

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Northern Ireland · Charity number 101154

Details

Status Received

Registered 2014-12-15

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

Address 37 Cumberland Park
Dundonald
Belfast
Bt16 2az
BT16 2AZ

Phone 028 9514 1458

Email knockepc@gmail.com

Activities

Purposes: To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Subordinate Standard of Faith as defined in The Code applicable to the Congregation in the East Belfast area and in such other parts of the world ('the area of benefit') as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.

What the charity does: The advancement of religion

How the charity works: Counselling/support, Relief of poverty, Religious activities, Volunteer development, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Children (5-13 year olds), General public, Men, Older people, Parents, Volunteers, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£116,328	£62,336	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Paul Watson		
Robert Johnston		
Wallace Thompson		

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101154

Accounts

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

End of Year Accounts 2024 - Draft

-1 INCOME			
Balance in Bank 1st January			£22,328.78
Fund Status	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
	£22,029.34	£299.44	£22,328.78
Restricted Fund Status			
Womans Bible Study		£67.24	
Mens Breakfast		£113.75	
General (Non -Building)		£118.45	
		£299.44	
Hampshire Trust Building Society	£25,392.94		
			£25,392.94
General Income	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
FWO envelopes	£3,675.00		
Boxes	£10,583.49		
D.Debits	£41,882.40		
Income Tax refund	£8,692.63		
Gifts			
	£64,833.52		£64,833.52
Special Income Denominational Funds			
Home & Foreign Missions			
Central Fund			
H T Needy			
Training for the Ministry			
EPC Central Fund Rebate			
Special Income Congregation			
Donations			
Sunday School		£298.09	
Building Fund			
First Aid			
Mission Sunday			
		£298.09	£298.09
Special Income Missions			
Good News For Everyone (Gideo)			
Every Home Crusade			
CWI			
PFC India Outreach			
Ukraine Collection			
Pamela & Musa Gaiya			
EMF			
Catherine Tuwi (Sunday School)		£120.00	
Catherine Tuwi (W Bible Study)		£480.00	
		£600.00	£600.00
Other Income			
Women Bible Study		£353.98	
Friday Club		£288.14	
Minibus			
Summer / Autumn Outreach			
Bank Interest	£453.67		
Power NI Grant			
Mens Breakfast			
Ballyclare EPC	£500.00		
	£953.67	£642.12	£1,595.79
Total Income	£113,209.47	£1,839.65	£115,049.12
Status of Fixed Assets (Knock EPC) - Dec 2024			
Building & Contents	£700,000.00		

-1 EXPENDITURE			
Utilities		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Heat & Light		£1,947.00	
Insurance		£949.30	
Rates - minister		£519.99	
Ground Rent		£20.00	
Ministers Expenses		£300.00	
Water		£252.61	
		£3,988.90	£3,988.90
Denominational Funds			
Central Fund		£38,470.00	
Home & Foreign Missions			
Hymnbooks			
Magazine		£43.75	
Training for Ministry			
Help The Needy			
Hampshire Trust Building Society			
Hunter Building Rebate		£1,230.00	
		£39,743.75	£39,743.75
Congregational Activities			
Evangelical Bookshop		£108.20	£413.61
Pulpit Supply		£550.00	
Advertising / Printing		£301.21	
Camps		£985.00	
Minibus expenses		£2,256.30	
Repairs & Maint.		£1,552.24	
Bank Charges		£94.35	
Gifts		£624.94	
Sunday School / YPA/Friday Club		£200.11	£586.23
Summer / Autumn Outreach		£1,277.29	
Licence		£97.00	
Catering		£1,587.95	£118.45
Church improvements			
Ballyclare EPC		£500.00	
		£10,134.59	£1,118.29
Other Missions and Societies			
EMF		£700.00	
Christian Institute			
DayLight Christian Prison Trust		£500.00	
IMTJP (CWI)		£500.00	
Dumisani Theological Bible Institute		£500.00	
UFM (B Smith)		£500.00	
ACTS (UFM - D Gordan)			
Children for Christ		£500.00	
Frontiers (P&N Grier)		£500.00	
Mission Africa (P Gaiya)		£1,000.00	
A Ball (UFM)			
Sean Abrahams (UFM)		£1,200.00	
C Tuwi (WEC)		£150.00	£600.00
Nigeria Church (P J)		£200.00	
MERF		£500.00	
		£6,750.00	£600.00
Total Expenditure		£60,617.24	£1,718.29
Total Income		£113,209.47	£1,839.65
Balance Carried forward		£52,592.23	£121.36
		£27,199.29	£27,199.29
Fund Status - Non Building (General)			
Fund Status - Building			
Fund Status - Mission			
Fund Status - H& FM			
Fund Status - Woman Bible Study			£7.61
Fund Status - Sunday School			
Fund Status - Minibus			
Fund Status - Mens Breakfast			£113.75
Sub total (Ulster Bank), inc cheque provision			£27,320.65
Fund Status - Hampshire Building Society		£25,392.94	
Available Funds			£27,320.65

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101154

Accounts

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

End of Year Accounts 2023

-1 INCOME			
Balance in Bank 1st January			£58,689.51
Fund Status	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
	£58,390.07	£299.44	£58,689.51
Restricted Fund Status			
Womans Bible Study		£67.24	
Mens Breakfast		£113.75	
General (Non -Building)		£118.45	
		£299.44	
Hampshire Trust Building Society		£5,190.30	
		£5,190.30	
General Income	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
FWO envelopes	£3,170.00		
Boxes	£8,710.57		
D.Debits	£27,551.00		
Income Tax refund	£9,045.20		
Gifts	£5,200.00		
	£53,676.77		£53,676.77
Special Income Denominational Funds			
Home & Foreign Missions			
Central Fund			
H T Needy			
Training for the Ministry			
EPC Central Fund Rebate			
Special Income Congregation			
Donations			
Sunday School		£455.40	
Building Fund		£1,000.00	
First Aid			
Mission Sunday		£785.00	
		£2,240.40	£2,240.40
Special Income Missions			
Good News For Everyone (Gideon)			
Every Home Crusade			
CWI			
PFC India Outreach			
Ukraine Collection			
Pamela & Musa Gaiya			
EMF			
Other Income			
Women Bible Study			
Friday Club		£87.98	
Minibus		£325.00	
Summer Outreach			
Bank Interest	£826.26		
Power NI Grant	£600.00		
Mens Breakfast			
Church Social			
	£1,426.26	£412.98	£1,839.24
Total Income	£113,493.10	£8,143.12	£121,636.22
Status of Fixed Assets (Knock EPC) - Dec 2023			
Building & Contents	£680,000.00		

-1 EXPENDITURE			
Utilities		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Heat & Light		£2,257.41	
Insurance		£907.83	
Rates - minister		£545.93	
Ground Rent		£20.00	
Ministers Expenses		£300.00	
Water		£229.25	
		£4,260.42	£4,260.42
Denominational Funds			
Central Fund		£36,450.00	
Home & Foreign Missions			
Hymnbooks			
Magazine		£131.25	
Training for Ministry			
Help The Needy			
Hampshire Building Society		£20,202.64	
Hunter Trust Rebate		£1,350.00	
		£58,133.89	£58,133.89
Congregational Activities			
Evangelical Bookshop		£183.50	
Pulpit Supply		£750.00	
Advertising / Printing		£241.26	
Camps		£1,127.50	
Minibus expenses		£2,329.02	£325.00
Repairs & Maint.		£5,081.99	
Bank Charges		£99.67	
Gifts		£340.98	
Sunday School / YPA/Friday Club		£419.67	£456.97
Summer Outreach		£407.90	
Licence		£93.00	
Catering		£176.37	
Church Improvements		£12,640.00	£1,000.00
Cornhill Belfast		£800.00	
		£24,690.86	£1,781.97
Other Missions and Societies			
EMF		£200.00	
Christian Institute			
ACTS - Adrian Adger Library			
IMTIP (CWI)		£600.00	
Mission Africa (Adger Library)		£215.00	£785.00
UFM (B Smith)			
ACTS (UFM - D Gordan)		£100.00	
Children for Christ			
SASRA		£150.00	
Mission Africa (P Gaiya)		£400.00	
A Ball (UFM)		£200.00	
Sean Abrahams (UFM)		£1,613.59	£86.41
Answers in Genesis		£300.00	
SCFS		£200.00	
MERF		£400.00	
		£4,378.59	£871.41
Total Expenditure		£91,463.76	£2,653.38
Total Income		£113,493.10	£8,143.12
Balance Carried forward		£22,029.34	£5,489.74
		£22,029.34	£118.45
Fund Status - Non Building (General)			£22,147.79
Fund Status - Building			
Fund Status - Mission			
Fund Status - H& FM			
Fund Status - Woman Bible Study			£67.24
Fund Status - Sunday School			
Fund Status - Minibus			
Fund Status - Mens Breakfast			£113.75
Sub total (Ulster Bank), inc cheque provision			£22,328.78
Fund Status - Hampshire Building Society			£25,392.94
Available Funds			£47,721.72

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101154

Annual report

KNOCK EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TRUSTEES REPORT 2023

“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus”.
(Galatians 3:27-28)

In the words above, Paul is reminding us that while the church consists of all sorts of people, from all sorts of backgrounds and with all sorts of personalities, we are, in essence, “All one in Christ Jesus”. We can look back on 2023 in the life of Knock with much thankfulness.

Session was restored to its previous strength when Mr Paul Watson, elected ruling elder in November 2022, was ordained and installed at the evening service on Lord’s Day 12 February 2023. The service was held under the auspices of the appointed commission of presbytery (Rev Mark Johnston, Rev Andy Hambleton and Mr David Woolsey) and was led by Rev Andy Hambleton. Apologies were received from Rev narrative of events presented by Mr Wallace Thompson, the prescribed questions were put to Mr Watson by Mr David Woolsey, and Mr Watson then signed the declaration. During the laying on of hands, Mr Hambleton led in prayer. Mr Hambleton then preached the Word. After the service, a time of fellowship and supper was enjoyed by all. As a congregation we rejoice in this new chapter of our history.

The new Session met formally on 15 February, 21 March, 3 May, 3 August, 25 October and 29 November. In addition, we met regularly for prayer and a more informal time of fellowship. We also commenced a study of “A Good Work”, a book by David Watson, ruling elder in Ballyclare EPC, reflecting on the eldership in everyday life and ministry. Please give thanks for a good spirit of harmony and unity within Session and continue to pray for us.

We were saddened by the sudden passing of our brother Richard Hamilton on 20 January. Although in declining health, Richard had been faithful in attendance at Sunday worship and prayer meetings. The funeral took place on Saturday 28 January at 11am in Knock and was conducted by Rev Robert Johnston.

Communicant classes were held during 2023 and, as a result, Hannah Watson and Nathan Watson came into membership at the Lord’s Supper on Sunday morning, 3 December.

At the start of 2023, we continued our men’s and ladies Bible studies on 1 and 2 Timothy on alternate Wednesdays for a number of weeks, before reverting to our normal prayer meetings. Session decided to repeat this in the autumn with separate studies on Biblical Manhood and Biblical Womanhood.

Special services were held at different points throughout the year, with the aim of reaching out to the community. A Good Friday service was held in Knock on 7 April at 7pm and the congregation was boosted by the attendance of some friends from Connsbrook Congregational Church. Rev Robert Johnston was the preacher. In

advance of Christmas, we distributed CEF Christmas evangelistic leaflets and carol service invitations in Tullycarnet. Our carol service took place on Lord's Day 24 December at 5pm, and a service was held on Christmas morning at 10am.

Congregational fellowship was in evidence throughout the year, with people lingering behind long after the services of worship were over each Lord's Day. From September, we decided to replace the monthly evening supper with a smaller, weekly, supper. We also enjoyed another very successful Christmas meal in the church on 2 December and, once again, our thanks go to Michael Harrison and his team of helpers.

Attendances at morning services averaged 38 and evening services 31.

At the Presbytery Day Conference held in Crumlin EPC, on Saturday 13 May, Rev Robert Johnston was installed as EPC Moderator for 2023-24. Please pray for Robert as this places an additional workload upon him, both in chairing Presbytery and in visiting the various congregations.

For the first time in several years, our congregation was visited by a Commission of Presbytery. While this might sound a bit dramatic, it is simply a standing Presbytery arrangement whereby each congregation is visited periodically along the lines of Acts 15:36 where *"Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do"*. The Commission, consisting of Rev Mark Johnston, Mr Allister Lucas and Mr Mervyn Kelly, met with us on the evening of Thursday 23 November and their report, which was very positive and encouraging, was presented to Presbytery on Monday 5 February 2024.

As a Session, we want to place on record our indebtedness to all who play an active part in the life and witness of the congregation. Many are quietly serving in all sorts of ways, and we are very grateful to you. We also wish to thank our deacons, David Fairley and Peter McCullough, along with Paul in his ongoing role as Treasurer, for their diligence in attending to the practical needs of the church.

I close by reminding us of our congregational Mission Statement which says, *"Founded on the Word of God and centred on the Gospel of Jesus Christ our mission is to build up God's people in truth, in prayer and in fellowship, so that we can better reach the lost in our own community and across the world"*. Let us reflect upon that statement as we continue our work, with God's help and in His will, throughout 2024.

Wallace Thompson

On behalf of the Trustees of Knock EPC

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101154

Annual return

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

End of Year Accounts 2023

INCOME			
Balance In Bank 1st January			£58,689.51
Fund Status	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
	£58,390.07	£299.44	£58,689.51
Restricted Fund Status			
Womans Bible Study			£67.24
Mens Breakfast			£119.75
General (Non-Building)			£118.45
			£299.44
Hampshire Trust Building Society			£5,190.30
			£5,190.30
General Income			
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
FWD envelopes	£3,170.00		
Boxes	£8,710.57		
D.Debits	£27,551.00		
Income Tax refund	£9,045.20		
Gifts	£5,200.00		
	£53,676.77		£53,676.77
Special Income Denominational Funds			
Home & Foreign Missions			
Central Fund			
HT Needy			
Training for the Ministry			
EPC Central Fund Rebate			
Special Income Congregation			
Donations			
Sunday School	£455.40		
Building Fund	£1,000.00		
First Aid			
Mission Sunday	£785.00		
	£2,240.40		£2,240.40
Special Income Missions			
Good News For Everyone (Gideon)			
Every Home Crusade			
CWI			
EPC India Outreach			
Ukraine Collection			
Pamela & Musa Galya			
EMF			
Other Income			
Women Bible Study			
Friday Club		£87.98	
Minibus		£325.00	
Summer Outreach			
Bank Interest	£826.26		
Power NI Grant	£600.00		
Mens Breakfast			
Church Social			
	£1,426.26	£412.98	£1,839.24
Total Income	£113,493.10	£8,143.12	£121,636.22
Status of Fixed Assets (Knock EPC) - Dec 2023			
Building & Contents	£680,000.00		

Audited & found correct
 Handwritten signature
 27/1/24

EXPENDITURE			
Utilities			
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
Heat & Light	£2,257.41		
Insurance	£907.83		
Rates - minister	£545.93		
Ground Rent	£20.00		
Ministers Expenses	£300.00		
Water	£229.25		
	£4,260.42		£4,260.42
Denominational Funds			
Central Fund	£36,450.00		
Home & Foreign Missions			
Hymnbooks			
Magazine	£131.25		
Training for Ministry			
Help The Needy			
Hampshire Building Society	£20,202.64		
Hunter Trust Rebate	£1,350.00		
	£58,133.89		£58,133.89
Congregational Activities			
Evangelical Bookshop	£183.50		
Pulpit Supply	£750.00		
Advertising / Printing	£241.76		
Camps	£1,127.50		
Minibus expenses	£2,329.02	£325.00	
Repairs & Maint.	£5,081.99		
Bank Charges	£39.67		
Gifts	£340.98		
Sunday School / YPA/Friday Club	£418.67	£456.97	
Summer Outreach	£407.90		
Licence	£93.00		
Catering	£176.37		
Church Improvements	£12,640.00	£1,000.00	
Cornhill Belfast	£800.00		
	£24,690.86	£1,781.97	£26,472.83
Other Missions and Societies			
EMF	£200.00		
Christian Institute			
ACTS - Adrian Adger Library			
IMTIP (CWI)	£600.00		
Mission Africa (Adger Library)	£215.00	£785.00	
UFM (B Smith)			
ACTS (UFM - D Gordan)	£100.00		
Children for Christ			
SASRA	£150.00		
Mission Africa (P Galya)	£400.00		
A Ball (UFM)	£200.00		
Sean Abrahams (UFM)	£1,613.59	£86.41	
Answers in Genesis	£300.00		
SCFS	£200.00		
MRF	£400.00		
	£4,378.59	£871.41	£5,250.00
Total Expenditure	£91,463.76	£2,653.38	£94,117.14
Total Income	£113,493.10	£8,143.12	£121,636.22
Balance Carried forward	£22,029.34	£5,489.74	£27,519.08
Fund Status - Non Building (General)			
Fund Status - Building			
Fund Status - Mission			
Fund Status - H&M			
Fund Status - Woman Bible Study			£67.24
Fund Status - Sunday School			
Fund Status - Minibus			
Fund Status - Mens Breakfast			£113.75
Sub total (Ulster Bank), Inc cheque provision			£22,328.78
Fund Status - Hampshire Building Society			£25,392.94
Available Funds			£47,721.72

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101154

Accounts

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

End of Year Accounts 2022 - Summary (31 Dec 2022)

-1 INCOME			
Balance in Bank 1st January			£21,192.33
Fund Status	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
	£20,869.39	£322.94	<u>£21,192.33</u>
Restricted Fund Status			
Womans Bible Study		£67.24	
Mens Breakfast		£113.75	
General (Non -Building)		<u>£141.95</u>	
		<u>£322.94</u>	
Hampshire Trust Building Society		£5,133.32	
		<u>£5,133.32</u>	
General Income			
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
FWO envelopes	£3,670.00		
Boxes	£8,998.75	£140.65	
D.Debits	£22,235.00		
Income Tax refund	£7,994.31	£987.84	
Gifts	<u>£10,000.00</u>		
	£52,898.06	£1,128.49	<u>£54,026.55</u>
Special Income Denominational Funds			
Home & Foreign Missions			
Central Fund			
H T Needy			
Training for the Ministry			
EPC Central Fund Rebate	£34,000.00		
	<u>£34,000.00</u>		<u>£34,000.00</u>
Special Income Congregation			
Donations			
Sunday School		£410.58	
Building Fund			
First Aid			
Mission Sunday			
		<u>£410.58</u>	<u>£410.58</u>
Special Income Missions			
Good News For Everyone (Gideo)		£20.00	
Every Home Crusade			
CWI			
PFC India Outreach			
Ukraine Collection		£1,250.30	
Pamela & Musa Gaiya		£120.00	
EMF			
		<u>£1,390.30</u>	<u>£1,390.30</u>
Other Income			
Women Bible Study			
Friday Club		£106.30	
Minibus		£246.28	
Summer Outreach			
Bank Interest	£39.95	£56.98	
Centenary Outreach	£898.84		
Mens Breakfast			
Church Social			
	<u>£938.79</u>	<u>£409.56</u>	<u>£1,348.35</u>
Total Income	£108,706.24	£8,795.19	<u>£117,501.43</u>

-1 EXPENDITURE			
Utilities			
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Heat & Light		£1,465.80	
Insurance		£849.96	
Rates - minister		£515.83	
Ground Rent		£20.00	
Ministers Expenses		£300.00	
Water		£217.32	
		<u>£3,368.91</u>	<u>£3,368.91</u>
Denominational Funds			
Central Fund		£36,000.00	
Home & Foreign Missions			
Hymnbooks			
Magazine		£131.25	
Training for Ministry			
Help The Needy			
Hampshire Building Society			
Hunter Trust Rebate			
		<u>£36,131.25</u>	<u>£36,131.25</u>
Congregational Activities			
Evangelical Bookshop		£368.02	£245.18
Pulpit Supply		£650.00	
Advertising / Printing		£410.05	£2.85
Camps		£788.40	
Minibus expenses		£467.38	£1,234.12
Repairs & Maint.		£2,768.89	£18.00
Bank Charges		£97.10	
Gifts		£140.00	
Sunday School / YPA/Friday Club		£36.95	£358.10
Summer Outreach		£482.87	
Licence		£87.00	
Catering		£1,023.05	£23.50
Church improvements			
Cornhill Belfast		£400.00	
		<u>£7,719.71</u>	<u>£1,881.75</u>
			<u>£9,601.46</u>
Other Missions and Societies			
EMF		£374.85	£625.15
Christian Institute		£100.00	
CEF		£466.60	£33.40
CWI			
SIM (C & J Thiede)		£250.00	
UFM (B Smith)		£250.00	
UFM (C Balls)		£174.85	£625.15
Children for Christ			
Good News For Everyone (Gideons)		£100.00	£20.00
Mission Africa (P Gaiya)		£530.00	£120.00
Tim Mulla (EMF)			
Sean Abrahams (UFM)		£500.00	
Trinitarian Bible Society		£100.00	
MERF			
Revival Movement		£250.00	
		<u>£3,096.30</u>	<u>£1,423.70</u>
			<u>£4,520.00</u>
Total Expenditure	£50,316.17	£3,305.45	£53,621.62
Total Income	£108,706.24	£8,795.19	£117,501.43
Balance Carried forward	£58,390.07	£5,489.74	<u>£63,879.81</u>
Fund Status - Non Building (General)			
Fund Status - Building			
Fund Status - Mission			
Fund Status - H& FM			
Fund Status - Woman Bible Study			£67.24
Fund Status - Sunday School			
Fund Status - Minibus			
Fund Status - Mens Breakfast			£113.75
Sub total (Ulster Bank)			<u>£58,689.51</u>
Fund Status - Hampshire Building Society		£5,190.30	
Available Funds			<u>£63,879.81</u>

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101154

Annual report

**KNOCK EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

“Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us”.

(1 Samuel 7:12)

After two years of restrictions and uncertainties due to Covid-19, we were so thankful to be able to return to a greater degree of normality in 2022. Average attendances at Sunday worship were encouraging overall, with an average of 37 at the morning service and 28 at the evening service.

However, the fallout from Covid cast its shadow over the start of the year when our esteemed fellow-elder, Mr Jim Stephenson, resigned from the membership of Knock (and thus from Session) on 19 January, due entirely to his concern about aspects of Session handling of Covid-19 issues in the congregation. His wife Linda also resigned her membership from that date. Both had been members of Knock since 26 April 1994. Jim was installed as a deacon on 5 February 1997 and as an elder on 5 March 2000. For a quarter of a century, Jim had served the congregation with diligence, commitment, prayerfulness and enthusiasm, and his resignation was a seismic blow to Knock congregation and the wider EPC. Jim and I had served together on Session for 22 years, and I was deeply affected, on a personal level, by his departure.

Jim’s resignation meant that until an assessor elder was appointed by Presbytery, Session had no authority to meet. The matter was brought to Presbytery, and Mr Harold Gibson, elder in Stranmillis, expressed his willingness to fulfil the role. Session then met on 16 May at which it was agreed in principle to proceed later in the year with an elders election.

It was subsequently decided, after much prayer and discussion, that we should seek two new elders. The various stages took place in accordance with the EPC Code, and the election was held during w/c 20 November. Counting took place at the Session meeting on 28 November. Out of four names on the voting paper, Mr Paul Watson well-exceeded the required 60% threshold and was therefore deemed elected. This result was announced to the congregation on Lord’s Day 4 December, and at the Presbytery meeting on 5 December a Commission was appointed to make the necessary arrangements for Paul to be ordained and installed in early 2023. We were very conscious of the Lord’s help in the whole process and were greatly heartened by the sense of unity within the congregation. We are looking forward to working with Paul in the days that lie ahead and would covet your prayers for the new Session.

We also want to place on record our indebtedness to our brother Harold Gibson for his role as assessor elder in what turned out to be very difficult personal circumstances. In the early summer, Harold’s dear wife Patricia became seriously ill and passed away on 30 August. As a result, Harold was unable to be involved in any Session meetings until 28 November. In the interim, Robert and I met informally on several occasions to discuss matters and to pray together. Although these meetings had no formal standing, we enjoyed good fellowship, and notes were taken for the

record which have been filed with Session minutes. Meanwhile, please continue to remember Harold in your prayers.

Three of our congregation were called Home to Glory in 2022. Mrs May Hamilton took unwell at the start of the year and passed away on 21 February. Her funeral took place in Knock on 1 March and was conducted by Robert. Jennifer Frizelle had been a faithful member of Knock for many decades but was prevented from attending worship for most of that time due to significant physical disability. She passed away on 19 May and her funeral, conducted by Robert, took place in Knock on 25 May. Mrs Mary Johnston, who had been unwell for some considerable time, passed away on 17 November. Her funeral took place on 21 November in Ballycairn Presbyterian Church and it was also conducted by Robert. Please remember the Hamilton, Frizelle and Johnston families in your prayers.

The Lord is building His church and we were delighted to welcome James and Alison Edwards into membership on 6 March. The sacrament of baptism took place on the morning of Lord's Day 22 May when James and Alison's children Kristyn, Alannah, Caleb and Seth were baptised by Robert, and we later enjoyed a lovely congregational lunch and time of fellowship at the Edwards home.

We were similarly delighted when Tim and Caoimhe Woodrow were married in Knock on 30 July 2022, and we welcomed them into membership on 4 September.

As a congregation our priority is to reach out to the community with the Gospel, and we were very encouraged that we were able to re-commence our children's and young people's work on a proper footing again after Covid. Other reports will highlight this in greater detail.

We also reached out to the community on the day of the major NI Centenary parade from Stormont to the city centre on Saturday 28 May. We opened the church facilities and served burgers etc (thanks again to Michael Harrison!) at the front of the car park. The good weather and large crowds created a carnival atmosphere and enabled us to engage in some very useful conversations. We also produced a special tract for the occasion which was well distributed. An orange lodge from Scotland later wrote to us to thank us for our hospitality and kindness. Please continue to pray for the seed sown on that day.

Towards the end of the year, we decided to depart from the traditional Wednesday night mid-week for a number of weeks. The women's fortnightly Bible study was held on four Wednesdays in October and November, with the men having the same fortnightly Bible study on the other Wednesday nights. It was quite a radical idea, but we feel it was very successful and that it helped to enhance the spiritual life of the congregation. We reverted to our normal arrangements over the Christmas period.

As we look back over 2022, we are encouraged. The congregation is vibrant and there is a good balance and a good mix. We are very grateful to all who give of their time and talents, and we do not take anyone for granted. We would love to see some of our older friends back worshipping with us, but we recognise that this is not always practical, and we must keep our housebound friends in our thoughts and prayers.

In conclusion, we refer you to the text at the start of this report. Samuel had erected a memorial giving praise to God for deliverance from the enemy and called it Ebenezer or “stone of help”. Commenting on this verse, Matthew Henry says, *“Through successive generations, the church of God has had cause to set up Ebenezers for renewed deliverances; neither outward persecutions nor inward corruptions have prevailed against her, because ‘hitherto the Lord hath helped her’ and he will help, even to the end of the world”*. Let us go forward in that confidence.

Wallace Thompson

On behalf of the Trustees of Knock EPC

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101154

Annual return

Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church

End of Year Accounts 2022 - Final (31 Dec 2022)

INCOME			
Balance in Bank 1st January			£21,192.33
Fund Status	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
	£20,869.39	£322.94	£21,192.33
Restricted Fund Status			
Womans Bible Study		£67.24	
Mens Breakfast		£113.75	
General (Non - Building)		£141.95	
		£322.94	
Hampshire Trust Building Society		£5,133.32	
			£5,133.32
General Income	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
FWO envelopes	£3,670.00		
Boxes	£8,998.75	£140.65	
D.Debits	£22,235.00		
Income Tax refund	£7,994.31	£987.84	
Gifts	£10,000.00		
	£52,898.06	£1,128.49	£54,026.55
Special Income Denominational Funds			
Home & Foreign Missions Central Fund			
H T Needy			
Training for the Ministry			
EPC Central Fund Rebate	£34,000.00		
	£34,000.00		£34,000.00
Special Income Congregation			
Donations			
Sunday School		£410.58	
Building Fund			
First Aid			
Mission Sunday		£410.58	£410.58
Special Income Missions			
Good News For Everyone (Gideo)		£20.00	
Every Home Crusade			
CWI			
PFC India Outreach			
Ukraine Collection		£1,250.30	
Pamela & Musa Galya		£120.00	
EMF			
		£1,390.30	£1,390.30
Other Income			
Womans Bible Study			
Friday Club		£106.30	
Minibus		£246.28	
Summer Outreach			
Bank Interest	£39.95	£56.98	
Centenary Outreach	£898.84		
Mens Breakfast			
Church Social			
	£938.79	£409.56	£1,348.35
Total Income	£108,706.24	£8,795.19	£117,501.43
Status of Fixed Assets (Knock EPC) - Dec 2022			
Building & Contents	£650,000.00		
<i>Audited & found correct</i> 31/1/23			

EXPENDITURE			
Utilities	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	
Heat & Light	£1,465.80		
Insurance	£849.96		
Rates - minister	£515.83		
Ground Rent	£20.00		
Ministers Expenses	£300.00		
Water	£217.32		
	£3,368.91		£3,368.91
Denominational Funds			
Central Fund	£36,000.00		
Home & Foreign Missions			
Hymnbooks			
Magazine		£131.25	
Training for Ministry			
Help The Needy			
Hampshire Building Society			
Hunter Trust Rebate			
	£36,131.25		£36,131.25
Congregational Activities			
Evangelical Bookshop	£368.02	£245.18	
Pulpit Supply	£650.00		
Advertising / Printing	£410.05	£2.85	
Camps	£788.40		
Minibus expenses	£467.38	£1,234.12	
Repairs & Maint.	£2,768.89	£18.00	
Bank Charges	£97.10		
Gifts	£140.00		
Sunday School / YPA/Friday Club	£36.95	£358.10	
Summer Outreach	£482.87		
Licence	£87.00		
Catering	£1,023.05	£23.50	
Church Improvements			
Cornhill Belfast	£400.00		
	£7,719.71	£1,881.75	£9,601.46
Other Missions and Societies			
EMF	£374.85	£625.15	
Christian Institute	£100.00		
CEF	£466.60	£33.40	
CWI			
SIM (C & J Thiede)	£250.00		
UFM (B Smith)	£250.00		
UFM (C Balls)	£174.85	£625.15	
Children for Christ			
Good News For Everyone (Gideons)	£100.00	£20.00	
Mission Africa (P Galya)	£530.00	£120.00	
Tim Mulla (EMF)			
Sean Abrahams (UFM)	£500.00		
Trinitarian Bible Society	£100.00		
MERF			
Revival Movement	£250.00		
	£3,096.30	£1,423.70	£4,520.00
Total Expenditure	£50,316.17	£3,305.45	£53,621.62
Total Income	£108,706.24	£8,795.19	£117,501.43
Balance Carried forward	£58,390.07	£5,489.74	£63,879.81
Fund Status - Non Building (General)	£58,390.07	£118.45	£58,508.52
Fund Status - Building			
Fund Status - Mission			
Fund Status - H & FM			
Fund Status - Woman Bible Study		£67.24	
Fund Status - Sunday School			
Fund Status - Minibus			
Fund Status - Mens Breakfast		£113.75	
Sub total (Ulster Bank), inc cheque provision			£58,689.51
Fund Status - Hampshire Building Society		£5,190.30	
Available Funds			£63,879.81

