

bring this to the membership in order to redress the matter and also implement a program of cost reduction to ensure the financial stability of the church on behalf of our members.

Reputational – The Iron Mission Hall (Iron Hall Evangelical Church) has provided a wide range of ministries with children and young people during the reporting period. To mitigate any risk in this area we have provided training by a qualified instructor and have a comprehensive Child Protection Policy and procedures in place. The leadership in each of the departments is fully appraised of their responsibilities and trained to oversee their area of ministry and they are monitored by, and accountable to the Elders/Trustees through a Designated Person and Assistants approved by the Elders/Trustees. Risk Assessments are completed to aid in the prevention of accidents. We have a Data Protection Policy in place and introduced safeguards in respect of membership records and for the respective works within the church. Personal information held relates to the activities conducted by each department and is disposed of securely when no longer required. The Trustees are satisfied that the levels of information held by each department are appropriate to fulfil their need to operate in accordance with both GDPR and the Church's Child Protection Policies. The Trustees have also a Policy in respect of Health & Safety; this policy gives instruction in respect of outbreak of Fire, Emergency Evacuation and First Aid.

Objectives and Activities

The Iron Hall, since being established in 1890 in Templemore Avenue, Belfast has had as its purpose, been a centre for proclaiming the message of salvation and forgiveness of sins through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. This emphasis continues through both our internal activities and other initiatives outside in the local community and in supporting others within our own country and in other parts of the world.

The Iron Mission Hall (Iron Hall Evangelical Church) organises a wide range of regular meetings and activities these include:

Breaking of Bread (Sunday), Family Service (Sunday morning) Gospel service (Sunday evening) Bible Study (Monday evening) Prayer Meeting (Thursday); Sunday School (Sunday afternoon) Children's meeting (Wednesday) Mother's & Toddlers (Friday) Youth (Saturday); Ladies meeting (Wednesday monthly), Women's Activity mornings (Wednesday monthly)

Throughout the past year we have continued to contribute benefit to our local community by providing a place which is open and without any financial charge for everyone who wishes to come along. The activities organised embrace all age groups and appeal to many from our local community and beyond.

Weekly 'door to door' visitation with Christian literature and opportunity to chat to people on their doorstep or in their own home has built relationships in the area and Carol Singing around the district has been warmly received and welcomed. We have been able to lend Tables and Chairs to local community groups for the Platinum Jubilee Celebration as well as open our Activity Centre during local parades to provide toilet facilities and opportunity to receive Christian literature and have some light refreshments.

The Mother's and Toddler's has seen consistent attendance of mothers along with their babies/toddlers over the past year. Many from our locality including those from different and variety of ethnic backgrounds have enjoyed the facilities provided and the opportunity to

meet in a friendly environment and hear the good news God's love; some of these mothers and their families have subsequently attended our weekly family service on Sunday mornings. This Family Service is warm and welcoming and as well as opportunity to listen to the bible being taught, children's activities are provided for children of pre and primary school ages.

The weekly gatherings for children on Sunday afternoon and Wednesday evening have continued with new children attending and learning from the bible as well as enjoying the friendship of other boys' and girls' and with the leaders and workers in these departments. The challenge of recruiting and retaining children has proved a big challenge since COVID, however the workers in both these departments have persevered and have been rewarded with increasing support from families and some new attendees. These activities have all been provided free of charge and in addition to teaching from the bible, these times also give opportunity for social and recreational elements to be enjoyed.

The benefits received from these gatherings and other similar initiatives have been clearly evidenced by the positive feedback and goodwill generated from many families who attend and others who express their appreciation. The teachings of the bible and the practical help given through the works within the church have benefited many irrespective of their own personal background or beliefs.

Fun evenings with Bouncy Castles, Craft Events along with Prize days and a Christmas Party as well as an Outing for the children throughout the year were all greatly appreciated by both children and parents.

The activities for Youth and Teenagers have continued throughout the year and included recreational activities, visits to other young people's groups as well as opportunities to gather weekly in a relaxed manner to socialise, engage in sports activities listen to interesting speakers sharing from the bible and engage in good discussions while learning together.

Throughout the year we have been able to welcome many to our services both as visitors and others as speakers and singers. We were able to organize our annual missionary weekend in November which enabled us to hear of gospel work in many other parts of the world and we were able to give financially to help the people in the countries we heard about. We regularly support Christian work in many places both financially, prayerfully, and practically as well as sending workers to be part of mission teams.

A significant number of church members are engaged in serving the Lord in the church, as well as others who are engaged in Christian work outside the church; this indicates the benefit this church endeavours to be to others around us.

The objects of the church are spiritual and therefore are not easily measured in many respects. It has however been encouraging to see God's working in many lives and amongst them those who have expressed the benefit and blessing they have received through the activities of the church throughout 2022. The past 12 months have had many challenges including those who have been ill and been hospitalised, others who have suffered bereavement and needed support, comfort, and counsel. The members and the ministry provided from Iron Hall has proved to be an encouragement to many such as these in their time of need.

7. The Charity's Financial position for the financial year end 31/12/2022 is set out in the separate Financial Statement and the attached Report relates to the financial year 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022.

8. Our activities, contact details and related information are listed on our church web-site. www.ironhall.com

9. Names of Elders and Deacons:

Elders who served during the year:

- Mr Bill Macmillan
- Mr Hugh Martin
- Mr Colin Murray
- Mr Paul Murray
- Mr Peter Ritchie
- Mr Lewis Roberts

Deacons who served during the year:

- Mr John Alexander
- Mr Terry Elwood
- Mr Arthur Carnaghan
- Mr Graham Grant
- Mr Dawson Kerr
- Mr David Rea
- Mr Stephen Roberts
- Mr Leslie Stewart
- Mr William Smith

10. Signature of Trustees:

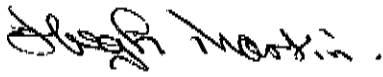
Mr Paul Murray (Chairman)



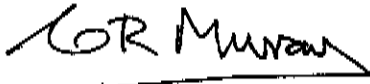
Mr Bill Macmillan



Mr Hugh Martin



Mr Colin Murray



Mr Peter Ritchie



Mr Lewis Roberts



Date 29th May 2023