

ORANGEFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC104513

ORANGEFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 including a Balance Sheet as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Orangefield Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
464 Castlereagh Road, Belfast, BT5 6BH

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104513)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Gary Ball	Craig Blair	John Boyd
Eric Brunton	Daphne Caldwell	Brian Campbell
Jonny Campbell ²	Naomi Campbell ³	John Compton ¹
Thelma Crawford	Jose Cummings ³	Anna Davison
Gavin Doherty ³	Stephen Douglas	Jeremy Dowd
Hannah Elliott ³	Stephen Ellis	Campbell English
Deborah Ford	Dean Francis	Ross Hart
David Irvine	Robin Jamison	Alan Jennings
Gareth MacLean	Roger McConnell	Ruth McConnell
Sarah McCullough ³	Stephen McMechan	Vanessa Montgomery
Joan Moore	Peter Shields ³	Mark Smyth
Gary Steenson	Ken Tweedie	Dave Whitcroft
Mark Wright ²		

¹ To June 2022

² On sabbatical until September 2022

³ From November 2022 (new elder)



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PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister	Rev Gareth MacLean
Clerk of Session	Mr Jeremy Dowd
Treasurer	Mr Gary Hartin

AUDITOR
Muir & Addy
Muir Building, 427 Holywood Road, Belfast BT4 2LT

BANKERS
Danske Bank
Donegall Square West
Belfast BT1

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STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Session has delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

The Kirk Session consists of the ordained ministers and the ruling elders of the congregation. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the minister in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk Session are normally held monthly from September to June.

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

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance, the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Orangefield Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the East Belfast Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The membership of the Presbytery consists mainly of the active ministers of congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly, ministers who have retired from active duty and an elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

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DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

Orangefield Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ, is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

Our congregation's purpose is to be a praying, worshipping Christian community; empowered by the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus daily and minister in his name; Disciples Making Disciples.

As an evangelical church we are Father-Focused, Christ-Centred and Spirit-Sensitive. As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, we believe that the Bible is the supreme authority over all we do, and that the Westminster Confession of Faith, along with the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, set out what we understand the Bible teaches on key matters of Christian faith and practice.

We are committed to the following nine values:

- **Transformational Bible Teaching;** Believing in the primacy of God's Word as authoritative for every area of life, we aim to provide Bible-based teaching and preaching that is relevant to daily life. We rely upon the Holy Spirit to apply the truths, building up the body of Christ and convicting and challenging individuals so that they are transformed and renewed from the inside out into a growing likeness to Christ.
- **Prayerful Dependence;** We recognise that nothing we do for God is possible without His empowerment. We also appreciate that God calls us into an intimate relationship with Him, in which we regularly seek out opportunities not only to speak to Him in personal and corporate prayer but also to listen in faith for His response in our hearts.
- **God-Glorifying Worship;** We acknowledge that we are called to worship God in our whole lives, dedicating to Him our physical, emotional and spiritual selves in everything we do all day, every day. We also believe in gathering regularly as a congregation for worship as mandated by scripture, including "psalms, hymns and spiritual songs", prayer and ministry of the Word and Sacraments. The primary purpose and focus of our worship is to glorify God, though we can experience fulfilment and edification through honouring Him.
- **Caring and Welcoming Fellowship;** We take seriously the scriptural commands to love one another. We provide an accessible environment within our building, and welcome all to our worship services and outreach activities. We aim to serve all those who seek Jesus and all those who know Him, and provide them with opportunities for fellowship and growth.
- **Innovation and Creativity;** While respecting tradition, we strive to find ways to creatively communicate Christ in a way that is relevant and inspirational to as many as possible.
- **Inclusivity and Openness;** All are welcome to attend our worship services and to come to appropriate organisations and events. Any who are genuinely striving to follow Jesus and are committed to a distinctively Christian lifestyle can be welcomed into full communicant membership. We acknowledge that both men and women have leadership roles within the church, and that the qualification for any ministry is God's calling and gifting. Our Biblical heritage means that we are open to receive "light from any quarter" that is in agreement with Scripture.
- **Equipping and Resourcing all to Serve;** We believe in empowering all members to use their God-given gifts in His service, subject to the discernment and oversight of the leadership. We

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will provide training and resources as required to enable those in service to maintain high levels of commitment and excellence.

- **Ministering to our Local Community;** As a local church, we believe we have a special calling to be servants and witnesses to those living or working in our immediate geographical neighbourhood. We provide services to our local area through ministries such as the Arc Café, our pre-school playgroup (Orange Pips), our Foodbank, our parent and toddlers group, our youth work in Clonduff and Clarawood, our support of the OAK Partnership in Clarawood, and our many other organisations. We seek to proclaim the Good News through these groups and other outreach events like the Alpha course.
- **Participating in Global Mission;** We believe that Jesus Christ has commissioned us to be His witnesses not only to our local area ("Jerusalem"), but also to "Judea, Samaria and the ends of the Earth". We understand that means sharing in His work wherever in the world it is located, by sending and supporting our members wherever they are called to serve, and that this is not just the responsibility of a few enthusiasts but of the whole congregation. We also recognise that, as God's people living in a rich nation, we have a responsibility to share our resources with those less blessed materially than ourselves, and to provide support to those Christians suffering persecution for their faith.

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is observed regularly during the year, and those who have been baptised and who have made a credible profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation holds regular bible study meetings and has a wide range of organisations and ministries including;

4U2	GriefShare
Alpha	Hamper Ministry
Arc Café	Home Groups
Bowls Fellowship	INSPIRE Football & Creative Arts week
Boys' Brigade	JAM Summer scheme
Brownies	Lunch Club
Community Bible Experience (CBE)	Orange Pips Playgroup
Crèche	PW (Presbyterian Women)
Foodbank	Rainbow Guides
Freezer Ministry	SALT & LIGHT (Sunday School)
Friendship Group	SNYF (Sunday Night Youth Fellowship)
Girls' Brigade	

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

With the easing of Covid-19 mitigations and measures in early 2022 the congregation resumed its previous practice of meeting for worship each Sunday at 10:30am and 7:00pm. We have held Seniors' Services several times each year on Sunday afternoons for those who find it difficult to attend worship at other times. During the week, in church and in small groups, members of all ages have met together for prayer, fellowship, and to study the scriptures. Throughout the year, our morning service continued to be streamed live on YouTube, and recordings were made available to members without access to the online services.

In addition to our regular services, during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life as we celebrated six Sacraments of Baptism, and we conducted three marriage services. We also gave thanks for faithful members and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year, as we conducted ten funerals.

During the year we welcomed 22 new communicant members, and as of 31 December 2022 there were 593 communicant members and 490 families connected with the congregation.

Pastoral care

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited or otherwise contacted on a regular basis by the minister, pastoral staff, elders, or one of the congregation's volunteer pastoral visitors.

Mission and outreach

We provide services to our local area through ministries such as the Arc Café, our pre-school playgroup (Orange Pips), our Foodbank, our parent and toddlers group, our youth work in Clonduff and Clarawood, our support of the OAK Partnership in Clarawood, and our many other organisations. We seek to proclaim the Good News through these groups and other outreach events like the Alpha course.

We support local and global mission workers through our offerings, and give prayerful and practical support to many of our members who are involved in short-term mission and outreach projects each year.

The congregation supports the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assists with the running costs of Union Theological College (the training college for ministry students), and financially supports congregations in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

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Presbytery

The congregation is represented at regular meetings of Presbytery by our ministers and two of our elders. This provides an important link between the congregation and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The ministers, one of our elders and an under-30 representative attended the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

Property

No major repairs or refurbishment projects were required during the year.

Organisations:

4U2 seeks to provide a space for adults of all ages with and without learning difficulties and additional needs to meet, engage, have fellowship and form friendships with others in a safe environment. In 2022 we had 10 members plus their family/carers attending on a regular basis. Every one of our 6 leaders contributes and assists in the running of the programme and are involved in planning meeting, set ups, supper preparation and activities of the evenings that we meet. The feedback over the year has been great and hopefully there will be opportunities to welcome new members into the group going forward.

Alpha is run twice a year, with numbers varying from course to course. Alpha is a 10-week course giving people the opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed environment. While Alpha has traditionally operated in a face-to-face setting, we now offer an online course as an alternative option.

Boys' Brigade Each Friday the Boys Brigade within Orangefield meets to cater for boys aged 4 years to 18 years old, with an average attendance of around 100 boys.

The **Brownies** follow a wide range of Guiding activities including badgework, crafts and games. We also took part in the UK Parliament week, had a visit from 'Wee Critters' and had outings to Aunt Sandra's, Belvoir Forest Park, 10-pin bowling, a pantomime and a visit to Santa's Grotto at Lorne (Girlguiding Centre). The average attendance for 2022 was 16.

Community Bible Experience (CBE) During 2022, some of our CBE groups were able to transition from online to various venues. These groups meet weekly to read the Bible (in CBE format) and discuss it together. We believe reading the Bible and seeking / sharing a deeper understanding of what it contains is the most fundamental element of each individual's faith journey.

Crèche runs on Sunday mornings alongside church, for babies and toddlers aged 0-3. The children all have the opportunity for free play as well as stories, colouring and snack time. We usually have about 15 children on Sunday mornings.

Foodbank continued to operate on two afternoons a week as a satellite of the Dundonald Foodbank, in association with the Trussell Trust. This work has been generously supported by our congregation

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and individuals and groups in the community, and has helped a considerable number of families with emergency food packages.

The **Girls' Brigade** aim is to "seek, serve and follow Christ". We meet on Thursday nights and we have girls between the ages of 3 and 18. There is a range of activities each week, which fall under the badge work categories - Scripture, Physical, Education and Service. This year our regular programme has returned, including Enrolment Service, Display and outings. Over 120 girls were registered for GB this year. Many girls are not regular attenders at our church, and so we hope to give girls and their families a welcoming experience, and develop opportunities to join in with church activities.

GriefShare Over the year we had two 13-week sessions planned for Tuesday nights, the purpose to provide bereavement support for those who have suffered a loss. The first session was well attended and well received, the second session although well-advertised did not have any attendees.

Home Groups: Imagine a group of friends of different ages and stages alongside you to help navigate the ups and downs of life and faith together... That's what it means to be in a Home Group. During 2022 we had 22 home groups within Orangefield with a total membership of over 220 people. Most groups met fortnightly, although a few more frequently, to connect, read the Bible, pray and enjoy fun together.

INSPIRE is a Football and Creative Arts week that is run for a week in July for children and young people. In 2022 we had over 70 children aged 7 – 11 and over 25 teens aged 11 – 14 in attendance. The programme consisted of teamwork, football skills, matches, dancing, crafts, STEM, music and drama. This was supported by a team of over 25 volunteers who planned and delivered activities that supported the physical and mental health and personal development of children and young people. We also brought in local experts to train up and deliver specific areas of speciality.

JAM is a summer scheme for children and teenagers. It runs for one week during the month of August. In 2022, we had over 200 children aged 5 – 11 (daytime) and over 100 teens aged 11 - 16 (evening) attending across 3 locations (Orangefield, Clonduff and Clarawood). This was supported by over 70 leaders. We also ran a junior leader training programme within this week for over 40 young helpers. The programme was a week filled with singing, stories, crafts, games, team building and FUN when children and young people got to hear the amazing story of Jesus.

Orange Pips is our pre-school playgroup. Our aim is to provide a happy, caring and stimulating environment. We welcome children from all sections of the community, with up to 26 attending per session. We currently run 5 sessions weekly and have 42 children attending across the week. We welcomed a new leader in September 2022 and the children this year have benefited from updates to an indoor sensory space and from works carried out to repair and improve their outside play space.

Rainbow Guides meet on a Monday night with an average attendance of 14 girls. During 2022 we had visits from Wee Critters, Jo Jingles and Tots Pots Ceramics. We went on outings to Belvoir Forest Park, Dundonald Ice Bowl, Orangefield Park and the Christmas Panto at Stranmillis College. We also attended the 100th birthday celebration event of Rainbows with all the other Churches in the district. The Rainbows did badgework during the year and made crafts and did some cookery.

SALT (Sharing and Learning Together) is our weekly Sunday School programme which takes place during the morning service for those aged between 3 and 10 years old. Approx 50 children attend.

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We have a dedicated team of leaders and young helpers. This year we have been following a new online, multimedia curriculum called 'Energize' which has helped the leaders plan varied, interactive and engaging programmes of Bible studies, quizzes, memory verses & games. Over the past year we have enjoyed a social outing to Streamvale Farm, a Christmas party and carrying out two large scale art projects together as a group.

LIGHT is the weekly Sunday programme which take place during the morning service for those between 11 and 15 years old where age-appropriate bible teaching is provided using storytelling, singing and craft activities.

SNYF – the Sunday Night Youth Fellowship, a group of about 15-20 young people aged 13-18, meet for a time of fellowship, teaching and worship. Games are played, small group discussion happens, a time of praise and supper. During exam time, a more relaxed programme occurs, with outings to the park and food together.

Youth Clubs recommenced with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. In May, a new group was set up in the OAK Centre, Clarawood, and by the end of the year numbers had grown to more than 50 every Monday and Friday evenings. The Clonduff Youth Club started up again in June, run jointly by OPC and the Clonduff Community Association, and with an attendance of about 40 every Friday evening.

VOLUNTEERS

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of the many members of the congregation who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities. Without them, we would be unable to offer many of the services outlined above.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members, or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. At times, local delivery is facilitated by central resources. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media.

The benefits are demonstrated through regular evaluation of the services and informal and ad-hoc feedback from members, their families, and members of the public.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a

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result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income continues to be the generous contribution from our members. There were 365 contributing families during the year (376 in previous year, 2021). Donations received from the Freewill Offering totalled £318,173 (£290,015 in previous year, 2021).

Other Donations & Gifts saw similar levels when compared to the previous year - £141,275 in 2022 (2021 - £121,128). This was mainly due to funds raised for various areas of overseas missionary work.

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £845,273 compared to £743,116 in the previous year.

Total expenditure increased in the year from £770,941 to £918,411.

This year, donations distributed to other charities increased from £168,289 in 2021 to £219,317 in 2022.

There was good news for the Building Fund in 2022. At the start of this financial year, the loans used to finance the construction of our church building stood at £465,228. At the year ended 31 December 2022, this debt stood at £259,242.

RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the congregations and the financial activities for that year. In preparing the financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Funds will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the funds' transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the congregation and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (1 January 2015)". They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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GOING CONCERN

The activities of the congregation are dependent on ongoing contributions from its members. The Trustees are of the opinion that the congregation has sufficient resources at the date of approval of these financial statements to meet commitments which will arise in the year from the date of signing this report and, subject to the continuing support from members, to fund on an ongoing basis the congregation's current activities and other financial commitments.

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees approved the following as the Reserves Policy, based on the recommendation of the Treasurer and Finance Team;

The Trustees have considered the level of unrestricted reserves that it is appropriate to hold, taking account of current and ongoing commitments. It is the policy of the Trustees to endeavour to hold at least 2 months' normal expenditure (£50,000).

Loan repayments: It is the intention of the Trustees to retain 2 months' loan repayments in the Building Fund a/c. This affords the comfort that, should there be a shortfall in monthly loan repayments, they would be in a position to make up the difference in the short term.

Assets: A church asset register is in place and will be updated monthly. A rolling replacement schedule is in place for major assets.


At the year-end the free reserves (excess of unrestricted current liabilities over current assets) were in deficit by £10,915. This has not met the levels identified within the current reserve policy. The reason for the negative free reserve position is due to the annual loan repayment commitment that was required for the construction of the church building. An optimal level of working capital will be maintained to meet the Ministry, staffing and congregational running costs and will support a medium-term goal of full repayment of the church building loan. On final completion of the loan repayment additional surplus reserves will go towards meeting the reserve policy.

RISK REVIEW

A review of major risks has been undertaken by the Trustees and systems and procedures are being implemented to manage identified risks. The principal risks are in relation to the likelihood of reputational damage and financial risks associated with the expectation of ongoing financial support from members. We have agreed a Risk Management Policy and have compiled a Risk Register to ensure that these risks are mitigated by the Trustees and the Congregational Committee, regularly monitoring the various activities of the congregation at stated meetings and by encouraging members in their regular giving.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 15 May 2023 and Signed on its behalf by

[Name] 

[Name] 

[Date] 15 MAY 2023

[Date] 15 MAY 2023