

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100195

Details

Status	Received
Registered	2014-10-29
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	113 Elmvale Culmore Derry Bt48 8sl BT48 8SL
Phone	028 7135 8547
Website	www.gatewaycfderry.org

Activities

Purposes: To further the Christian Religion and other charitable work through the establishment of congregations of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland in the city of Londonderry and its environs.

What the charity does: The advancement of religion

How the charity works: Religious activities

Who the charity helps: Asylum seekers/refugees,Children (5-13 year olds),Ethnic minorities,General public,Men,Women

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£150,601	£222,031	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Norman Mcconaghie		
Florence Woods		
Mr John Graham Fallows		

Accounts

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Gateway Christian Fellowship	2024 Accounts		
Receipts		Payments	
Opening Balance	5,404.54	Minister	
Adjustment to 2023 closing balance- error in 2023 entry	0.10	Salary	7,726.13
Freewill Offering- envelopes	6,260.00	PAYE Income Tax, Employer's & Employee's NI	1,253.56
Freewill Offering- bank transfers	24,526.05	Pension	1,149.00
Cash in collection	321.86	Housing Allowance	600.00
Donations from individuals	1,595.00	Pulpit Supply & Mileage	3,062.00
Payments received for minister's retirement meal and gift	725.00	RP Minister's Conference	110.00
Returned payment from minister's pension provider	160.00	Retirement Gifts for Stephen Neilly	385.00
Payments from wider church		Retirement Meal for Stephen Neilly- Maldron Hotel	330.00
Covenant Fellowship Galway (€2,000)	1,630.00	16 Claremont Manse	
Mission Committee- Home Section- contribution to rent	5,000.00	Rates	944.52
Trinity RP Church- contribution to fit-out	2,500.00	Buildings Insurance	417.66
Dervock RP Church- general contribution	200.00	Management Company Service Charge	295.00
Western Presbytery- loan for building work	20,000.00	Repairs- plumbing and roof	575.00
Gateway Shop Sales		New Gas Boiler	2,100.00
Sales by card	4,661.16	Building Control Certificate for Boiler	101.92
Sales by cash	2,133.03	Meeting place - 13a Pump Street	
Other		Building Fit-out	
Rates refund on sale of property	396.53	Building Work	3,816.00
Manse sale- 16 Claremont Manse		Electrical Work	4,800.00
Sale price: £278,000		Suspended Ceiling	1,824.00
Church share- 4/7 of net sale proceeds	156,006.03	Kitchen	2,770.00
		Fridge, Dishwasher and Microwave Oven	670.99
		Mechanical Ventilation System	2,244.00
		Carpet	1,470.00
		Signs	925.00
		Building Control Application Fee	291.92
		Paint and tiles	209.86
		Furniture / Fittings- Church meeting area	1,191.28
		Furniture / Fittings- Shop	2,097.28
		Building Running costs	
		Rent (£15,000 per annum- first quarter rent free)	11,250.00
		Service Charge and Buildings Insurance contibution	683.83
		Internet	393.10
		Gas Boiler Servicing	60.00
		Fire equipment and alarm checks	431.35
		Electricity	431.33
		Contents insurance	47.78
		Toiletries	15.07
		Shop Stock	
		Covenanter Bookshop- Christian Books	1,400.00
		Other stock purchased	4,959.05
		Literature and Advertising	
		Leaflets, outreach literature and calendars	184.86
		Presbytery Financial Reports	65.00
		Minutes of Synod	14.00
		Sabbath School Materials	130.15
		Bible Reading Notes	74.00
		Bible study books	163.80
		Other Expenses	
		Public & Employer's Liability Insurance	702.96
		Bank Fees	340.18
		Donaldson & Thompson Accountants- Payroll	172.80
		Website costs	72.00
		Payments to Wider Church	
		RP Synod Missions Target	1,430.00
		RP Synod Ministry Target	1,260.00
		Other Payments	
		Diaconal assistance in case of need	364.00
		Gift to member moving away	19.99
		Manse Sale- 16 Claremont Manse	
		Repayment of loan to Western Presbytery	
		Entire 4/7 of net sale proceeds received	156,006.03
		Closing balance at 31 December 2024	9,487.90
	£231,519.30		£231,519.30

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Gateway Christian Fellowship					
Statement of Assets and Liabilities					
Year Ended 31 December 2024					
		Unrestricted	Total		
		Funds	2024		
		£	£		
Funds Reconciliation					
Cash at bank as at 1 January 2024		5,404.45	5,404.45		
Surplus this year end		4,083.45	4,083.45		
Cash at bank as at 31 December 2024		9,487.90	9,487.90		
Bank Balance					
Bank Current Account			9,487.90		
Assets retained for the charity's own use (Unrestricted Fund)					
4/7 Share in 16 Claremont Manse, Derry			80,000.00		
Disposal of 4/7 Share in 16 Claremont Manse, Derry			-80,000.00		
			0.00		
Fixtures and Fittings			6,700.00		
Shop stock			6,500.00		
			13,200.00		
Liabilities (Unrestricted Fund)					
Loan from RPCI Western Presbytery for property			80,000.00		
Interest on loan charged in 2024 relating to period from 2025 to 2024			76,006.03		
Loan from RPCI Western Presbytery for shop fit-out			20,000.00		
Total Liabilities			176,006.03		
Loan and interest repayment- 16 Claremont Manse			-156,006.03		
			20,000.00		

Accounts

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Statement of Independent Examiner

I report on the accounts of **Gateway Christian Fellowship** for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 2-3 hereof.

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 my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions 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

I have examined your Charity Accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. My 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.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me 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

I have completed my 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, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Dated this 11 day of December 2024

Signed:
Rosaline Wong

Rosaline Wong

Relevant professional qualification or body: **Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ireland**

Address: **42 Spruce Meadows, Culmore, Derry BT48 8SF**

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Gateway Christian Fellowship		2023 Accounts	
<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Payments</u>	
Opening Balance	18,769.80	Minister	
Freewill Offering (envelopes & bank transfers)	32,648.70	Salary (Gross £28,000)	22,611.60
Cash Offering	825.85	PAYE Income Tax, Employer's & Employee's NI	5,852.28
Donations	1,770.00	Expenses	500.00
HMRC Gift Aid Payment	5,955.73	Pension	2,640.00
		Housing Allowance	1,800.00
		Pulpit Supply & Mileage	440.00
		RP Minister's Conference	100.00
		16 Claremont Manse	
		Rates	896.58
		Buildings Insurance	447.40
		Management Company Service Charge	0.00
		Meeting place	
		Maldron Hotel Room Hire	1,000.00
		Pump Street	
		Furniture and kitchen equipment	758.13
		Rental Deposit	3,750.00
		Rent (£15,000 per annum)	7,500.00
		Service Charge	555.00
		Electricity	46.78
		Building Control Application Fee	40.00
		Literature and Advertising	
		Books and Outreach Literature	206.41
		Covenanter Witness	160.00
		Presbytery Financial Reports	68.00
		Minutes of Synod	28.00
		Other Expenses	
		Public & Employer's Liability Insurance	458.52
		Bank Fees	178.44
		Donaldson & Thompson Accountants- Payroll	338.40
		Payments to Wider Church	
		RP Synod Missions Target	1,990.00
		RP Synod Finance Committee Target	2,200.00
		Closing balance at 31 December 2023	5,404.54
	£59,970.08		£59,970.08

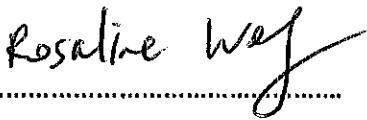
Signed:

Rosaline Woj

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

**Gateway Christian Fellowship
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Funds Reconciliation		
Cash at bank as at 1 January 2023	18,769.80	18,769.80
Deficit this year end	(13,365.26)	(13,365.26)
Cash at bank as at 31 December 2023	5,404.54	5,404.54
Bank Balance		
Bank Current Account		5,404.54
Assets retained for the charity's own use (Unrestricted Fund)		
4/7 Share in 16 Claremont Manse, Derry		80,000.00
Liabilities (Unrestricted Fund)		
Loan from RPCI Western Presbytery		80,000.00

Signed: 

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100195

Annual report

Gateway Christian Fellowship Session Report 2023- Trustee Annual Report

We are thankful to God for all his blessings to us in 2023 the first full year of a return to post-Covid normality in church life.

13a Pump Street

As 2022 ended we were still unsure if our negotiations over the lease for 13a Pump Street would end successfully. At a congregational meeting on 26th January 2023 the congregation agreed to proceed to sign the lease provided the remaining issues were satisfactorily resolved. This being the case we were able to sign the lease and take up residency in the property at the beginning of May 2023. Since then, we were able to hold most of our meetings in the front section of the building while we awaited planning permission for "Change of Use" of the building as a place of worship. It took until early November, a full six months, for this permission to come through.

As the year ended the first steps in the refurbishment process had begun under the welcome guidance of Mr James Snodgrass and his tradesmen contacts. We look forward with anticipation to the work being completed before too much of 2024 has passed. Once the work on the kitchen area and the worship space is complete, we will be able to vacate the front section of the building and get it set up as the proposed shop. We have been gradually accumulating furniture and fittings for this over the last few months.

We are very grateful to the Session, and Congregation of Bready RPC for their offer of financial support for the Pump Street building.

Public Worship

Public worship took place each week in the Maldron Hotel until mid-May. Thereafter we met in front section of the Pump Street building.

Attendance of members at morning worship has been consistently good when health permitted. We are pleased that some members of other local R.P. congregations support us by attending worship with us regularly. On a couple of occasions, we had a large but welcome influx of visitors which challenged our seating resources. As yet we have had few non-R.P. visitors to our worship services, but we trust and pray that that will change once we get the shop up and running and are able to fully utilise the building for outreach activities.

We thank Rev Neilly for his careful preparation and faithful and challenging exposition of God's Word. Over the year we have benefited from sermon series on some passages in 1 Samuel, Romans chapters 5-11, several Psalms, and laterally a new series on the Gospel of John.

The children of the congregation have benefited from children's address on most occasions.

Rev Neilly also preached in Nantes in France for 2 weeks in the summer to cover the local minister's leave.

We are thankful to those men who have preached in Gateway during Rev Neilly's holidays or when he was required to preach in vacant congregations. The elders as well as preaching in Gateway on occasions have also preached in other congregations in the denomination.

The Lord's Supper was celebrated four times during the year in the months of January, April, September and November. This year the focus of the preaching on those occasions was John's gospel chap 16. There was an average of 13-14 communicants participating. A fellowship meal was held in the evening after each celebration of the Lord's Supper.

We thank our main precentor and others who have assisted from time to time.

We appreciate the work which one of our members does recording the services and putting them on the website. We also thank another friend of the congregation for continuing to keep our congregational website up to date and other members for making regular updates to the Facebook page.

Work of Session

The Session of the congregation was constituted for formal business on 6 occasions in addition to the 4 times when constituted for the Lord's Supper. There were no baptisms or new members received into the congregation in the past year.

Session Members attended the regular meetings of the Western Presbytery, and Synod as required, and a meeting of the Western Presbytery elders' fellowship and the Synodical Day of Prayer.

As in previous years, Rev Neilly attended the annual RP Ministers' Conference at the Drummond Hotel in Ballykelly.

Visitation of the families of the congregation was completed in September when the theme of the visitation was "Work and Leisure".

Rev Neilly continued to lecture in Old Testament Literature at the Reformed Theological College in Belfast each Thursday during term time. This has resulted in much time having to be devoted to preparation.

A congregational WhatsApp group was set up to improve the internal communications of the Gateway Session with the members.

Bible Study and Fellowship Meetings

In 2023 these almost always took place in person. Until we had use of the Pump Street building these were held in the Neilly home.

Once a month the Lord's Day evening meeting took the form of a prayer meeting. Other weeks we have done further study on the topic of the morning's sermon. We have also used a couple of books to guide our thinking on Biblical themes, namely "Truth on Fire" by Adam Ramsey, and "Considering Christianity" by John Frame.

At most of our Thursday evening Bible studies we continued studying the book of Genesis (chapters 36-50) and then began a study of 1 Peter. Attendance at these meetings has been encouraging. The elders have assisted in leading these meetings during the Reformed Theological College term time. In May some members attended a Presbytery prayer time focused on the need for elders across the denomination. They also benefited from special meetings in Faughan RP Church taken by European Missionary Fellowship and Creation Ministries International.

The Ladies' Fellowship has met periodically for Bible study and for prayer. Some of the ladies have joined on-line meetings organised by the denomination's ladies fellowship committee. There have also been informal meetings for breakfast/coffee etc.

Though meetings were planned on a couple of occasions, due to other events, the Men's Fellowship did not meet during 2023.

Outreach and Service

At the end of the year, we distributed gospel calendars, some gospels and other evangelistic literature in the Guildhall Square area of the city. Calendars were also distributed around some housing areas. We pray that the Lord would use this literature for His glory.

As in previous years, some of our members were involved in catering for Girls Discovery Camp and Senior Camp respectively. Others of our members served for a second year as officers at the Boy's Discovery Camps and Camp Re-unions.

Another member has continued to represent the congregation on the Western Presbytery Youth Committee.

As we end 2023, we do so with a sense of expectation but also with some trepidation as we anticipate the opening of our shop/meeting place and welcoming members of the public into it. We are very aware of our numerical weakness and our inadequacy for the task ahead and of our need for the Lord's help in this venture. However, we look to the future with hope trusting in a great God ***“who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine”. (Ephesians 3:20a)***

Respectfully submitted.

Graham Fallows (Clerk)

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100195

Annual return

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Statement of Independent Examiner

I report on the accounts of **Gateway Christian Fellowship** for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 2-3 hereof.

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 my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions 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

I have examined your Charity Accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. My 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.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me 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

I have completed my 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, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Dated this 11 day of December 2024

Signed:
Rosaline Wong

Rosaline Wong

Relevant professional qualification or body: **Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ireland**

Address: **42 Spruce Meadows, Culmore, Derry BT48 8SF**

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Gateway Christian Fellowship		2023 Accounts	
<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Payments</u>	
Opening Balance	18,769.80	Minister	
Freewill Offering (envelopes & bank transfers)	32,648.70	Salary (Gross £28,000)	22,611.60
Cash Offering	825.85	PAYE Income Tax, Employer's & Employee's NI	5,852.28
Donations	1,770.00	Expenses	500.00
HMRC Gift Aid Payment	5,955.73	Pension	2,640.00
		Housing Allowance	1,800.00
		Pulpit Supply & Mileage	440.00
		RP Minister's Conference	100.00
		16 Claremont Manse	
		Rates	896.58
		Buildings Insurance	447.40
		Management Company Service Charge	0.00
		Meeting place	
		Maldron Hotel Room Hire	1,000.00
		Pump Street	
		Furniture and kitchen equipment	758.13
		Rental Deposit	3,750.00
		Rent (£15,000 per annum)	7,500.00
		Service Charge	555.00
		Electricity	46.78
		Building Control Application Fee	40.00
		Literature and Advertising	
		Books and Outreach Literature	206.41
		Covenanter Witness	160.00
		Presbytery Financial Reports	68.00
		Minutes of Synod	28.00
		Other Expenses	
		Public & Employer's Liability Insurance	458.52
		Bank Fees	178.44
		Donaldson & Thompson Accountants- Payroll	338.40
		Payments to Wider Church	
		RP Synod Missions Target	1,990.00
		RP Synod Finance Committee Target	2,200.00
		Closing balance at 31 December 2023	5,404.54
	£59,970.08		£59,970.08

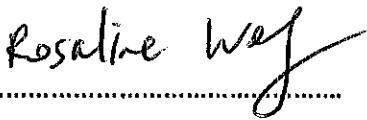
Signed:

Rosaline Woj

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

**Gateway Christian Fellowship
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Funds Reconciliation		
Cash at bank as at 1 January 2023	18,769.80	18,769.80
Deficit this year end	(13,365.26)	(13,365.26)
Cash at bank as at 31 December 2023	5,404.54	5,404.54
Bank Balance		
Bank Current Account		5,404.54
Assets retained for the charity's own use (Unrestricted Fund)		
4/7 Share in 16 Claremont Manse, Derry		80,000.00
Liabilities (Unrestricted Fund)		
Loan from RPCI Western Presbytery		80,000.00

Signed: 

Accounts

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Statement of Independent Examiner

I report on the accounts of **Gateway Christian Fellowship** for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 2-3 hereof.

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 my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions 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

I have examined your Charity Accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. My 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.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me 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

I have completed my 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, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Dated this 24th day of October 2021

Signed:
Rosaline Wong

Rosaline Wong

Relevant professional qualification or body: **Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ireland**

Address: **42 Spruce Meadows, Culmore, Derry BT48 8SF**

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Gateway Christian Fellowship		2020 Accounts	
Receipts		Payments	
Opening Balance	21,488.86	Minister	
Freewill Offering (envelopes)	33,373.30	Salary (Gross £26,400)	21,200.80
Closure of unused AIB account	2.16	PAYE Income Tax, Employer's & Employee's NI	5,199.20
Cash Offering	386.36	Unpaid salary increase for 2019 (£440 gross)	299.20
General Donations	1,240.00	PAYE deductions on 2019 salary increase	140.80
Donation for RP Relief Fund Lebannon Appeal	100.00	Expenses	500.00
Collection from WF for Berrocals in Spain	410.00	Pension	2,720.00
HMRC Gift Aid Payment	7,826.25	Housing Allowance	1,800.00
		Pulpit Supply	230.00
		Minister's Conference	180.00
		16 Claremont Manse	
		Rates	781.98
		Buildings Insurance	309.07
		Room Hire	
		Maldron Hotel	1,100.00
		Literature and Advertising	
		Bible Reading Notes	141.75
		Evangelistic Books and Leaflets	348.36
		Leaflet Distribution	100.00
		Derry Journal Advertising	328.31
		Zoom Video Conference Service	129.51
		Facebook Advertising	41.61
		Presbytery Financial Reports	41.00
		Messenger Magazines- 2019	80.00
		Craft Materials for Children's Outreach- 2019	57.22
		Grants and Donations	
		Synod Missions Target	1,950.00
		Synod Finance Committee Target	1,940.00
		Brenda Kelso, Christian Counsellor	325.00
		Mission Committee for Berrocal Family	410.00
		Wycliffe Bible Translators- Hakkolo family	100.00
		RP Relief Fund Lebannon Appeal	300.00
		Gift for RP Relief Fund Lebannon Appeal	100.00
		Other Expenses	
		Collection Envelopes	13.00
		Public & Employer's Liability Insurance	411.12
		Bank Fees	256.11
		Donaldson & Thompson Accountants- Payroll	307.20
		Dell Laptop Computer for Church use	377.16
		Website Domain and Hosting	219.56
		Closing balance at 31 December 2020	22,388.97
	£64,826.93		£64,826.93

Signed: Rosaline Wolf

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Gateway Christian Fellowship		
Statement of Assets and Liabilities		
Year Ended 31 December 2020		
	Unrestricted	Total
	Funds	2020
	£	£
Funds Reconciliation		
Cash at bank as at 1 January 2020	21,488.86	21,488.86
Surplus this year end	900.11	900.11
Cash at bank as at 31 December 2020	22,388.97	22,388.97
Bank Balance		
Bank Current Account		22,388.97
Assets retained for the charity's own use (Unrestricted Fund)		
4/7 Share in 16 Claremont Manse, Derry		80,000.00
Liabilities (Unrestricted Fund)		
Loan from RPCI Western Presbytery		80,000.00

Signed: *Rosaline Waj*

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100195

Annual report

Gateway Christian Fellowship Session Report 2020

We ended last year's Session Report with the words of Isaiah 40:31

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

We did not know then that the year 2020 would be a year when some of our members in particular and all of us in general would especially need the Lord's strength and sustaining grace as we have faced totally unexpected and extremely difficult events. However, we are comforted by the knowledge that the Lord is still on the throne of the universe and is working out his purposes for his glory and the good of his people.

Many of our personal plans and expectations for the year 2020 had to be put on hold or shelved altogether because of the worldwide pandemic of coronavirus. We are thankful to God that while some members did catch Covid 19 none has been too severely affected so far.

We recognise that it has been a difficult year for all because of not being able to meet as a church family or with friends or family for long periods. Many events including Church camps and conferences were cancelled or had to be held on-line. For long periods churches have been unable to meet and not having our own building has made that particularly challenging for Gateway Christian Fellowship.

Public Worship

As a congregation we continued to meet for morning worship each Lord's Day until mid-March at 11a.m. in the Maldron Hotel. At that point, the worsening coronavirus pandemic and the associated lockdown meant that we were prohibited from meeting and, like all churches, had to resort to on-line streaming of our services. This was done from the minister's home and we are thankful to those members whose technical expertise enabled this transition to take place with few hitches.

Government restrictions eased to allow churches to meet again from July however hotels were not allowed to open to host events and we were unable to find an alternative venue. From the end of August we were able for six weeks to meet again in the hotel. This required a risk assessment to be carried out and a "Protocol for Worship Services in the Maldron Hotel" being developed to ensure the risk of spreading the virus was minimised. The worsening pandemic in the autumn resulted in the hotel becoming unavailable once more and we reverted to the on-line option. For several weeks in November and December we were able to join with the Bready congregation for evening worship at which our minister was the regular preacher.

During our minister's summer holidays we were pleased to have one of our former members preach to us from the family home for a couple of weeks. We were also able to tune in to the live streams of Letterkenny/Milford and

Dervock on a couple of occasions. Over the summer we enjoyed a couple of outdoor times of psalm praise and fellowship in the garden of one of our members.

The average attendance at morning worship prior to the lockdown was 23. No records were kept of those participating in the on-line meetings though we are aware that most of our members and adherents and some others from further afield accessed these meetings.

We value Rev Neilly's faithful preaching week by week. Stephen had to adjust quickly to preaching from his sitting room to a small audience, but he did that well. Over the year the main expository preaching has been from Acts chapters 10-12, the Ten Commandments from Exodus 20, and other series on the "I AM's" of Jesus, and Psalms 31-35. John's gospel continued to provide the focus on those occasions when celebrating the Lord's supper. A children's address was included in the service on most occasions.

While we always value the work of our precentors, they too had to adjust this year to the new situations. Our thanks are due particularly to those who pre-recording the psalms being sung on the live streams and to another member for leading the praise on many of our Zoom meetings.

While we recognise that any on-line option does not fulfil the need for God's people to meet to worship Him, we are thankful for the technology which has enabled us to hear God's word read and preached and enabled us to sing His praise together in some sense.

We appreciate all the work which a member continues to do in keeping our congregational website up to date and another member for making regular updates to the Facebook page.

During the spring lockdown Stephen sought to encourage members and others with a daily blog initially based on Sinclair Ferguson's book "To Seek and to Save" and then on Psalms 105-139. We thank him for all the time and effort he put into encouraging us from God's Word at that time.

During the year Session investigated several potential worship/outreach venues but to date these have proved either unsuitable or unavailable. We continue however to be alert to venues which may become available if the pandemic wanes.

Work of Session

The Session of the congregation was constituted for formal business 17 times during 2020. The Lord's Supper was celebrated twice during the year, in January, and September. There were no baptisms or new members received into the congregation in the past year.

Sadly, many of the Session meetings in the past year resulted from the need to exercise discipline in respect of one of our members, in accordance with the requirements of scripture as summarised in the subordinate standards of

our church. After numerous attempts to encourage this member to repent this discipline culminated in their excommunication from the congregation in June after warrant was received from the Western Presbytery. We continue to commit all affected by this situation, to the God of all comfort praying that they would receive the grace needed in their pain. We continue to pray too that this individual would come to acknowledge their sin and repent of it.

Session Members attended the meetings of the Western Presbytery, and Synod as required, most of which have taken place via the medium of Zoom.

Visitation of the members and adherents took place in the first half of the year mostly via Zoom.

We commend the members and adherents of the congregation for their prayers and practical support for those who have experienced difficult times during the past year.

Bible Study and Fellowship Meetings

Lord's Day evening meetings took place at the minister's home until the lockdown made this impossible. Thereafter meetings took place via Zoom. Once a month this meeting took the form of a prayer meeting. Some evenings we did further study of the passage preached that morning. We have also made use of a number of books to focus our thoughts, namely "God, Adam and You" by a group of writers, "Joy in the Sorrow" by Matt Chandler and "Where is God in a Coronavirus World?" by Professor John Lennox. At other times we have had times of praise or shared about Christian books we had read during lockdown.

At a Zoom meeting in September, a missionary couple with Wycliffe International in Mali, shared something of the work of Bible translation in which they are involved.

In November and December when our main worship service took place in Bready RP Church, our evening meeting was switched to 11a.m in the morning. The format was then changed to be more of a worship meeting with singing, a children's address, a short message on the book of Jonah and a time of prayer.

The Thursday evening Bible study continued weekly. We finished our studies of some Old Testament characters and in March began a Ligonier Ministries DVD series by Rev Sinclair Ferguson on the "Basics of the Christian Life". Through screen sharing on Zoom we were able to complete this series remotely. We also completed the Christian Institute DVD series entitled "Living Christianity" and began another Ligonier Ministries DVD series entitled "Foundations of Grace in the Old Testament" delivered by Steve Lawson. Attendance at these "Zoom" meetings has been encouraging.

The ladies fellowship has met monthly mainly for Bible study and prayer and continued to use a study booklet on Contentment. Some of the ladies have joined some of the on-line talks organised by the Baptist Union of Ireland.

Outreach and Service

Because of the pandemic many of the activities which were planned did not take place. However, Stephen spoke at a Christianity Explained Course run in the Maldron Hotel in January and February. While there were few outsiders present it was a worthwhile event. The student lunch was held on Wednesdays during the Jan-March term time at the manse. Around 10-15 students from the nearby university consistently attended this. We appreciate all those ladies who regularly provided and served the food for these lunches. Unfortunately, the student lunch was one of the victims of the pandemic and was not possible during the remainder of the year.

In the early months of the year Stephen continued to do door-to-door work and leaflet distribution in the Shantallow area when weather and time permitted. He was assisted by one of the members.

We offered Professor John Lennox's book "Where is God in a Coronavirus World?" for no charge on Facebook and the Congregation's website. A small number of requests was received, and copies were also distributed by members and adherents to friends and contacts as they had opportunity.

The Go-Team planned for the month of August had to be cancelled.

Towards the end of the year arrangements were made for delivery of some of our stock of outreach leaflets to homes in the Shantallow area through a delivery business, "Bull Ads". We pray that God would use these leaflets to alert people to their need of salvation.

In December, an advertisement in the Derry Journal containing a "QR code" was used to direct people to the congregation's website and in particular to a sermon on the incarnation. We are aware that a small number of people did make use of the link to access this sermon.

During the year one of our members began an on-line "Sabbath School" at a suitable mid-week time with the children in our fellowship.

As we continue to navigate another year when many of our normal activities remain curtailed, we do so encouraged by the words of Lamentations 3:22-23

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Respectfully submitted.
Graham Fallows (Clerk)

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100195

Annual return

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Statement of Independent Examiner

I report on the accounts of **Gateway Christian Fellowship** for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 2-3 hereof.

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 my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions 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

I have examined your Charity Accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. My 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.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me 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

I have completed my 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, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Dated this 24th day of October 2021

Signed:
Rosaline Wong

Rosaline Wong

Relevant professional qualification or body: **Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ireland**

Address: **42 Spruce Meadows, Culmore, Derry BT48 8SF**

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Gateway Christian Fellowship		2020 Accounts	
<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Payments</u>	
		Minister	
Opening Balance	21,488.86	Salary (Gross £26,400)	21,200.80
Freewill Offering (envelopes)	33,373.30	PAYE Income Tax, Employer's & Employee's NI	5,199.20
Closure of unused AIB account	2.16	Unpaid salary increase for 2019 (£440 gross)	299.20
Cash Offering	386.36	PAYE deductions on 2019 salary increase	140.80
General Donations	1,240.00	Expenses	500.00
Donation for RP Relief Fund Lebannon Appeal	100.00	Pension	2,720.00
Collection from WF for Berrocals in Spain	410.00	Housing Allowance	1,800.00
HMRC Gift Aid Payment	7,826.25	Pulpit Supply	230.00
		Minister's Conference	180.00
		16 Claremont Manse	
		Rates	781.98
		Buildings Insurance	309.07
		Room Hire	
		Maldron Hotel	1,100.00
		Literature and Advertising	
		Bible Reading Notes	141.75
		Evangelistic Books and Leaflets	348.36
		Leaflet Distribution	100.00
		Derry Journal Advertising	328.31
		Zoom Video Conference Service	129.51
		Facebook Advertising	41.61
		Presbytery Financial Reports	41.00
		Messenger Magazines- 2019	80.00
		Craft Materials for Children's Outreach- 2019	57.22
		Grants and Donations	
		Synod Missions Target	1,950.00
		Synod Finance Committee Target	1,940.00
		Brenda Kelso, Christian Counsellor	325.00
		Mission Committee for Berrocal Family	410.00
		Wycliffe Bible Translators- Hakkolo family	100.00
		RP Relief Fund Lebannon Appeal	300.00
		Gift for RP Relief Fund Lebannon Appeal	100.00
		Other Expenses	
		Collection Envelopes	13.00
		Public & Employer's Liability Insurance	411.12
		Bank Fees	256.11
		Donaldson & Thompson Accountants- Payroll	307.20
		Dell Laptop Computer for Church use	377.16
		Website Domain and Hosting	219.56
		Closing balance at 31 December 2020	22,388.97
	£64,826.93		£64,826.93

Signed: Rosaline Wolf

GATEWAY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Gateway Christian Fellowship		
Statement of Assets and Liabilities		
Year Ended 31 December 2020		
	Unrestricted	Total
	Funds	2020
	£	£
Funds Reconciliation		
Cash at bank as at 1 January 2020	21,488.86	21,488.86
Surplus this year end	900.11	900.11
Cash at bank as at 31 December 2020	22,388.97	22,388.97
Bank Balance		
Bank Current Account		22,388.97
Assets retained for the charity's own use (Unrestricted Fund)		
4/7 Share in 16 Claremont Manse, Derry		80,000.00
Liabilities (Unrestricted Fund)		
Loan from RPCI Western Presbytery		80,000.00

Signed: *Rosaline Waj*