

Donegall Street Congregational Church

Northern Ireland · Charity number 102063

Details

Status Received

Registered 2015-11-03

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

Contact

Address 25 Richhill Park
Belfast
BT5 6hg
BT5 6HG

Phone 02895 692016

Activities

Purposes: Shall set up, finish and maintain in repair the house of worship now building on the said lot of ground for the public preaching of the gospel and for dispensing other divine ordinances amongst the church now formed as aforesaid and intending stately to worship in the said house

What the charity does: The advancement of religion

How the charity works: Religious activities

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£5,087	£5,910	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr David Bishop		
Mr George Mccoubrey		
Mr John Chapman		
Mr Sydney Johnston		

Donegall Street Congregational Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102063

Accounts

DONEGALL STREET CONGREGATION CHURCH

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2024

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2024

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>	4,387	0	0	4,387	4,149
Rental Income	699			699	169
Interest	5,087	0	0	5,087	4,318
<u>Payments</u>	0	0	0	0	0
Pastoral Care	5,910	0	0	5,910	4,507
Establishment Costs	0	0	0		0
Governance Costs	5,910	0	0	5,910	4,507
	(823)	0	0	(823)	(189)
Before transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers between Funds	(823)	0	0	(823)	(189)
<u>Net Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)</u>	35,683	0		35,683	35,872
Opening Funds at beginning of year	34,860	0	0	34,860	35,683
<u>Closing Funds at end of year</u>					
<u>Held as followings:</u>	2,239	0		2,239	3,762
Bank Current Account No. 1	32,621	0		32,621	31,921
Building Society Term Deposit					0
Cash in hand	34,860	0	0	34,860	35,683

<u>Non-monetary Assets (not included above)</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	7,640,000			8,150,466	7,640,000
Buildings (Insurance cover value)					

Statement of Material Liabilities

The Trustees are not aware of any material liabilities at the date of this Report

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:-

J Chapman

Trustee - Mr J Chapman
24th October 2025

S Johnston

Trustee - Mr S Johnston
24th October 2025

Donegall Street Congregational Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102063

Accounts

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st December 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>					
Rental Income	4,149	0	0	4,149	3,738
Interest	169			169	0
	<u>4,318</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,318</u>	<u>3,738</u>
<u>Payments</u>					
Pastoral Care	0	0	0	0	400
Establishment Costs	4,507	0	0	4,507	4,029
Governance Costs	0	0	0		0
	<u>4,507</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,507</u>	<u>4,429</u>
Before transfers between funds	(189)	0	0	(189)	(691)
Transfers between Funds	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Net Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)</u>	<u>(189)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(189)</u>	<u>(691)</u>
Opening Funds at beginning of year	35,872	0		35,872	36,563
<u>Closing Funds at end of year</u>	<u>35,683</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>35,683</u>	<u>35,872</u>

Held as followings:

Bank Current Account No. 1	3,762	0		3,762	1,040
Building Society Term Deposit	31,922	0		31,922	34,832
Cash in hand				0	0
	<u>35,683</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>35,683</u>	<u>35,872</u>

Non-monetary Assets (not included above)

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Buildings (Insurance cover value)	7,640,000			7,640,000	7,640,000

Statement of Material Liabilities

The Trustees are not aware of any material liabilities at the date of this Report

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:-

Trustee - Mr J Chapman

Dated 24th October 2024

Trustee - Mr S Johnston

24th October 2024

Donegall Street Congregational Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102063

Annual report

Donegall Street Congregational Church Trust

Registered Charity No. 102063

Chairman: Rev Tom Boyle. 11 Abbey Court. Abbey Gardens. Belfast BT5 7JE

Hon Treasurer: John Chapman. 25 Richhill Park. Belfast BT5 6HG

Trustees Annual Report – 1 January to 31 December 2023

Introduction and Background

Donegall Street Congregational Church has existed on its present site since the early 1800s. The church's trust deed dates from December 1804.

By 2012 the existing congregation was declining in numbers and most members were elderly. The church's office bearers recognised that the situation was not sustainable in the longer term. At the same time, they were conscious of the church's original remit of providing a Christian witness in the area in which it is located. The Ulster University has recently acquired substantial land beside the church and was in the process of relocating from its site at Jordanstown. This created an opportunity and need that the existing church felt unable to meet.

The Donegall Street church became aware of a new and growing church (Redeemer Central Belfast), which was meeting in rented premises and was outgrowing those premises. They urgently required larger accommodation but lacked the resources to finance such a move. The doctrines and structure of the Redeemer church were broadly in agreement with those of Donegall Street Congregational Church.

Following discussions between the two churches it was decided that the objectives of both could be satisfied as follows –

1. Donegall Street Congregational Church ceased to hold services at the end of 2012.
2. Redeemer Central Belfast rented the Donegall Street church premises from January 2013 and held services in it from that date.
3. Redeemer Central Belfast leased the premises from the trustees on an annual basis, free of rent, and made quarterly payments to the trustees of Donegall Street Congregational Church to reimburse the trustees for building maintenance and insurance costs.
4. The remaining members of Donegall Street Congregational Church were free to attend Redeemer's services or to move to another church of their choice. In either event the church's former minister, Rev. Tom Boyle, would continue to visit them and provide pastoral support for as long as they wished.

This arrangement continued until the end of 2015 when the situation was reviewed. The leasing arrangement, having worked to the satisfaction of both parties, was renegotiated and a new 20 year lease was signed and became effective from 29 February 2016. Under

the terms of this lease the annual rent from Redeemer to the Donegal Street Trustees is one pound (if demanded). The Redeemer church is fully responsible for all maintenance and repairs to the Donegal Street Church building. The Donegal Street trustees are responsible for insuring the building and are reimbursed by quarterly payments from Redeemer.

The lease includes a right of first refusal to purchase by Redeemer Central Belfast should the trustees decide to sell the premises at any point during the term of the lease.

Purposes and Public Benefit

The purposes of Donegal Street Congregational Church are set out in the church's trust deed as follows – "Set up, finish and maintain in repair the house of worship now building on the said lot of ground for the public preaching of the gospel and dispensing other divine ordinances amongst the church and intending stately to worship in the said house and also for supporting the institution by doing whatever the trustees or their successors in office or their quorum shall deem necessary for that end."

In view of the numerical decline in membership of Donegal Street Congregational Church, the trustees believe that by leasing our church premises to Redeemer Central Belfast, we have continued the Christian ministry and witness which has been maintained unbroken for more than 200 years to people in Central Belfast. In addition, through the ministry of Redeemer Central Belfast, the Donegal Street Congregational Church has sought to establish a witness to the student body of the Ulster University which has recently been established beside the church premises.

The trustees believe that through their actions and decisions during the year they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Year ended 31 December 2023

1. Trustees and Office Bearers

There were no changes to either the trustees or office bearers during 2023.

2. Activities and Beneficiaries

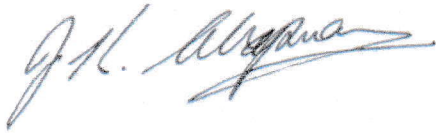
As Donegal Street Congregational Church no longer functions as a practicing congregation, all activities in the premises consistent with the trust deed are carried out by Redeemer Central Belfast. In addition to regular services of public worship the Redeemer church conducts community support activities within the area.

The trustees no longer maintain any pastoral support of former members of Donegal Street Congregational Church.

The trustees are not aware of any private benefit to any individual arising from the work of Donegall Street Congregational Church.

3. Finance

As per Receipts and Payments accounts under separate cover.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J.H. Alford", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon. Treasurer

Donegall Street Congregational Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102063

Annual return

Donegall Street Congregational Church Trust

Registered Charity No. 102063

Chairman: Rev Tom Boyle. 11 Abbey Court. Abbey Gardens. Belfast BT5 7JE

Hon Treasurer: John Chapman. 25 Richhill Park. Belfast BT5 6HG

Trustees Annual Report – 1 January to 31 December 2023

Introduction and Background

Donegall Street Congregational Church has existed on its present site since the early 1800s. The church's trust deed dates from December 1804.

By 2012 the existing congregation was declining in numbers and most members were elderly. The church's office bearers recognised that the situation was not sustainable in the longer term. At the same time, they were conscious of the church's original remit of providing a Christian witness in the area in which it is located. The Ulster University has recently acquired substantial land beside the church and was in the process of relocating from its site at Jordanstown. This created an opportunity and need that the existing church felt unable to meet.

The Donegall Street church became aware of a new and growing church (Redeemer Central Belfast), which was meeting in rented premises and was outgrowing those premises. They urgently required larger accommodation but lacked the resources to finance such a move. The doctrines and structure of the Redeemer church were broadly in agreement with those of Donegall Street Congregational Church.

Following discussions between the two churches it was decided that the objectives of both could be satisfied as follows –

1. Donegall Street Congregational Church ceased to hold services at the end of 2012.
2. Redeemer Central Belfast rented the Donegall Street church premises from January 2013 and held services in it from that date.
3. Redeemer Central Belfast leased the premises from the trustees on an annual basis, free of rent, and made quarterly payments to the trustees of Donegall Street Congregational Church to reimburse the trustees for building maintenance and insurance costs.
4. The remaining members of Donegall Street Congregational Church were free to attend Redeemer's services or to move to another church of their choice. In either event the church's former minister, Rev. Tom Boyle, would continue to visit them and provide pastoral support for as long as they wished.

This arrangement continued until the end of 2015 when the situation was reviewed. The leasing arrangement, having worked to the satisfaction of both parties, was renegotiated and a new 20 year lease was signed and became effective from 29 February 2016. Under

the terms of this lease the annual rent from Redeemer to the Donegal Street Trustees is one pound (if demanded). The Redeemer church is fully responsible for all maintenance and repairs to the Donegal Street Church building. The Donegal Street trustees are responsible for insuring the building and are reimbursed by quarterly payments from Redeemer.

The lease includes a right of first refusal to purchase by Redeemer Central Belfast should the trustees decide to sell the premises at any point during the term of the lease.

Purposes and Public Benefit

The purposes of Donegal Street Congregational Church are set out in the church's trust deed as follows – "Set up, finish and maintain in repair the house of worship now building on the said lot of ground for the public preaching of the gospel and dispensing other divine ordinances amongst the church and intending stately to worship in the said house and also for supporting the institution by doing whatever the trustees or their successors in office or their quorum shall deem necessary for that end."

In view of the numerical decline in membership of Donegal Street Congregational Church, the trustees believe that by leasing our church premises to Redeemer Central Belfast, we have continued the Christian ministry and witness which has been maintained unbroken for more than 200 years to people in Central Belfast. In addition, through the ministry of Redeemer Central Belfast, the Donegal Street Congregational Church has sought to establish a witness to the student body of the Ulster University which has recently been established beside the church premises.

The trustees believe that through their actions and decisions during the year they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Year ended 31 December 2023

1. Trustees and Office Bearers

There were no changes to either the trustees or office bearers during 2023.

2. Activities and Beneficiaries

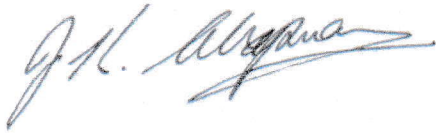
As Donegal Street Congregational Church no longer functions as a practicing congregation, all activities in the premises consistent with the trust deed are carried out by Redeemer Central Belfast. In addition to regular services of public worship the Redeemer church conducts community support activities within the area.

The trustees no longer maintain any pastoral support of former members of Donegal Street Congregational Church.

The trustees are not aware of any private benefit to any individual arising from the work of Donegall Street Congregational Church.

3. Finance

As per Receipts and Payments accounts under separate cover.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J.H. Alford", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon. Treasurer

Donegall Street Congregational Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102063

Accounts

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2018	To	31/12/2018	
---------------------	------------	----	------------	--

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Insurance reimbursement	3,057	-	-	3,057	3,000
Interest	362	-	-	362	876
J. Chapman	20	-	-	20	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)	3,439	-	-	3,439	3,876
A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	3,439	-	-	3,439	3,876
A3 Payments					
Insurance	3,230	-	-	3,230	3,068
Pastoral Services	2,400	-	-	2,400	2,400
Professional Fees	100	-	-	100	-
Bank Charges	10	-	-	10	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
A3 Sub total	5,740	-	-	5,740	5,468
A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,740	-	-	5,740	5,468
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,301	-	-	- 2,301	- 1,592
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	42,926	-	-	42,926	44,518
Cash funds this year end	40,625	-	-	40,625	42,926

Donegall Street Congregational Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102063

Annual report

Donegall Street Congregational Church Trust

Registered Charity No. 102063

Chairman: Rev Tom Boyle 15 Glen Ebor Park Belfast BT4 2JJ

Hon Secretary: Position Currently Vacant

Hon Treasurer: John Chapman 25 Richhill Park Belfast BT5 6HG

Trustees Annual Report – 1 January to 31 December 2018

Introduction and Background

Donegall Street Congregational Church has existed on its present site since the early 1800s. The church's trust deed dates from December 1804.

By 2012 the existing congregation was declining in numbers and most members were elderly. The church's office bearers recognised that the situation was not sustainable in the longer term. At the same time, they were conscious of the church's original remit of providing a Christian witness in the area in which it is located. The Ulster University has recently acquired substantial land beside the church and was in the process of relocating from its site at Jordanstown. This created an opportunity and need that the existing church felt unable to meet.

The Donegall Street church became aware of a new and growing church (Redeemer Central Belfast), which was meeting in rented premises and was outgrowing those premises. They urgently required larger accommodation but lacked the resources to finance such a move. The doctrines and structure of the Redeemer church were broadly in agreement with those of Donegall Street Congregational Church.

Following discussions between the two churches it was decided that the objectives of both could be satisfied as follows –

1. Donegall Street Congregational Church ceased to hold services at the end of 2012.
2. Redeemer Central Belfast rented the Donegall Street church premises from January 2013 and held services in it from that date.
3. Redeemer Central Belfast leased the premises from the trustees on an annual basis, free of rent, and made quarterly payments to the trustees of Donegall Street Congregational Church to reimburse the trustees for building maintenance and insurance costs.
4. The remaining members of Donegall Street Congregational Church were free to attend Redeemer's services or to move to another church of their choice. In either event the church's former minister, Rev. Tom Boyle, would continue to visit them and provide pastoral support for as long as they wished.

This arrangement continued until the end of 2015 when the situation was reviewed. The leasing arrangement, having worked to the satisfaction of both parties, was renegotiated

and a new 20 year lease was signed and became effective from 29 February 2016. Under the terms of this lease the annual rent from Redeemer to the Donegal Street Trustees is one pound (if demanded). The Redeemer church is fully responsible for all maintenance and repairs to the Donegal Street Church building. The Donegal Street trustees are responsible for insuring the building and are reimbursed by quarterly payments from Redeemer.

The lease includes a right of first refusal to purchase by Redeemer Central Belfast should the trustees decide to sell the premises at any point during the term of the lease.

Purposes and Public Benefit

The purposes of Donegal Street Congregational Church are set out in the church's trust deed as follows – "Set up, finish and maintain in repair the house of worship now building on the said lot of ground for the public preaching of the gospel and dispensing other divine ordinances amongst the church and intending stately to worship in the said house and also for supporting the institution by doing whatever the trustees or their successors in office or their quorum shall deem necessary for that end."

In view of the numerical decline in membership of Donegal Street Congregational Church, the trustees believe that by leasing our church premises to Redeemer Central Belfast, we have continued the Christian ministry and witness which has been maintained unbroken for more than 200 years to people in Central Belfast. In addition, through the ministry of Redeemer Central Belfast, the Donegal Street Congregational Church has sought to establish a witness to the student body of the Ulster University which has recently been established beside the church premises.

The trustees believe that through their actions and decisions during the year they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Year ended 31 December 2018

1. Trustees and Office Bearers

Two trustees resigned during 2018 - Rev. Raymond McLarnin and Rev. Chris McKinven. The list of trustees on the Charity Commission website has been amended to reflect this. Efforts to replace them are currently in progress.

2. Activities and Beneficiaries

As Donegal Street Congregational Church no longer functions as a practicing congregation, all activities in the premises consistent with the trust deed are carried out by Redeemer Central Belfast. In addition to regular services of public worship the Redeemer church conducts community support activities within the area.

The trustees maintain their pastoral support of twenty former church members through regular visitation by the former minister and current chairman of the trustees, Rev. Tom Boyle for which he receives a contribution towards his expenses.

The trustees are not aware of any private benefit to any individual arising from the work of Donegall Street Congregational Church.

3. Finance

As per Receipts and Payments accounts under separate cover.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.H. Morgan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon. Treasurer

Donegall Street Congregational Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102063

Annual return

**DONEGALL STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DONEGALL STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2018

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 65 of the 2008 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65 of the 2008 Act; and
- (iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has 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.

Name: R. Lloyd Hunter



Address: C/o 6 Knocklynn Road, Coleraine, County Londonderry, BT52 1WT

Date: 3rd February 2019