

**The Journey Church**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Objectives and aims**

The charity aims to teach the values outlined within the Bible to better improve people's lives and give them an opportunity to put their trust in God. The charity aims to provide a regular place of worship with a sense of community and belonging for its people. It also provides activities for children and young children.

The charity aims to work locally with all sections of the community, building relationships, sharing and demonstrating the love of God. The charity is currently partnering with an organisation called Christians Against Poverty (CAP) in order to educate the local community in how to organize their finances and assist those in debt or with financial problems.

All these activities are run by volunteers, apart from the church teaching and pastoral care. The church currently employs Aaron Molesky as a temporary part time pastor within the organisation. The charity also has a part-time worship and music coordinator, training and equipping others in the area of leading worship and playing instruments. The charity also employs a part time administrator to assist with the administration of the church and to provide support to the leadership team in leading the church and caring for people.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

Our partnership with Links Counselling continues to grow and, in line with planning permission, we constructed four new counselling rooms, office space and new youth facilities in part of our buildings. This allows us to expand our overall reach as a church into the community with services to change lives.

Our Happy Days soft play venture has been another amazing way to connect with the local community. We are able to offer free spaces to disadvantaged families and have seen a number of people connect with the church as a result of this venture.

The charity also supports a number of overseas mission projects including a family working in Italy and an education program in Kenya. The charity also supports missionaries in Spain, Serbia, Mexico and Republic of Ireland.

The charity aimed to have over 100 regular attendees added to worship services each week. Attendance has increased in the past year and the charity continues to improve its excellent facilities.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial review**

The charity has a healthy cash flow and has no outstanding debts. The majority of the charity's income comes through donations from church members. A sizable amount of the charity's money is set aside for local compassion work and overseas mission work. The charity has also received some grant funding from trusts that appreciate the positive impact the charity is having in the heart of their local community.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

The charity is keen to expand its work in the heart of the local community. As well as continuing to develop the work of Happy Days and helping links counselling we also intend to pursue other ways of making a positive impact in our local area.

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The three trustees also act as directors for the charity. The charity has a joint leadership team made up of the three directors. They each have equal responsibility, authority and power in decision-making. When a unanimous decision cannot be made a majority decision is reached. Within the context of the journey church these three directors serve as leaders and are responsible for all decision-making along with the wider church leadership team.

The Journey Church has a memorandum and articles of association, the charity is constituted as a limited company by guarantee.

All trustees must pass strict criteria, they must be above reproach, have a good reputation and be responsible with money. An unanimous decision must be reached by old trustees when appointing new trustees.

All risks posed to the charity are covered by professional indemnity insurance. All appropriate procedures and systems are in place to ensure that insurance policies criteria are always complied with. The charity has a safeguarding policy in place for working with children and vulnerable adults. All volunteers within the charity are appropriately vetted.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

NI623523 (Northern Ireland)

**Registered Charity number**

100981

**Registered office**

Journey Church  
Unit 3B Moira Road Retail Park  
45 Moira Road  
Lisburn  
Co. Antrim  
BT28 1RH

**Trustees**

Gary Francis Bolton Pastor (resigned 8.11.22)  
Mr Samuel Joseph Bittle Building Contractor  
Mr Matthew John Kennedy Builder  
Mr Neil McLeese (appointed 9.9.22)

**Independent Examiner**

John McCleary FCA  
McCleary & Company Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
Garvey Studios  
14 Longstone Street  
Lisburn  
Co. Antrim  
BT28 1TP

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**Solicitors**

MacCorkell Legal  
Garvey Studios  
8-10 Longstone Street  
Lisburn  
BT28 1TP

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr Samuel Joseph Bittle - Trustee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Bittle', written in a cursive style.