

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

**Aka 'Killyleagh Presbyterian Church' (KPC)\***

**\*Killyleagh Presbyterian Church (KPC) is the new entity of  
the former congregations of First Killyleagh (NICC 105203)  
and Second Killyleagh (NICC 105204) that amalgamated with  
effect from 01/01/21**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements of the  
Trustees of Killyleagh Presbyterian Church for the  
year ended 31 December 2022**

## **KILLYLEAGH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TRUSTEE'S 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**

Registered Name: The Killyleagh Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland operates within church buildings in Catherine Street and Plantation Street, Killyleagh, Downpatrick, Co. Down.

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC108062)

### **CHARITY TRUSTEES (Kirk Session Members)**

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

Rev. Alistair Smyth (until May 2022)  
Rev. Jonathan Boyd (from May 2022)  
Mr. Ronnie Beggs  
Mrs. Trudy Cole  
Mr. Samuel B. Cunningham (retired November 2022)  
Mrs. Lyn Dunlop  
Mr. Graham Furey  
Mr. Joe Garrett  
Mrs. Alice Gilmore  
Mr. Chris Hagan  
Mr. Jim Lindsay  
Mrs. Zena McAllister (died June 2022)  
Mr. James McIlveen  
Mr Robert McMurray (from September 2022)  
Mr. Hammy Marshall  
Mr. Helga Nixon  
Mr. Jim Scott

### **CHURCH PROPERTY TRUSTEES**

The Down Presbytery Education Board

### **PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS**

Minister and Chair of Trustees	Rev. Alistair Smyth (Vacancy Convenor) (until May 2022) Rev. Jonathan Boyd (from May 2022)
Clerk of Session	Mr. Graham Furey
Committee Secretary	Mrs. Trudy Cole
Treasurer	Mr. James McIlveen

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER** Mr. Jason Gibson ACA, of Bachelors Close, Portadown, Co. Armagh, BT63 5FZ.

### **BANKERS**

Ulster Bank Limited, 2/8 Market Street, Downpatrick, Co Down, BT30 6BU.

### **SOLICITORS**

Murlands Solicitors. 15 English Street, Downpatrick, Co. Down, BT30 6AP.

## **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees of the Congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the governing document (The Code - the constitution and governance book of the congregation's Presbyterian Church in Ireland) the Kirk Session seeks to oversee and promote the spiritual interests 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 congregation. 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 normally held on the first Thursday of January, March, May, November each year, and at other times as required.

To be chosen for the office of the eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member of that congregation and a regular attendant at its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office can be either by the congregation and or by the Kirk Session. Members are elected if they obtain two-thirds of those who vote, and approved by the existing Kirk Session.

### **Presbytery**

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland's form of governance, the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which generally superintends the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Killyleagh Presbyterian Church congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland has been assigned to the Down Presbytery. 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.

### **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.

At the 2019 General Assembly approval was sought for the two congregations in Killyleagh (First and Second Killyleagh) to be amalgamated. This approval was granted, fully sanctioned by the Linkage Commission, Church House in November 2020, to take effect from 1st January 2021. This was subsequently approved by the NI Charity Commission on 27/10/21 with the previously two elected Kirk Sessions acting as one overseeing the new entity - Killyleagh Presbyterian Church.

## **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

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

Killyleagh 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 God's Word (Scripture). It exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son, by the power of His Spirit, enabling its members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

### **The congregation's mission purpose is:**

In the power of the Holy Spirit we go into the world to fulfil our calling as the people of God and the body of Christ; and, by the grace of God, to help people of all ages become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Our vision is, by the grace of God, to be an inclusive, welcoming community of Christ's people of all ages, 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 and
- 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.

## **ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome. 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 midweek meetings for Bible study and prayer and has a range of organisations including:-

- Sunday School
- Girls' Brigade
- Presbyterian Women (PW)
- Little Hans (Parents and toddlers)
- Making Mondays Matter
- Crafty Ladies
- Community Soup Lunch

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Worship and prayer**

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday morning at 11.00 am. Sunday evening services, when announced, are held at 7.00pm except during the months of July and August. A Reading Plan is prepared and issued monthly by the minister to give members a way to worship at home. The regular mid-week Bible study provides a further opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship; study Scripture and for a time of prayer.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life through administering the Sacrament of Baptism twice (2021 - 1); we conducted one marriage service (2021 - 1) and sought to comfort those bereaved during the year.

At 31 December 2022 there were 175 communicant members (2021 - 170) and 220 families connected with the congregation (2021 - 280). The average weekly attendance at morning worship was 90 – (2021 - 65 during Covid-19 restrictions). Services continue to alternate between the two church buildings in Plantation Street and Catherine Street.

### **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 one of the congregation's pastoral visitors.

### **Mission and outreach**

The Gospel is proclaimed each Sunday at our services. Occasionally services are arranged that are specifically evangelistic in nature, particularly at significant points in the year such as Easter, Harvest, and Christmas. During the week there are times when the community is welcomed into the church buildings through various organisations which provide opportunities to show the love of God to people by serving them, make connections with the community, and verbally share the good news of the gospel. During the midweek there is prayer for mission and outreach. Events are held to encourage parents, children and indeed families - family Fun days, picnic lunch days, youth fellowship meetings and both quiz and board game evenings.

The Craft and Soup Lunch groups donate any monetary gifts to various mission agencies.

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 and outreach of the denomination, beyond what separate congregations 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; assists with the running costs of Union Theological College (the Church training college for ministerial students) and financially supports smaller congregations 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 projects and any other special appeals.

Guest speakers are occasionally invited to address the congregation in order to highlight and encourage members to support areas of need both locally, nationally and internationally. The Presbyterian Women's group within the congregation and the wider church strongly support mission work at home and abroad. Individual members are rising to the challenge of supporting those within the wider community by contributing items for a Food Bank administered and based in the neighbouring Presbyterian congregation of Downpatrick.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and a ruling elder. This representation provides an important link between the congregations and the wider courts of the church.

### **General Assembly**

The minister and a nominated elder attended the annual June meeting of the General Assembly normally held in the Church House Assembly Buildings, Belfast.

### **Property**

There were no major renovations or repairs to the Church properties during 2022.

## **ORGANISATIONS**

**PW** meets once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month (excluding the summer months) with an average attendance of 25 ladies.

**Girls' Brigade** meets weekly from September to March on Monday evenings, with different age groups meeting at different times. The average attendance - 30 girls

**Sunday School** with small numbers met once a month but with increased numbers now meets twice a month, during morning worship for Bible teaching, arts and crafts. Children up to the age of 11 are catered for and during the year (2022) 10 children attended.

**Little Hands** is a parent and toddler group the church hosts on Monday mornings. Up to with approximately 20 households are in regular attendance.

**Making Mondays Matter** meets on Monday morning opening with light refreshments followed by the screening of a variety of preachers whose sermons and talks are streamed on the internet. After watching and listening the topics aired open discussions take place followed by prayer. A typical meeting lasts 1 to 1½ hours with 10–12 people in regular attendance

**Crafty Ladies** meets on a Wednesday mornings for craft activities with 15 – 20 ladies in regular attendance. Craft items and monetary donations are made to charitable causes regularly.

**Community Soup Lunches** are provided on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. Open to members and anyone within the community. An opportunity to share a meal, make new friendships and company. Attendance can vary in numbers from 6 to 20 people.

### **Volunteers**

The Trustees acknowledge their deep appreciation to all those who give freely of their time by serving on committees, helping with groups / 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.

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 Commission's Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. For 2022 there were 211 contributors during the year (2021 - 216) donating a total of £71,557 (2021 - £ 69,948) Total Income of the congregation during the year was £172,544 (2021 - £141,524).

Total expenditure increased significantly to £ 164,215 during 2022 (2021 - £ 97,296). This was primarily due to the additional outlay incurred on salary / expenses etc following the appointment (May 2022) of a new full-time minister, together with the corresponding increased Assessments levied by Church House.


The Killyleagh Community Shop Limited (NICC 100262) is now under the control of Killyleagh Presbyterian Church with the directors appointed by the Kirk Session. The Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Community Shop are both audited and filed separately with the CCNI and the Company's Register.

### **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.

The 2022 Annual Report was approved by the Kirk Session members of Killyleagh Presbyterian Church on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023 – and signed on their behalf by :-

Signed : *Graham Furey*  
Mr. Graham Furey – Clerk of Session  
22/08/23 

Signed : *James McIlveen*  
Mr. James McIlveen – Church Treasurer  
22/08/23 