

# Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland · Charity number 104519

## Details

Known as	Fitzroy Church
Status	Received
Registered	2016-08-05
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register</a>

## Contact

Address	Fitzroy Presbyterian Church 77 University Street Belfast BT7 1hl BT7 1HL
Phone	028 90 319 710
Email	<a href="mailto:info@fitzroy.org.uk">info@fitzroy.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.fitzroy.org.uk">www.fitzroy.org.uk</a>

## Activities

**Purposes:** 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

**What the charity does:** The advancement of religion

**How the charity works:** Religious activities

**Who the charity helps:** General public

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£297,073	£290,164	£-4,338	2

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne McMurray		
Chris Blake		
David Hall		
David Mcneill		
David Thompson		
Elma Greer		
Florence Adair		
Heather Carey		
Ivor Spence		
June Pat Gamble		
Michael Fitch		
Norman Mckinley		
Patricia Blake		
Patricia Eaton		
Paul Bowman		
Philip Mateer		
Rev Steve Stockman		
Sara Patterson		
Stephen Mcilwaine		

**Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104519

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# Accounts

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# **Fitzroy Presbyterian Church a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

## **Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC104519**

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 including a Balance Sheet as at that date.

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Fitzroy congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

University Street, Belfast, BT7 1HL

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104519)

## CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Mrs Flo Adair <sup>(1)</sup>	Mr Philip Mateer <sup>(1) (2)</sup>
Mr Christopher Blake	Dr Stephen McIlwaine <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs Patricia Blake	Mr Norman McKinley
Mr Paul Bowman	Dr David McNeill
Mrs Heather Carey	Mrs Anne McMurray
Prof Patricia Eaton	Mrs Sara Patterson
Mr Michael Fitch <sup>(1)</sup>	Dr Ivor Spence <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs Elma Greer	Rev Steve Stockman
Miss June Pat Gamble <sup>(1) (2)</sup>	Mr David Thompson
Mr David Hall	

1. Property Trustees for 119 Fitzroy Avenue
2. Property Trustees for Fitzroy Church (Other Trustees are Chris Morris and Neill Scott)

## PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister	Rev Steve Stockman
Clerk of Session	Prof Patricia Eaton
Deputy Clerk of Session	Mrs Anne McMurray
Congregational Secretary	Mrs Helen Miller
Treasurer	Mrs Flo Adair

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Scott McCullough FCA  
Suite 2.06  
Custom House  
Custom House Square  
Belfast BT1 3ET

### **BANKERS**

Danske Bank  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast BT1 6JS

### **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees (“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 Sessions 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 minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice a year. During 2024 Kirk Session met 9 times.

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. During the year no new elders were elected.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **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. Fitzroy Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Belfast South 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.

### **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

Fitzroy 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.

The congregations mission statement is:

Fitzroy exists:

to celebrate God's goodness in our worship [*Worship*] and  
to express God's love through our lives by  
introducing people to Jesus Christ [*Mission*],  
integrating them into His Church [*Pastoral Care*],  
educating them in a Christ-like lifestyle [*Spiritual Formation*], and  
enabling them to participate in Christ's mission today [*Mission*].

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Kirk Session has four 10:10 Groups (sub committees): Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission.

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision as a family of God's people by being:

A Covenant Community: where our relationships are rooted in the promises of God by living faithfully toward Him and toward one another.

An Intergenerational Community: where adults intentionally take the lead to engage with, encourage and nurture younger members to maturity in Christ.

An Outward Looking Community: where we want the blessings of God that belong to us in the gospel to become blessings for others beyond the bounds of our community.

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.

## **ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation has four core purposes: Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission and our strap line is based on the words of Jesus in John 10:10: "I have come that you have life in all its fullness."

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on at least 10 occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper.

The congregation has a number of small groups and a wide range of organisations and activities not only for the benefit of the congregation but the wider community: in the local area, Belfast and beyond. Further information is available on our web site: [www.fitzroy.org.uk](http://www.fitzroy.org.uk).

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Our mission is multifaceted and includes witness, service, justice, healing, reconciliation, liberation, peace, evangelism, fellowship, contextualisation and much more. We have identified seven ways in which we express our mission in Fitzroy:

- Presence
- Participation and partnership
- Peacemakers
- Practical love
- Proclamation
- Prophetic
- Prayer

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Worship and prayer**

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11am and on many Sundays for an event at 7pm. During the week the small groups provide an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the Bible and for a time of prayer.

As well as our regular services during the year we gave thanks for faithful service and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved.

At 31 December 2024 there were 274 (2023:310) communicant members and 179 (2023:185) families, 396 people (2023:422) under pastoral care of the Congregation. During the year no one was baptised or admitted to the Lord's Table. The average weekly attendance at Sunday morning worship was 190 in person and 200-300 online.

### **Pastoral care**

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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Spiritual Formation**

A programme of events was organised during the year to help members of the congregation and others grow deeper in their faith. A focus on the marginalised and a week of prayer in the church before Easter were of particular note.

### **Mission and outreach**

At local, national and international levels, Fitzroy members continue to be involved in a wide range of groups, organisations and programs extending Christ's Kingdom. The elders provide support to all mission and outreach group leaders, helping to promote their work and providing a spokesperson for each group on Kirk Session.

### **United Appeal**

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 denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. 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, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregation and the wider structures of the church. We are grateful to Norman McKinley for serving us on Presbytery.

### **General Assembly**

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Property**

We own 119 Fitzroy Avenue, Fitzroy Church and Halls, a Manse in Maryville Park, Belfast and the former School of Music property on Donegall Pass Belfast.

### **Volunteers and Employees**

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

### **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. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

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 result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary 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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

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 Commissions public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions. There were 151 (2023:158) contributing families during the year donating a total of £270,177 (2023: £284,049).

Total expenditure decreased from £385,258 to £290,164 as significant church repairs and upgrades took place in 2023.

### **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 congregations and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (1 January 2020)". 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.

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

### 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 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 hold at least 12 month's normal expenditure. At the year-end unrestricted reserves were £302,708 which represents 12 month's normal expenditure.

### RISK REVIEW

A review of major risks has been undertaken by the Trustees and systems and procedures 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. 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 11 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Eaton".

Patricia Eaton

11 April 2025

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Stockman".

Steve Stockman

11 April 2025

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 13 to 25.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 65(3)(a) of the Charities Act Northern Ireland 2008 and regulations made under section 66 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity financial statements 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 financial statements and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

## Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and no matter has come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe:

- (1) that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act;
- (2) that the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records;
- (3) that the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed: *Scott McCullough*

Dated: 11 April 2025

Scott McCullough

FCA Chartered Accountants Ireland

Suite 2.06  
Custom House  
Custom House Square  
Belfast  
BT1 3ET

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	151,196	118,981	-	270,177	280,049
Charitable activities	3	7,526	14,859	-	22,385	36,447
Investments		4,510	-	-	4,510	3,589
		<b>163,232</b>	<b>133,841</b>	-	<b>297,073</b>	<b>320,445</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities	4	113,925	176,239	-	290,164	385,258
<b>Total</b>		<b>113,925</b>	<b>176,239</b>	-	<b>290,164</b>	<b>385,258</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		49,307	(42,398)	-	6,909	(61,173)
Net Income / (expenditure) before gains		6,736	-	-	6,736	11,823
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>56,043</b>	<b>(42,398)</b>	-	<b>13,645</b>	<b>(49,350)</b>
Total funds at 1 January 2024		246,684	1,508,664	9,837	1,765,185	1,814,535
<b>Total funds at 31 December 2024</b>		<b>302,728</b>	<b>1,466,266</b>	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,778,831</b>	<b>1,765,185</b>

**BALANCE SHEET**

**As at 31 December 2024**

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Investments – general investment fund	6		149,200		142,465
Church Buildings, 119 & Manse	7		1,445,641		1,466,876
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	8	12,704		7,000	
Cash at bank and in hand		175,624		153,184	
		<u>188,328</u>		<u>160,184</u>	
<b>Creditors:</b> Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(4,338)</u>		<u>(4,340)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>183,990</b>		<b>155,844</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u><b>1,778,831</b></u>		<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>
<b>Total assets</b>			<u><b>1,778,831</b></u>		<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>
<b>Charity Funds</b>					
Endowment Funds	10		9,837		9,837
Restricted Funds	10,11		1,466,266		1,508,664
Unrestricted Funds	10		302,728		246,684
			<u><b>1,778,831</b></u>		<u><b>1,765,186</b></u>

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 11 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

*Patricia Eaton*

Patricia Eaton

11<sup>th</sup> April 2025

*Steve Stockman*

Steve Stockman

11<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2020).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the congregation is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### **FUND ACCOUNTING**

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2024**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **INCOMING RESOURCES**

###### **(i) Recognition of incoming resources**

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the congregation becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

###### **(ii) Incoming resources with related expenditure**

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

###### **(iii) Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the congregation has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

###### **(iv) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts**

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

###### **(v) Volunteer help**

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

###### **(vi) Investment income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

###### **(vii) Investment gains and losses**

This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 December 2024

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

#### EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

##### (viii) Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the congregation to pay out resources.

##### (ix) Grants with performance conditions

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

#### ASSETS

##### (x) Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is recorded on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write of the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Buildings: - over 50 years

##### (xi) Investments

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	151,196	118,981	270,177	281,549
Legacies and bequests	-	-	-	2,500
<b>Total Donations and Legacies</b>	<b>151,196</b>	<b>118,981</b>	<b>270,177</b>	<b>284,049</b>

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	13,119	27,863	27,863
Other sundry income	7,526	1,740	8,584	8,584
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>7,526</b>	<b>14,859</b>	<b>22,385</b>	<b>36,447</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	20,719	-	20,719	19,870
Presbytery fees	956	-	956	857
United Appeal	-	12,000	12,000	12,000
Ministry (excluding pension)	58,526	-	58,526	56,196
Support Costs	28,764	-	28,764	27,803
Worship	4,961	-	4,961	1,600
Youth and Pastoral	-	16,967	16,967	12,443
Property: Depreciation	-	21,235	21,235	21,235
Property: Expenditure	-	107,721	107,721	206,837
Mission & Charities	-	18,325	18,325	26,416
	<b>113,925</b>	<b>176,239</b>	<b>290,164</b>	<b>385,258</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**5. EMPLOYEES**

	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
Wages and Salaries	59,476	57,159
Social Security Costs	5,745	6,070
Pension contributions	11,564	10,764
	<b>76,784</b>	<b>73,993</b>

**Number of Employees and Minister**

The average number of employees, including the minister of the congregation, during the year was:

	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
Minister	1	1
Secretarial	1	1
	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

There were no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**6. INVESTMENTS**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>General Investment Fund</b>		
Value at start of year	142,465	130,642
Additions	-	-
Gains on revaluation	6,736	11,823
<b>Value at end of year</b>	<b><u>149,201</u></b>	<b><u>142,465</u></b>

**7. FIXED ASSETS**

	Church Buildings, 119 & Manse £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>		
At 1 January 2024	1,636,756	1,636,756
Additions	-	-
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>	<b><u>1,636,756</u></b>	<b><u>1,636,756</u></b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 January 2024	169,880	169,880
Charge for year	21,235	21,235
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>	<b><u>191,115</u></b>	<b><u>191,115</u></b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>	<b><u>1,445,641</u></b>	<b><u>1,445,641</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**8. DEBTORS**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gift Aid Recoverable	12,704	7,000
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b><u>12,704</u></b>	<b><u>7,000</u></b>

**9. CREDITORS: amount falling due within one year**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	4,338	4,340
<b>Total Creditors</b>	<b><u>4,338</u></b>	<b><u>4,340</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

**Current Year**

	Endowment Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	139,363	149,200
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,445,641	-	1,455,641
Debtors	-	-	12,704	12,704
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	20,625	154,998	175,624
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(4,338)	(4,338)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,466,266</b>	<b>302,728</b>	<b>1,778,831</b>

**Prior Year**

	Endowment Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	132,628	142,465
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,466,876	-	1,466,876
Debtors	-	-	7,000	7,000
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	41,788	111,396	153,184
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(4,340)	(4,340)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,508,664</b>	<b>246,684</b>	<b>1,765,186</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**11. STATEMENT OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	Income £	Expend £	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
Property Capital Fund	-	21,235	(21,235)	1,466,876	1,445,641
Property Fund	74,380	107,721	(33,341)	37,340	3,999
Babies and Toddlers	-	-	-	250	250
Youth and Pastoral Fund	11,226	11,226	-	-	-
Church weekend	1,700	400	1,300	-	1,300
P Herald	40	240	(200)	124	(76)
Fitzroy Mission Support	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
United Appeal	12,000	12,000	-	-	-
Homeplus	113	163	(50)	50	-
Fields of Life - Uganda	2,483	-	2,438	3,395	5,878
Foodbank	338	338	-	-	-
Tear Fund/Christian Aid	231	231	-	-	-
Other partner gifts	3,211	2,584	628	209	837
Other grants	13,119	5,102	8,018	421	8,439
	<b>133,840</b>	<b>176,239</b>	<b>(42,398)</b>	<b>1,508,665</b>	<b>1,466,266</b>

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2024**

#### **12. PENSION COSTS**

The minister of the congregation is a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). This is a scheme operated by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a separate registered charity. The congregation pays an assessment to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland equivalent to the employer's pension contribution for the Scheme and based on the stipend paid to the minister. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) is a funded Scheme of the defined benefit type, providing defined benefits based on career average revalued salary. The Scheme has assets held in a separately administered fund managed by a board of trustees. The Presbyterian Church and the Scheme Trustees have agreed a funding plan to ensure the Scheme is sufficiently funded to meet current and future obligations. A formal schedule of contributions was drawn up on 25 November 2015 whereby the Presbyterian Church agreed to pay from 31 December 2015 contributions of 24% of pensionable salaries to cover the accrual of benefits for future service, expenses, the cost of insuring death in service benefits and funding the scheme deficit.

The contributions made by the congregation during the year were £10,908 (2023 £10,389).

The congregation operates a defined pension contribution policy for its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by an independent scheme manager. The contributions made to this scheme amounted to £656 (2023: £601).

#### **13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Rev Steve Stockman, a trustee, received remuneration of £45,448 and expenses of £7,333 as minister of the congregation. Pension contributions of £10,908 were paid by the congregation in respect of the minister to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). Mrs Flo Adair, a Trustee, received £2,400 for bookkeeping and accounting services. None of the other trustees received any remuneration, but UHY Hacker Young Fitch received £1,464 for processing payroll for the employees and independently examining the charity accounts. Michael Fitch, a Trustee, is a director of UHY Hacker Young Fitch.

**Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104519

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# Accounts

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# **Fitzroy Presbyterian Church a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

## **Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC104519**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 including a Balance Sheet as at that date.

## **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Fitzroy congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

University Street, Belfast, BT7 1HL

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104519)

## **CHARITY TRUSTEES**

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

Mrs Flo Adair <sup>(1)</sup>	Mr. Philip Mateer <sup>(1) (2)</sup>
Mr. Christopher Blake	Dr. Stephen McIlwaine <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Patricia Blake	Mr Norman McKinley
Mr Paul Bowman	Dr. David McNeill
Mrs. Heather Carey	Mrs. Anne McMurray
Prof. Patricia Eaton	Mrs Sara Patterson
Mr. Michael Fitch <sup>(1)</sup>	Dr. Ivor Spence <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Elma Greer	Rev Steve Stockman
Miss June Pat Gamble <sup>(1) (2)</sup>	Mr. David Thompson
Mr David Hall	

1. Property Trustees for 119 University Avenue
2. Property Trustees for Fitzroy Church (Other Trustees are Chris Morris and Neill Scott)

## **PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS**

Minister	Rev Steve Stockman
Clerk of Session	Prof. Patricia Eaton
Deputy Clerk of Session	Mrs Anne McMurray
Congregational Secretary	Mrs Helen Miller
Treasurer	Mrs Flo Adair

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Scott McCullough FCA  
Suite 2.06  
Custom House  
Custom House Square  
Belfast BT1 3ET

### **BANKERS**

Danske Bank  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast BT1 6JS

### **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees (“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 Sessions 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 minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice a year. During 2023 Kirk Session met 9 times.

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. During the year no new elders were elected.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **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. Fitzroy Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Belfast South 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.

### **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

Fitzroy 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.

The congregations mission statement is:

Fitzroy exists:

to celebrate God's goodness in our worship [*Worship*] and  
to express God's love through our lives by  
introducing people to Jesus Christ [*Mission*],  
integrating them into His Church [*Pastoral Care*],  
educating them in a Christ-like lifestyle [*Spiritual Formation*], and  
enabling them to participate in Christ's mission today [*Mission*].

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Kirk Session has four 10:10 Groups (sub committees): Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission.

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision as a family of God's people by being:

**A Covenant Community:** where our relationships are rooted in the promises of God by living faithfully toward Him and toward one another.

**An Intergenerational Community:** where adults intentionally take the lead to engage with, encourage and nurture younger members to maturity in Christ.

**An Outward Looking Community:** where we want the blessings of God that belong to us in the gospel to become blessings for others beyond the bounds of our community.

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.

## **ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation has four core purposes: Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission and our strap line is based on the words of Jesus in John 10:10: "I have come that you have life in all its fullness."

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on at least 10 occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper.

The congregation has a number of small groups and a wide range of organisations and activities not only for the benefit of the congregation but the wider community: in the local area, Belfast and beyond. Further information is available on our web site: [www.fitzroy.org.uk](http://www.fitzroy.org.uk).

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Our mission is multifaceted and includes witness, service, justice, healing, reconciliation, liberation, peace, evangelism, fellowship, contextualisation and much more. We have identified seven ways in which we express our mission in Fitzroy:

- Presence
- Participation and partnership
- Peacemakers
- Practical love
- Proclamation
- Prophetic
- Prayer

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Worship and prayer**

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11am and on some Sundays for an event at 7pm. During the week the small groups provide an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the Bible and for a time of prayer.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life at five Sacraments of Baptism and gave thanks for faithful service and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved.

At 31 December 2023 there were 310 (2022:312) communicant members and 185 (2022:194) families (422 (2022:446 people) under pastoral care of the Congregation. During the year no one was baptised or admitted to the Lord's Table for the first time due to Covid restrictions. The average weekly attendance at Sunday morning worship was 180 in person and 200-300 online.

### **Pastoral care**

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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Spiritual Formation**

A programme of events was organised during the year to help members of the congregation and others grow deeper in their faith. A prayer room and space for prayer in the church before Easter was of particular note.

### **Mission and outreach**

At local, national and international levels, Fitzroy members continue to be involved in a wide range of groups, organisations and programs extending Christ's Kingdom. The elders provide support to all mission and outreach group leaders, helping to promote their work and providing a spokesperson for each group on Kirk Session.

### **United Appeal**

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 denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. 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, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregation and the wider structures of the church. We are grateful to June Pat Gamble for serving us on Presbytery for many years and Mr Norman McKinley has agreed to take this role from November 2022.

### **General Assembly**

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Property**

We own 119 Fitzroy Avenue, Fitzroy Church and Halls, a Manse in Maryville Park Belfast and the former School of Music property on Donegall Pass Belfast.

### **Volunteers and Employees**

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their thanks for the many years of service provided by two former employees Paul Bowman (Youth Director) and Dorothy Ramsay (Pastoral Worker).

### **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. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

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 result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary 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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

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 Commissions public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions. There were 158 (2022: 154) contributing families during the year donating a total of £284,049 (2022: £264,205).

Total expenditure increased from £286,054 to £385,258 due to increased charitable donations and increased property running costs.

### **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 congregations and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (1 January 2020)". 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.

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

### 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 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 hold at least 12 month's normal expenditure. At the year-end unrestricted reserves were £208,123 which represents 7 month's normal expenditure. The Trustees however, consider it prudent to hold reserves at this level as the funding of its present activities is dependent of the ongoing financial support of members.

### RISK REVIEW

A review of major risks has been undertaken by the Trustees and systems and procedures 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. 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 18 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Patricia Eaton

18 April 2024



Steve Stockman

18 April 2024

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 13 to 25.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 65(3)(a) of the Charities Act Northern Ireland 2008 and regulations made under section 66 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity financial statements 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 financial statements and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and no matter has come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe:

- (1) that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act;
- (2) that the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records;
- (3) that the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed: *Scott McCullough* Dated: 18 April 2024

Scott McCullough

FCA Chartered Accountants Ireland

Suite 2.06  
Custom House  
Custom House Square  
Belfast BT1 3ET

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	127,455	156,594	-	284,049	264,205
Charitable activities	3	2,020	34,427	-	36,447	10,226
Investments		3,589	-	-	3,589	3,350
Other		-	-	-	-	-
		<b>133,064</b>	<b>191,021</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>324,085</b>	<b>277,781</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	106,326	278,932	-	385,258	286,054
<b>Total</b>		<b>106,326</b>	<b>278,932</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>385,258</b>	<b>286,054</b>
<b>Net Income/(expenditure) before gains</b>		<b>26,738</b>	<b>(87,911)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(61,173)</b>	<b>(8,272)</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		11,823	-	-	11,823	(11,701)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>38,561</b>	<b>(87,911)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(49,350)</b>	<b>(19,974)</b>
Total funds at 1 January 2023		208,124	1,596,574	9,837	1,814,535	1,834,509
<b>Total funds at 31 December 2023</b>		<b>246,684</b>	<b>1,508,664</b>	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,765,185</b>	<b>1,814,535</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Investments – general investment fund	6		142,465		130,641
Church Buildings, 119 & Manse	7		1,466,876		1,488,111
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	8	7,000		8,182	
Cash at bank and in hand		153,184		194,967	
		<u>160,184</u>		<u>203,149</u>	
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	<u>(4,340)</u>		<u>(7,366)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>155,844</b>		<b>195,785</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>		<u><b>1,814,535</b></u>
<b>Total assets</b>			<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>		<u><b>1,834,535</b></u>
<b>Charity Funds</b>					
Endowment Funds	10		9,837		9,837
Restricted Funds	10,11		1,508,664		1,596,574
Unrestricted Funds	10		246,684		208,124
			<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>		<u><b>1,814,535</b></u>

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 18 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

*Patricia Eaton*

Patricia Eaton

*Steve Stockman*

Steve Stockman

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2020).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the congregation is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### **FUND ACCOUNTING**

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **INCOMING RESOURCES**

###### **(i) Recognition of incoming resources**

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the congregation becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

###### **(ii) Incoming resources with related expenditure**

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

###### **(iii) Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the congregation has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

###### **(iv) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts**

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

###### **(v) Volunteer help**

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

###### **(vi) Investment income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

###### **(vii) Investment gains and losses**

This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES**

###### **(viii) Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the congregation to pay out resources.

###### **(ix) Grants with performance conditions**

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

##### **ASSETS**

###### **(x) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is recorded on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Buildings:           - over 50 years

###### **(xi) Investments**

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	127,455	154,094	281,549	264,205
Legacies and bequests	-	2,500	2,500	-
<b>Total Donations and Legacies</b>	<b>127,455</b>	<b>156,594</b>	<b>284,049</b>	<b>264,205</b>

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	27,863	27,863	2,159
Other sundry income	2,020	6,564	8,584	8,067
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>34,427</b>	<b>36,447</b>	<b>10,226</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	19,870	-	19,870	17,205
Presbytery fees	857	-	857	572
United Appeal	-	12,000	12,000	12,000
Ministry (excluding pension)	56,196	-	56,196	53,587
Support Costs	27,803	-	27,803	25,919
Worship	1,600	-	1,600	3,955
Youth and Pastoral	-	12,443	12,443	35,582
Property: Depreciation	-	21,235	21,235	21,235
Property: Expenditure	-	206,837	206,837	70,204
Mission & Charities	-	26,416	26,416	46,795
	<b>106,326</b>	<b>278,931</b>	<b>385,257</b>	<b>286,054</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**5. EMPLOYEES**

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Wages and Salaries	57,159	80,625
Social Security Costs	6,070	7,402
Pension contributions	10,764	11,932
	<b>73,993</b>	<b>99,959</b>

**Number of Employees and Minister**

The average number of employees, including the minister of the congregation, during the year was:

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Minister	1	1
Youth Director	0	1
Secretarial	1	1
Others	0	1
	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

There were no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**6. INVESTMENTS**

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>General Investment Fund</b>		
Value at start of year	130,642	142,343
Disposals	-	-
Gains on revaluation	11,823	(11,701)
<b>Value at end of year</b>	<b><u>142,465</u></b>	<b><u>130,641</u></b>

**7. FIXED ASSETS**

	Church Buildings, 119 & Manse £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>		
At 1 January 2023	1,636,756	1,636,756
Additions	-	-
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>1,636,756</u></b>	<b><u>1,636,756</u></b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 January 2023	148,645	148,645
Charge for year	21,235	21,235
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>169,880</u></b>	<b><u>169,880</u></b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>1,466,876</u></b>	<b><u>1,466,876</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**8. DEBTORS**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gift Aid Recoverable	7,000	8,182
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b><u>7,000</u></b>	<b><u>8,182</u></b>

**9. CREDITORS: amount falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	4,340	7,366
<b>Total Creditors</b>	<b><u>4,340</u></b>	<b><u>7,366</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

**Current Year**

	Endowment Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	132,628	142,465
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,466,876	-	1,466,876
Debtors	-	-	7,000	7,000
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	41,788	111,396	153,184
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(4,340)	(4,340)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,508,664</b>	<b>246,684</b>	<b>1,765,185</b>

**Prior Year**

	Endowment Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	120,804	130,641
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,488,111	-	1,488,111
Debtors	-	-	8,182	8,182
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	106,106	88,862	194,968
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	2,357	(9,723)	(7,366)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>	<b>208,124</b>	<b>1,814,536</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**11. STATEMENT OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	Income £	Expend £	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
Property Capital Fund	-	21,235	(21,235)	1,488,111	1,466,876
Property Fund	141,575	205,237	(63,662)	101,002	37,340
Babies and Toddlers	-	-	-	250	250
Youth and Pastoral Fund	2,253	2,253	-	-	-
Church weekend	6,272	7,642	(1,370)	1,370	-
P Herald	358	234	124	-	124
Youth Bursary	54	1,295	(1,241)	1,241	-
Fitzroy Mission Support	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
United Appeal	12,000	12,000	-	-	-
Mornington	4,195	4,195	-	-	-
Homeplus	1,488	1,638	(150)	200	50
Fields of Life - Uganda	1,435	-	1,435	1,960	3,395
Foodbank	600	1,130	(530)	530	-
Tear Fund/Christian Aid	569	619	(50)	50	-
Other partner gifts	3,624	3,835	(211)	420	209
Other grants	1,600	2,619	(1,019)	1,440	421
	<b>191,023</b>	<b>278,932</b>	<b>(87,909)</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>	<b>1,508,665</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**12. PENSION COSTS**

The minister of the congregation is a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). This is a scheme operated by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a separate registered charity. The congregation pays an assessment to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland equivalent to the employer's pension contribution for the Scheme and based on the stipend paid to the minister. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) is a funded Scheme of the defined benefit type, providing defined benefits based on career average revalued salary. The Scheme has assets held in a separately administered fund managed by a board of trustees. The Presbyterian Church and the Scheme Trustees have agreed a funding plan to ensure the Scheme is sufficiently funded to meet current and future obligations. A formal schedule of contributions was drawn up on 25 November 2015 whereby the Presbyterian Church agreed to pay from 31 December 2015 contributions of 24% of pensionable salaries to cover the accrual of benefits for future service, expenses, the cost of insuring death in service benefits and funding the scheme deficit.

The contributions made by the congregation during the year were £10,389 (2022 £9,894).

The congregation operates a defined pension contribution policy for its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by an independent scheme manager. The contributions made to this scheme amounted to £601 (2022: £2,038).

**13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Rev Steve Stockman, a trustee, received remuneration of £43,784 and expenses of £6,934 as minister of the congregation. Pension contributions of £10,389 were paid by the congregation in respect of the minister to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). Mrs Flo Adair, a Trustee, received £2,400 for bookkeeping and accounting services. None of the other trustees received any remuneration, but UHY Hacker Young Fitch received £1,402 for processing payroll for the employees and independently examining the charity accounts. Michael Fitch, a Trustee, is a director of UHY Hacker Young Fitch.

**Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104519

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# Annual report

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# **Fitzroy Presbyterian Church a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

## **Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC104519**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 including a Balance Sheet as at that date.

## **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Fitzroy congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

University Street, Belfast, BT7 1HL

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104519)

## **CHARITY TRUSTEES**

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

Mrs Flo Adair <sup>(1)</sup>	Mr. Philip Mateer <sup>(1) (2)</sup>
Mr. Christopher Blake	Dr. Stephen McIlwaine <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Patricia Blake	Mr Norman McKinley
Mr Paul Bowman	Dr. David McNeill
Mrs. Heather Carey	Mrs. Anne McMurray
Prof. Patricia Eaton	Mrs Sara Patterson
Mr. Michael Fitch <sup>(1)</sup>	Dr. Ivor Spence <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Elma Greer	Rev Steve Stockman
Miss June Pat Gamble <sup>(1) (2)</sup>	Mr. David Thompson
Mr David Hall	

1. Property Trustees for 119 University Avenue
2. Property Trustees for Fitzroy Church (Other Trustees are Chris Morris and Neill Scott)

## **PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS**

Minister	Rev Steve Stockman
Clerk of Session	Prof. Patricia Eaton
Deputy Clerk of Session	Mrs Anne McMurray
Congregational Secretary	Mrs Helen Miller
Treasurer	Mrs Flo Adair

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Scott McCullough FCA  
Suite 2.06  
Custom House  
Custom House Square  
Belfast BT1 3ET

### **BANKERS**

Danske Bank  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast BT1 6JS

### **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees (“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 Sessions 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 minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice a year. During 2023 Kirk Session met 9 times.

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. During the year no new elders were elected.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **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. Fitzroy Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Belfast South 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.

### **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

Fitzroy 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.

The congregations mission statement is:

Fitzroy exists:

to celebrate God's goodness in our worship [*Worship*] and  
to express God's love through our lives by  
introducing people to Jesus Christ [*Mission*],  
integrating them into His Church [*Pastoral Care*],  
educating them in a Christ-like lifestyle [*Spiritual Formation*], and  
enabling them to participate in Christ's mission today [*Mission*].

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Kirk Session has four 10:10 Groups (sub committees): Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission.

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision as a family of God's people by being:

**A Covenant Community:** where our relationships are rooted in the promises of God by living faithfully toward Him and toward one another.

**An Intergenerational Community:** where adults intentionally take the lead to engage with, encourage and nurture younger members to maturity in Christ.

**An Outward Looking Community:** where we want the blessings of God that belong to us in the gospel to become blessings for others beyond the bounds of our community.

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.

## **ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation has four core purposes: Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission and our strap line is based on the words of Jesus in John 10:10: "I have come that you have life in all its fullness."

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on at least 10 occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper.

The congregation has a number of small groups and a wide range of organisations and activities not only for the benefit of the congregation but the wider community: in the local area, Belfast and beyond. Further information is available on our web site: [www.fitzroy.org.uk](http://www.fitzroy.org.uk).

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Our mission is multifaceted and includes witness, service, justice, healing, reconciliation, liberation, peace, evangelism, fellowship, contextualisation and much more. We have identified seven ways in which we express our mission in Fitzroy:

- Presence
- Participation and partnership
- Peacemakers
- Practical love
- Proclamation
- Prophetic
- Prayer

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Worship and prayer**

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11am and on some Sundays for an event at 7pm. During the week the small groups provide an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the Bible and for a time of prayer.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life at five Sacraments of Baptism and gave thanks for faithful service and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved.

At 31 December 2023 there were 310 (2022:312) communicant members and 185 (2022:194) families (422 (2022:446 people) under pastoral care of the Congregation. During the year no one was baptised or admitted to the Lord's Table for the first time due to Covid restrictions. The average weekly attendance at Sunday morning worship was 180 in person and 200-300 online.

### **Pastoral care**

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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Spiritual Formation**

A programme of events was organised during the year to help members of the congregation and others grow deeper in their faith. A prayer room and space for prayer in the church before Easter was of particular note.

### **Mission and outreach**

At local, national and international levels, Fitzroy members continue to be involved in a wide range of groups, organisations and programs extending Christ's Kingdom. The elders provide support to all mission and outreach group leaders, helping to promote their work and providing a spokesperson for each group on Kirk Session.

### **United Appeal**

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 denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. 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, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregation and the wider structures of the church. We are grateful to June Pat Gamble for serving us on Presbytery for many years and Mr Norman McKinley has agreed to take this role from November 2022.

### **General Assembly**

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Property**

We own 119 Fitzroy Avenue, Fitzroy Church and Halls, a Manse in Maryville Park Belfast and the former School of Music property on Donegall Pass Belfast.

### **Volunteers and Employees**

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their thanks for the many years of service provided by two former employees Paul Bowman (Youth Director) and Dorothy Ramsay (Pastoral Worker).

### **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. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

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 result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary 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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

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 Commissions public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions. There were 158 (2022: 154) contributing families during the year donating a total of £284,049 (2022: £264,205).

Total expenditure increased from £286,054 to £385,258 due to increased charitable donations and increased property running costs.

### **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 congregations and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (1 January 2020)". 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.

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

### 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 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 hold at least 12 month's normal expenditure. At the year-end unrestricted reserves were £208,123 which represents 7 month's normal expenditure. The Trustees however, consider it prudent to hold reserves at this level as the funding of its present activities is dependent of the ongoing financial support of members.

### RISK REVIEW

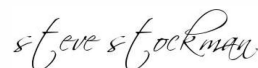
A review of major risks has been undertaken by the Trustees and systems and procedures implemented to manage identified risks. The principal risks are in relation to the likelihood of reputational damage and financial risks associated with the expectation of ongoing financial support from members. These 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 18 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Patricia Eaton

18 April 2024



Steve Stockman

18 April 2024

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 13 to 25.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 65(3)(a) of the Charities Act Northern Ireland 2008 and regulations made under section 66 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity financial statements 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 financial statements and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

## Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and no matter has come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe:

- (1) that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act;
- (2) that the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records;
- (3) that the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed: *Scott McCullough* Dated: 18 April 2024

Scott McCullough

FCA Chartered Accountants Ireland

Suite 2.06  
Custom House  
Custom House Square  
Belfast BT1 3ET

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	127,455	156,594	-	284,049	264,205
Charitable activities	3	2,020	34,427	-	36,447	10,226
Investments		3,589	-	-	3,589	3,350
Other		-	-	-	-	-
		<b>133,064</b>	<b>191,021</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>324,085</b>	<b>277,781</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	106,326	278,932	-	385,258	286,054
<b>Total</b>		<b>106,326</b>	<b>278,932</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>385,258</b>	<b>286,054</b>
<b>Net Income/(expenditure) before gains</b>		<b>26,738</b>	<b>(87,911)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(61,173)</b>	<b>(8,272)</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		11,823	-	-	11,823	(11,701)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>38,561</b>	<b>(87,911)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(49,350)</b>	<b>(19,974)</b>
Total funds at 1 January 2023		208,124	1,596,574	9,837	1,814,535	1,834,509
<b>Total funds at 31 December 2023</b>		<b>246,684</b>	<b>1,508,664</b>	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,765,185</b>	<b>1,814,535</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Investments – general investment fund	6		142,465		130,641
Church Buildings, 119 & Manse	7		1,466,876		1,488,111
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	8	7,000		8,182	
Cash at bank and in hand		153,184		194,967	
		<u>160,184</u>		<u>203,149</u>	
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	<u>(4,340)</u>		<u>(7,366)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>155,844</b>		<b>195,785</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>		<u><b>1,814,535</b></u>
<b>Total assets</b>			<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>		<u><b>1,834,535</b></u>
<b>Charity Funds</b>					
Endowment Funds	10		9,837		9,837
Restricted Funds	10,11		1,508,664		1,596,574
Unrestricted Funds	10		246,684		208,124
			<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>		<u><b>1,814,535</b></u>

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 18 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

*Patricia Eaton*

Patricia Eaton

*Steve Stockman*

Steve Stockman

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2020).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the congregation is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### **FUND ACCOUNTING**

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **INCOMING RESOURCES**

###### **(i) Recognition of incoming resources**

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the congregation becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

###### **(ii) Incoming resources with related expenditure**

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

###### **(iii) Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the congregation has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

###### **(iv) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts**

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

###### **(v) Volunteer help**

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

###### **(vi) Investment income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

###### **(vii) Investment gains and losses**

This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES**

###### **(viii) Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the congregation to pay out resources.

###### **(ix) Grants with performance conditions**

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

##### **ASSETS**

###### **(x) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is recorded on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write of the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Buildings: - over 50 years

###### **(xi) Investments**

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	127,455	154,094	281,549	264,205
Legacies and bequests	-	2,500	2,500	-
<b>Total Donations and Legacies</b>	<b>127,455</b>	<b>156,594</b>	<b>284,049</b>	<b>264,205</b>

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	27,863	27,863	2,159
Other sundry income	2,020	6,564	8,584	8,067
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>34,427</b>	<b>36,447</b>	<b>10,226</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	19,870	-	19,870	17,205
Presbytery fees	857	-	857	572
United Appeal	-	12,000	12,000	12,000
Ministry (excluding pension)	56,196	-	56,196	53,587
Support Costs	27,803	-	27,803	25,919
Worship	1,600	-	1,600	3,955
Youth and Pastoral	-	12,443	12,443	35,582
Property: Depreciation	-	21,235	21,235	21,235
Property: Expenditure	-	206,837	206,837	70,204
Mission & Charities	-	26,416	26,416	46,795
	<b>106,326</b>	<b>278,931</b>	<b>385,257</b>	<b>286,054</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**5. EMPLOYEES**

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Wages and Salaries	57,159	80,625
Social Security Costs	6,070	7,402
Pension contributions	10,764	11,932
	<b>73,993</b>	<b>99,959</b>

**Number of Employees and Minister**

The average number of employees, including the minister of the congregation, during the year was:

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Minister	1	1
Youth Director	0	1
Secretarial	1	1
Others	0	1
	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

There were no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**6. INVESTMENTS**

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>General Investment Fund</b>		
Value at start of year	130,642	142,343
Disposals	-	-
Gains on revaluation	11,823	(11,701)
<b>Value at end of year</b>	<b><u>142,465</u></b>	<b><u>130,641</u></b>

**7. FIXED ASSETS**

	Church Buildings, 119 & Manse £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>		
At 1 January 2023	1,636,756	1,636,756
Additions	-	-
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>1,636,756</u></b>	<b><u>1,636,756</u></b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 January 2023	148,645	148,645
Charge for year	21,235	21,235
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>169,880</u></b>	<b><u>169,880</u></b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>1,466,876</u></b>	<b><u>1,466,876</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**8. DEBTORS**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gift Aid Recoverable	7,000	8,182
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b><u>7,000</u></b>	<b><u>8,182</u></b>

**9. CREDITORS: amount falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	4,340	7,366
<b>Total Creditors</b>	<b><u>4,340</u></b>	<b><u>7,366</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

**Current Year**

	Endowment Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	132,628	142,465
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,466,876	-	1,466,876
Debtors	-	-	7,000	7,000
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	41,788	111,396	153,184
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(4,340)	(4,340)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,508,664</b>	<b>246,684</b>	<b>1,765,185</b>

**Prior Year**

	Endowment Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	120,804	130,641
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,488,111	-	1,488,111
Debtors	-	-	8,182	8,182
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	106,106	88,862	194,968
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	2,357	(9,723)	(7,366)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>	<b>208,124</b>	<b>1,814,536</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**11. STATEMENT OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	Income £	Expend £	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
Property Capital Fund	-	21,235	(21,235)	1,488,111	1,466,876
Property Fund	141,575	205,237	(63,662)	101,002	37,340
Babies and Toddlers	-	-	-	250	250
Youth and Pastoral Fund	2,253	2,253	-	-	-
Church weekend	6,272	7,642	(1,370)	1,370	-
P Herald	358	234	124	-	124
Youth Bursary	54	1,295	(1,241)	1,241	-
Fitzroy Mission Support	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
United Appeal	12,000	12,000	-	-	-
Mornington	4,195	4,195	-	-	-
Homeplus	1,488	1,638	(150)	200	50
Fields of Life - Uganda	1,435	-	1,435	1,960	3,395
Foodbank	600	1,130	(530)	530	-
Tear Fund/Christian Aid	569	619	(50)	50	-
Other partner gifts	3,624	3,835	(211)	420	209
Other grants	1,600	2,619	(1,019)	1,440	421
	<b>191,023</b>	<b>278,932</b>	<b>(87,909)</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>	<b>1,508,665</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**12. PENSION COSTS**

The minister of the congregation is a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). This is a scheme operated by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a separate registered charity. The congregation pays an assessment to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland equivalent to the employer's pension contribution for the Scheme and based on the stipend paid to the minister. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) is a funded Scheme of the defined benefit type, providing defined benefits based on career average revalued salary. The Scheme has assets held in a separately administered fund managed by a board of trustees. The Presbyterian Church and the Scheme Trustees have agreed a funding plan to ensure the Scheme is sufficiently funded to meet current and future obligations. A formal schedule of contributions was drawn up on 25 November 2015 whereby the Presbyterian Church agreed to pay from 31 December 2015 contributions of 24% of pensionable salaries to cover the accrual of benefits for future service, expenses, the cost of insuring death in service benefits and funding the scheme deficit.

The contributions made by the congregation during the year were £10,389 (2022 £9,894).

The congregation operates a defined pension contribution policy for its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by an independent scheme manager. The contributions made to this scheme amounted to £601 (2022: £2,038).

**13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Rev Steve Stockman, a trustee, received remuneration of £43,784 and expenses of £6,934 as minister of the congregation. Pension contributions of £10,389 were paid by the congregation in respect of the minister to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). Mrs Flo Adair, a Trustee, received £2,400 for bookkeeping and accounting services. None of the other trustees received any remuneration, but UHY Hacker Young Fitch received £1,402 for processing payroll for the employees and independently examining the charity accounts. Michael Fitch, a Trustee, is a director of UHY Hacker Young Fitch.

**Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104519

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# Annual return

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# **Fitzroy Presbyterian Church a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

## **Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC104519**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 including a Balance Sheet as at that date.

## **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Fitzroy congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

University Street, Belfast, BT7 1HL

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104519)

## **CHARITY TRUSTEES**

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

Mrs Flo Adair <sup>(1)</sup>	Mr. Philip Mateer <sup>(1) (2)</sup>
Mr. Christopher Blake	Dr. Stephen McIlwaine <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Patricia Blake	Mr Norman McKinley
Mr Paul Bowman	Dr. David McNeill
Mrs. Heather Carey	Mrs. Anne McMurray
Prof. Patricia Eaton	Mrs Sara Patterson
Mr. Michael Fitch <sup>(1)</sup>	Dr. Ivor Spence <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Elma Greer	Rev Steve Stockman
Miss June Pat Gamble <sup>(1) (2)</sup>	Mr. David Thompson
Mr David Hall	

1. Property Trustees for 119 University Avenue
2. Property Trustees for Fitzroy Church (Other Trustees are Chris Morris and Neill Scott)

## **PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS**

Minister	Rev Steve Stockman
Clerk of Session	Prof. Patricia Eaton
Deputy Clerk of Session	Mrs Anne McMurray
Congregational Secretary	Mrs Helen Miller
Treasurer	Mrs Flo Adair

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Scott McCullough FCA  
Suite 2.06  
Custom House  
Custom House Square  
Belfast BT1 3ET

### **BANKERS**

Danske Bank  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast BT1 6JS

### **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees (“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 Sessions 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 minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice a year. During 2023 Kirk Session met 9 times.

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. During the year no new elders were elected.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **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. Fitzroy Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Belfast South 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.

### **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

Fitzroy 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.

The congregations mission statement is:

Fitzroy exists:

to celebrate God's goodness in our worship [*Worship*] and  
to express God's love through our lives by  
introducing people to Jesus Christ [*Mission*],  
integrating them into His Church [*Pastoral Care*],  
educating them in a Christ-like lifestyle [*Spiritual Formation*], and  
enabling them to participate in Christ's mission today [*Mission*].

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Kirk Session has four 10:10 Groups (sub committees): Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission.

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision as a family of God's people by being:

**A Covenant Community:** where our relationships are rooted in the promises of God by living faithfully toward Him and toward one another.

**An Intergenerational Community:** where adults intentionally take the lead to engage with, encourage and nurture younger members to maturity in Christ.

**An Outward Looking Community:** where we want the blessings of God that belong to us in the gospel to become blessings for others beyond the bounds of our community.

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.

## **ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation has four core purposes: Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission and our strap line is based on the words of Jesus in John 10:10: "I have come that you have life in all its fullness."

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on at least 10 occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper.

The congregation has a number of small groups and a wide range of organisations and activities not only for the benefit of the congregation but the wider community: in the local area, Belfast and beyond. Further information is available on our web site: [www.fitzroy.org.uk](http://www.fitzroy.org.uk).

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Our mission is multifaceted and includes witness, service, justice, healing, reconciliation, liberation, peace, evangelism, fellowship, contextualisation and much more. We have identified seven ways in which we express our mission in Fitzroy:

- Presence
- Participation and partnership
- Peacemakers
- Practical love
- Proclamation
- Prophetic
- Prayer

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Worship and prayer**

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11am and on some Sundays for an event at 7pm. During the week the small groups provide an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the Bible and for a time of prayer.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life at five Sacraments of Baptism and gave thanks for faithful service and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved.

At 31 December 2023 there were 310 (2022:312) communicant members and 185 (2022:194) families (422 (2022:446 people) under pastoral care of the Congregation. During the year no one was baptised or admitted to the Lord's Table for the first time due to Covid restrictions. The average weekly attendance at Sunday morning worship was 180 in person and 200-300 online.

### **Pastoral care**

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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Spiritual Formation**

A programme of events was organised during the year to help members of the congregation and others grow deeper in their faith. A prayer room and space for prayer in the church before Easter was of particular note.

### **Mission and outreach**

At local, national and international levels, Fitzroy members continue to be involved in a wide range of groups, organisations and programs extending Christ's Kingdom. The elders provide support to all mission and outreach group leaders, helping to promote their work and providing a spokesperson for each group on Kirk Session.

### **United Appeal**

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 denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. 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, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregation and the wider structures of the church. We are grateful to June Pat Gamble for serving us on Presbytery for many years and Mr Norman McKinley has agreed to take this role from November 2022.

### **General Assembly**

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Property**

We own 119 Fitzroy Avenue, Fitzroy Church and Halls, a Manse in Maryville Park Belfast and the former School of Music property on Donegall Pass Belfast.

### **Volunteers and Employees**

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their thanks for the many years of service provided by two former employees Paul Bowman (Youth Director) and Dorothy Ramsay (Pastoral Worker).

### **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. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

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 result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary 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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

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 Commissions public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions. There were 158 (2022: 154) contributing families during the year donating a total of £284,049 (2022: £264,205).

Total expenditure increased from £286,054 to £385,258 due to increased charitable donations and increased property running costs.

### **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 congregations and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (1 January 2020)". 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.

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

### 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 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 hold at least 12 month's normal expenditure. At the year-end unrestricted reserves were £208,123 which represents 7 month's normal expenditure. The Trustees however, consider it prudent to hold reserves at this level as the funding of its present activities is dependent of the ongoing financial support of members.

### RISK REVIEW

A review of major risks has been undertaken by the Trustees and systems and procedures 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. 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 18 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Patricia Eaton

18 April 2024



Steve Stockman

18 April 2024

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 13 to 25.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 65(3)(a) of the Charities Act Northern Ireland 2008 and regulations made under section 66 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity financial statements 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 financial statements and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and no matter has come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe:

- (1) that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act;
- (2) that the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records;
- (3) that the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed: *Scott McCullough* Dated: 18 April 2024

Scott McCullough

FCA Chartered Accountants Ireland

Suite 2.06  
Custom House  
Custom House Square  
Belfast BT1 3ET

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	127,455	156,594	-	284,049	264,205
Charitable activities	3	2,020	34,427	-	36,447	10,226
Investments		3,589	-	-	3,589	3,350
Other		-	-	-	-	-
		<b>133,064</b>	<b>191,021</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>324,085</b>	<b>277,781</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	106,326	278,932	-	385,258	286,054
<b>Total</b>		<b>106,326</b>	<b>278,932</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>385,258</b>	<b>286,054</b>
<b>Net Income/(expenditure) before gains</b>		<b>26,738</b>	<b>(87,911)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(61,173)</b>	<b>(8,272)</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		11,823	-	-	11,823	(11,701)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>38,561</b>	<b>(87,911)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(49,350)</b>	<b>(19,974)</b>
Total funds at 1 January 2023		208,124	1,596,574	9,837	1,814,535	1,834,509
<b>Total funds at 31 December 2023</b>		<b>246,684</b>	<b>1,508,664</b>	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,765,185</b>	<b>1,814,535</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Investments – general investment fund	6		142,465		130,641
Church Buildings, 119 & Manse	7		1,466,876		1,488,111
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	8	7,000		8,182	
Cash at bank and in hand		153,184		194,967	
		<u>160,184</u>		<u>203,149</u>	
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	<u>(4,340)</u>		<u>(7,366)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>155,844</b>		<b>195,785</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>		<u><b>1,814,535</b></u>
<b>Total assets</b>			<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>		<u><b>1,834,535</b></u>
<b>Charity Funds</b>					
Endowment Funds	10		9,837		9,837
Restricted Funds	10,11		1,508,664		1,596,574
Unrestricted Funds	10		246,684		208,124
			<u><b>1,765,185</b></u>		<u><b>1,814,535</b></u>

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 18 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

*Patricia Eaton*

Patricia Eaton

*Steve Stockman*

Steve Stockman

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2020).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the congregation is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### **FUND ACCOUNTING**

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **INCOMING RESOURCES**

###### **(i) Recognition of incoming resources**

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the congregation becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

###### **(ii) Incoming resources with related expenditure**

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

###### **(iii) Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the congregation has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

###### **(iv) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts**

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

###### **(v) Volunteer help**

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

###### **(vi) Investment income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

###### **(vii) Investment gains and losses**

This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2023**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES**

###### **(viii) Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the congregation to pay out resources.

###### **(ix) Grants with performance conditions**

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

##### **ASSETS**

###### **(x) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is recorded on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write of the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Buildings: - over 50 years

###### **(xi) Investments**

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	127,455	154,094	281,549	264,205
Legacies and bequests	-	2,500	2,500	-
<b>Total Donations and Legacies</b>	<b>127,455</b>	<b>156,594</b>	<b>284,049</b>	<b>264,205</b>

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	27,863	27,863	2,159
Other sundry income	2,020	6,564	8,584	8,067
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>34,427</b>	<b>36,447</b>	<b>10,226</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	19,870	-	19,870	17,205
Presbytery fees	857	-	857	572
United Appeal	-	12,000	12,000	12,000
Ministry (excluding pension)	56,196	-	56,196	53,587
Support Costs	27,803	-	27,803	25,919
Worship	1,600	-	1,600	3,955
Youth and Pastoral	-	12,443	12,443	35,582
Property: Depreciation	-	21,235	21,235	21,235
Property: Expenditure	-	206,837	206,837	70,204
Mission & Charities	-	26,416	26,416	46,795
	<b>106,326</b>	<b>278,931</b>	<b>385,257</b>	<b>286,054</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**5. EMPLOYEES**

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Wages and Salaries	57,159	80,625
Social Security Costs	6,070	7,402
Pension contributions	10,764	11,932
	<b>73,993</b>	<b>99,959</b>

**Number of Employees and Minister**

The average number of employees, including the minister of the congregation, during the year was:

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Minister	1	1
Youth Director	0	1
Secretarial	1	1
Others	0	1
	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

There were no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**6. INVESTMENTS**

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>General Investment Fund</b>		
Value at start of year	130,642	142,343
Disposals	-	-
Gains on revaluation	11,823	(11,701)
<b>Value at end of year</b>	<b><u>142,465</u></b>	<b><u>130,641</u></b>

**7. FIXED ASSETS**

	Church Buildings, 119 & Manse £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>		
At 1 January 2023	1,636,756	1,636,756
Additions	-	-
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>1,636,756</u></b>	<b><u>1,636,756</u></b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 January 2023	148,645	148,645
Charge for year	21,235	21,235
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>169,880</u></b>	<b><u>169,880</u></b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>1,466,876</u></b>	<b><u>1,466,876</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**8. DEBTORS**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gift Aid Recoverable	7,000	8,182
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b><u>7,000</u></b>	<b><u>8,182</u></b>

**9. CREDITORS: amount falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	4,340	7,366
<b>Total Creditors</b>	<b><u>4,340</u></b>	<b><u>7,366</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

**Current Year**

	Endowment Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	132,628	142,465
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,466,876	-	1,466,876
Debtors	-	-	7,000	7,000
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	41,788	111,396	153,184
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(4,340)	(4,340)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,508,664</b>	<b>246,684</b>	<b>1,765,185</b>

**Prior Year**

	Endowment Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	120,804	130,641
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,488,111	-	1,488,111
Debtors	-	-	8,182	8,182
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	106,106	88,862	194,968
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	2,357	(9,723)	(7,366)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>	<b>208,124</b>	<b>1,814,536</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**11. STATEMENT OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	Income £	Expend £	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
Property Capital Fund	-	21,235	(21,235)	1,488,111	1,466,876
Property Fund	141,575	205,237	(63,662)	101,002	37,340
Babies and Toddlers	-	-	-	250	250
Youth and Pastoral Fund	2,253	2,253	-	-	-
Church weekend	6,272	7,642	(1,370)	1,370	-
P Herald	358	234	124	-	124
Youth Bursary	54	1,295	(1,241)	1,241	-
Fitzroy Mission Support	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
United Appeal	12,000	12,000	-	-	-
Mornington	4,195	4,195	-	-	-
Homeplus	1,488	1,638	(150)	200	50
Fields of Life - Uganda	1,435	-	1,435	1,960	3,395
Foodbank	600	1,130	(530)	530	-
Tear Fund/Christian Aid	569	619	(50)	50	-
Other partner gifts	3,624	3,835	(211)	420	209
Other grants	1,600	2,619	(1,019)	1,440	421
	<b>191,023</b>	<b>278,932</b>	<b>(87,909)</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>	<b>1,508,665</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**12. PENSION COSTS**

The minister of the congregation is a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). This is a scheme operated by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a separate registered charity. The congregation pays an assessment to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland equivalent to the employer's pension contribution for the Scheme and based on the stipend paid to the minister. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) is a funded Scheme of the defined benefit type, providing defined benefits based on career average revalued salary. The Scheme has assets held in a separately administered fund managed by a board of trustees. The Presbyterian Church and the Scheme Trustees have agreed a funding plan to ensure the Scheme is sufficiently funded to meet current and future obligations. A formal schedule of contributions was drawn up on 25 November 2015 whereby the Presbyterian Church agreed to pay from 31 December 2015 contributions of 24% of pensionable salaries to cover the accrual of benefits for future service, expenses, the cost of insuring death in service benefits and funding the scheme deficit.

The contributions made by the congregation during the year were £10,389 (2022 £9,894).

The congregation operates a defined pension contribution policy for its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by an independent scheme manager. The contributions made to this scheme amounted to £601 (2022: £2,038).

**13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Rev Steve Stockman, a trustee, received remuneration of £43,784 and expenses of £6,934 as minister of the congregation. Pension contributions of £10,389 were paid by the congregation in respect of the minister to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). Mrs Flo Adair, a Trustee, received £2,400 for bookkeeping and accounting services. None of the other trustees received any remuneration, but UHY Hacker Young Fitch received £1,402 for processing payroll for the employees and independently examining the charity accounts. Michael Fitch, a Trustee, is a director of UHY Hacker Young Fitch.

**Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104519

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# Accounts

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# **Fitzroy 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 NIC104519**

## 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

Fitzroy congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

University Street, Belfast, BT7 1HL

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104519)

## CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Mrs Flo Adair <sup>(1)</sup>	Mr. Philip Mateer <sup>(1) (2)</sup>
Mr. Christopher Blake	Dr. Stephen McIlwaine <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Patricia Blake	Mr Norman McKinley
Mr Paul Bowman	Dr. David McNeill
Mrs. Heather Carey	Mrs. Anne McMurray
Prof. Patricia Eaton	Mrs Sara Patterson
Mr. Michael Fitch <sup>(1)</sup>	Dr. Ivor Spence <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Elma Greer	Rev Steve Stockman
Miss June Pat Gamble <sup>(1) (2)</sup>	Mr. David Thompson
Mr David Hall	
Mr. Paul Lutton (retired on 31/12/22)	

1. Property Trustees for 119 University Avenue
2. Property Trustees for Fitzroy Church (Other Trustees are Chris Morris and Neill Scott)

## PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister	Rev Steve Stockman
Clerk of Session	Mr Michael Fitch (retired on 13/10/22) Prof. Patricia Eaton (appointed 13/10/22)
Deputy Clerk of Session	Dr Stephen McIlwaine (retired on 13/10/22) Mrs Anne McMurray (appointed on 13/10/22)
Congregational Secretary	Dr Ivor Spence (retired on 20/10/22) Mrs Helen Miller (appointed on 20/10/22)
Treasurer	Mrs Flo Adair

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Scott McCullough FCA  
27-29 Gordon Street  
Belfast BT1 2LG

### **BANKERS**

Danske Bank  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast BT1 6JS

### **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees (“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 Sessions 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 minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice a year. During 2022 Kirk Session met 9 times.

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. During the year no new elders were elected.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **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. Fitzroy Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Belfast South 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.

### **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

Fitzroy 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.

The congregations mission statement is:

Fitzroy exists:

to celebrate God's goodness in our worship [*Worship*] and  
to express God's love through our lives by  
introducing people to Jesus Christ [*Mission*],  
integrating them into His Church [*Pastoral Care*],  
educating them in a Christ-like lifestyle [*Spiritual Formation*], and  
enabling them to participate in Christ's mission today [*Mission*].

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Kirk Session has four 10:10 Groups (sub committees): Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission.

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision as a family of God's people by being:

**A Covenant Community:** where our relationships are rooted in the promises of God by living faithfully toward Him and toward one another.

**An Intergenerational Community:** where adults intentionally take the lead to engage with, encourage and nurture younger members to maturity in Christ.

**An Outward Looking Community:** where we want the blessings of God that belong to us in the gospel to become blessings for others beyond the bounds of our community.

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.

## **ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation has four core purposes: Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission and our strap line is based on the words of Jesus in John 10:10: "I have come that you have life in all its fullness."

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on at least 10 occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper.

The congregation has a number of small groups and a wide range of organisations and activities not only for the benefit of the congregation but the wider community: in the local area, Belfast and beyond. Further information is available on our web site: [www.fitzroy.org.uk](http://www.fitzroy.org.uk).

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Our mission is multifaceted and includes witness, service, justice, healing, reconciliation, liberation, peace, evangelism, fellowship, contextualisation and much more. We have identified seven ways in which we express our mission in Fitzroy:

- Presence
- Participation and partnership
- Peacemakers
- Practical love
- Proclamation
- Prophetic
- Prayer

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Worship and prayer**

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11am and on many Sundays for an event at 7pm. During the week the small groups provide an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the Bible and for a time of prayer.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life at two Sacraments of Baptism and gave thanks for faithful service and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved.

At 31 December 2022 there were 312 (2021:312) communicant members and 194 (2021:206) families (446 (2021:501) people) under pastoral care of the Congregation. During the year no one was baptised or admitted to the Lord's Table for the first time due to Covid restrictions. The average weekly attendance at Sunday morning worship was 165 in person and 200-300 online.

### **Pastoral care**

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the minister, elders or by one of the congregation's pastoral visitors. Restrictions to this work applied during the pandemic.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Spiritual Formation**

A programme of events was organised during the year to help members of the congregation and others grow deeper in their faith. A prayer room and space for prayer in the church before Easter was of particular note.

### **Mission and outreach**

At local, national and international levels, Fitzroy members continue to be involved in a wide range of groups, organisations and programs extending Christ's Kingdom. The elders provide support to all mission and outreach group leaders, helping to promote their work and providing a spokesperson for each group on Kirk Session.

### **United Appeal**

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 denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. 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, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregation and the wider structures of the church. We are grateful to June Pat Gamble for serving us on Presbytery for many years and Mr Norman McKinley has agreed to take this role from November 2022.

### **General Assembly**

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Property**

We own 119 Fitzroy Avenue, Fitzroy Church and Halls, a Manse in Maryville Park Belfast and the former School of Music property on Donegall Pass Belfast.

### **Volunteers and Employees**

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their thanks for the many years of service provided by two former employees Paul Bowman (Youth Director) and Dorothy Ramsay (Pastoral Worker).

### **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. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

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 result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary 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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

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 Commissions public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions. There were 154 (2021:151) contributing families during the year donating a total of £264,205 (2021: £275,374).

Total expenditure increased from £236,147 to £286,054 due to increased charitable donations and increased property running costs.

### **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 congregations and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (1 January 2020)". 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.

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

### 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 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 hold at least 12 month's normal expenditure. At the year-end unrestricted reserves were £208,123 which represents 7 month's normal expenditure. The Trustees however, consider it prudent to hold reserves at this level as the funding of its present activities is dependent of the ongoing financial support of members.

### RISK REVIEW

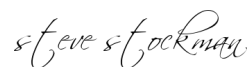
A review of major risks has been undertaken by the Trustees and systems and procedures implemented to manage identified risks. The principal risks are in relation to the likelihood of reputational damage and financial risks associated with the expectation of ongoing financial support from members. These 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 20 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Patricia Eaton

20 April 2023



Steve Stockman

20 April 2023

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 13 to 25.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 65(3)(a) of the Charities Act Northern Ireland 2008 and regulations made under section 66 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity financial statements 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 financial statements and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and no matter has come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe:

- (1) that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act;
- (2) that the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records;
- (3) that the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed: *Scott McCullough*      Dated: 20 April 2023

Scott McCullough      FCA Chartered Accountant

Gordon Street Mews  
27-29 Gordon Street  
Belfast  
BT1 2LG

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY  
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	88,837	175,368	-	264,205	275,374
Charitable activities	3	6,159	4,067	-	10,226	9,095
Investments		3,350	-	-	3,350	3,109
Other		-	-	-	-	540
<b>Total</b>		<b>98,346</b>	<b>179,435</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>277,781</b>	<b>288,118</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	100,968	185,086	-	286,054	236,147
<b>Total</b>		<b>100,968</b>	<b>185,086</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>286,054</b>	<b>236,147</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(11,701)	-	-	(11,701)	16,231
Net Income / (expenditure) before gains		(2,621)	(5,651)	-	(8,272)	51,971
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(14,323)</b>	<b>(5,651)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(19,974)</b>	<b>68,202</b>
Total funds at 1 January 2022		222,446	1,602,225	9,837	1,834,508	1,766,306
<b>Total funds at 31 December 2022</b>		<b>208,123</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,814,534</b>	<b>1,834,508</b>

**BALANCE SHEET**

**As at 31 December 2022**

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Investments – general investment fund	6		130,641		142,343
Church Buildings, 119 & Manse	7		1,488,111		1,509,346
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	8	8,182		23,220	
Cash at bank and in hand		194,968		166,899	
		203,150		190,119	
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	9		(7,366)		(7,300)
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>195,784</b>		<b>182,819</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<b>1,814,536</b>		<b>1,834,508</b>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year</b>					
Danske Bank Loan			-		-
<b>Total assets</b>			<b>1,834,510</b>		<b>1,834,508</b>
<b>Charity Funds</b>					
Endowment Funds	10		9,837		9,837
Restricted Funds	10,11		1,596,574		1,602,225
Unrestricted Funds	10		208,124		222,446
			<b>1,814,535</b>		<b>1,834,508</b>

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 20 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

*Patricia Eaton*

Patricia Eaton

*Steve Stockman*

Steve Stockman

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2020).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the congregation is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### **FUND ACCOUNTING**

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **INCOMING RESOURCES**

###### **(i) Recognition of incoming resources**

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the congregation becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

###### **(ii) Incoming resources with related expenditure**

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

###### **(iii) Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the congregation has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

###### **(iv) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts**

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

###### **(v) Volunteer help**

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

###### **(vi) Investment income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

###### **(vii) Investment gains and losses**

This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES**

###### **(viii) Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the congregation to pay out resources.

###### **(ix) Grants with performance conditions**

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

##### **ASSETS**

###### **(x) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is recorded on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write of the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Buildings:           - over 50 years

###### **(xi) Investments**

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	88,837	175,368	264,205	275,374
Legacies and bequests	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Donations and Legacies</b>	<b>88,837</b>	<b>175,368</b>	<b>264,205</b>	<b>275,374</b>

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	2,159	2,159	9,095
Other sundry income	6,159	1,908	8,067	-
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>6,159</b>	<b>4,067</b>	<b>10,226</b>	<b>9,095</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	17,205	-	17,205	16,838
Presbytery fees	572	-	572	-
United Appeal	-	12,000	12,000	12,000
Ministry (excluding pension)	53,587	-	53,587	51,127
Support Costs	25,649	270	25,919	21,027
Worship	3,955	-	3,955	2,164
Youth and Pastoral	-	35,582	35,582	42,290
Property: Depreciation	-	21,235	21,235	21,235
Property: Expenditure	-	70,204	70,204	34,666
Mission & Charities	-	46,795	46,795	34,800
	<b>100,968</b>	<b>185,086</b>	<b>286,054</b>	<b>236,147</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**5. EMPLOYEES**

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Wages and Salaries	80,625	80,404
Social Security Costs	7,402	6,725
Pension contributions	11,932	11,212
	<b>99,959</b>	<b>98,341</b>

**Number of Employees and Minister**

The average number of employees, including the minister of the congregation, during the year was:

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Minister	1	1
Youth Director	1	1
Secretarial	1	1
Others	1	1
	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

There were no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**6. INVESTMENTS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>General Investment Fund</b>		
Value at start of year	142,343	126,112
Disposals	-	-
Gains on revaluation	(11,701)	16,231
<b>Value at end of year</b>	<b>130,641</b>	<b>142,343</b>

**7. FIXED ASSETS**

	Church Buildings, 119 & Manse £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>		
At 1 January 2022	1,636,756	1,636,756
Additions	-	-
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>1,636,756</b>	<b>1,636,756</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 January 2022	127,410	127,410
Charge for year	21,235	21,235
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>148,645</b>	<b>148,645</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>1,488,111</b>	<b>1,488,111</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**8. DEBTORS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gift Aid Recoverable	8,182	23,220
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b>8,182</b>	<b>23,220</b>

**9. CREDITORS: amount falling due within one year**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	7,366	7,300
<b>Total Creditors</b>	<b>7,366</b>	<b>7,300</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

**Current Year**

	Endowment Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	120,804	130,641
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,488,111	-	1,488,111
Debtors	-	-	8,182	8,182
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	106,106	88,862	194,968
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(7,366)	(7,366)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,594,217</b>	<b>210,482</b>	<b>1,814,536</b>

**Prior Year**

	Endowment Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	132,506	142,343
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,509,346	-	1,509,346
Debtors	-	-	23,220	23,220
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	92,880	74,019	166,899
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(7,300)	(7,300)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,602,226</b>	<b>222,445</b>	<b>1,834,508</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**11. STATEMENT OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	Income £	Expend £	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
Property Capital Fund	-	21,235	(21,235)	1,509,346	1,488,111
Property Fund	87,840	66,604	21,235	79,767	101,002
Babies and Toddlers	-	-	-	250	250
Youth and Pastoral Fund	31,476	39,723	(8,247)	9,687	1,440
Church weekend	1,670	300	1,370	-	1,370
Prayer Ministry	-	100	(100)	100	-
Youth Bursary	-	-	-	1,241	1,241
Fitzroy Mission Support	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
United Appeal	12,000	12,000	-	-	-
Fields of Life - Uganda	3,679	3,552	126	1,834	1,960
Tear Fund/Christian Aid	1,275	1,225	50	-	50
Ukraine Appeal	23,744	23,744	-	-	-
Other grants	2,752	1,603	1,149	-	1,150
	<b>179,435</b>	<b>185,086</b>	<b>(5,652)</b>	<b>1,602,225</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

#### **12. PENSION COSTS**

The minister of the congregation is a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). This is a scheme operated by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a separate registered charity. The congregation pays an assessment to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland equivalent to the employer's pension contribution for the Scheme and based on the stipend paid to the minister. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) is a funded Scheme of the defined benefit type, providing defined benefits based on career average revalued salary. The Scheme has assets held in a separately administered fund managed by a board of trustees. The Presbyterian Church and the Scheme Trustees have agreed a funding plan to ensure the Scheme is sufficiently funded to meet current and future obligations. A formal schedule of contributions was drawn up on 25 November 2015 whereby the Presbyterian Church agreed to pay from 31 December 2015 contributions of 24% of pensionable salaries to cover the accrual of benefits for future service, expenses, the cost of insuring death in service benefits and funding the scheme deficit.

The contributions made by the congregation during the year were £9,894 (2021 £9,514).

The congregation operates a defined pension contribution policy for its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by an independent scheme manager. The contributions made to this scheme amounted to £2,038 (2021: £1,698).

#### **13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Rev Steve Stockman, a trustee, received remuneration of £41,223 and expenses of £7,682 as minister of the congregation. Pension contributions of £9,894 were paid by the congregation in respect of the minister to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). Mr Paul Bowman, a Trustee, received remuneration of £26,249 as Youth Director of the congregation. Mrs Flo Adair, a Trustee, received £2,400 for bookkeeping and accounting services. None of the other trustees received any remuneration, but UHY Hacker Young Fitch received £1,272 for processing payroll for the employees and independently examining the charity accounts. Michael Fitch, a Trustee, is a director of UHY Hacker Young Fitch.

**Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104519

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# Annual report

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# **Fitzroy 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 NIC104519**

## 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

Fitzroy congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

University Street, Belfast, BT7 1HL

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104519)

## CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Mrs Flo Adair <sup>(1)</sup>	Mr. Philip Mateer <sup>(1) (2)</sup>
Mr. Christopher Blake	Dr. Stephen McIlwaine <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Patricia Blake	Mr Norman McKinley
Mr Paul Bowman	Dr. David McNeill
Mrs. Heather Carey	Mrs. Anne McMurray
Prof. Patricia Eaton	Mrs Sara Patterson
Mr. Michael Fitch <sup>(1)</sup>	Dr. Ivor Spence <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Elma Greer	Rev Steve Stockman
Miss June Pat Gamble <sup>(1) (2)</sup>	Mr. David Thompson
Mr David Hall	
Mr. Paul Lutton (retired on 31/12/22)	

1. Property Trustees for 119 University Avenue
2. Property Trustees for Fitzroy Church (Other Trustees are Chris Morris and Neill Scott)

## PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister	Rev Steve Stockman
Clerk of Session	Mr Michael Fitch (retired on 13/10/22) Prof. Patricia Eaton (appointed 13/10/22)
Deputy Clerk of Session	Dr Stephen McIlwaine (retired on 13/10/22) Mrs Anne McMurray (appointed on 13/10/22)
Congregational Secretary	Dr Ivor Spence (retired on 20/10/22) Mrs Helen Miller (appointed on 20/10/22)
Treasurer	Mrs Flo Adair

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Scott McCullough FCA  
27-29 Gordon Street  
Belfast BT1 2LG

### **BANKERS**

Danske Bank  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast BT1 6JS

## **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees (“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 Sessions 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 minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice a year. During 2022 Kirk Session met 9 times.

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. During the year no new elders were elected.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **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. Fitzroy Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Belfast South 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.

### **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

Fitzroy 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.

The congregations mission statement is:

Fitzroy exists:

to celebrate God's goodness in our worship [*Worship*] and  
to express God's love through our lives by  
introducing people to Jesus Christ [*Mission*],  
integrating them into His Church [*Pastoral Care*],  
educating them in a Christ-like lifestyle [*Spiritual Formation*], and  
enabling them to participate in Christ's mission today [*Mission*].

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Kirk Session has four 10:10 Groups (sub committees): Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission.

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision as a family of God's people by being:

**A Covenant Community:** where our relationships are rooted in the promises of God by living faithfully toward Him and toward one another.

**An Intergenerational Community:** where adults intentionally take the lead to engage with, encourage and nurture younger members to maturity in Christ.

**An Outward Looking Community:** where we want the blessings of God that belong to us in the gospel to become blessings for others beyond the bounds of our community.

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.

## **ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation has four core purposes: Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission and our strap line is based on the words of Jesus in John 10:10: "I have come that you have life in all its fullness."

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on at least 10 occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper.

The congregation has a number of small groups and a wide range of organisations and activities not only for the benefit of the congregation but the wider community: in the local area, Belfast and beyond. Further information is available on our web site: [www.fitzroy.org.uk](http://www.fitzroy.org.uk).

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Our mission is multifaceted and includes witness, service, justice, healing, reconciliation, liberation, peace, evangelism, fellowship, contextualisation and much more. We have identified seven ways in which we express our mission in Fitzroy:

- Presence
- Participation and partnership
- Peacemakers
- Practical love
- Proclamation
- Prophetic
- Prayer

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Worship and prayer**

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11am and on many Sundays for an event at 7pm. During the week the small groups provide an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the Bible and for a time of prayer.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life at two Sacraments of Baptism and gave thanks for faithful service and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved.

At 31 December 2022 there were 312 (2021:312) communicant members and 194 (2021:206) families (446 (2021:501) people) under pastoral care of the Congregation. During the year no one was baptised or admitted to the Lord's Table for the first time due to Covid restrictions. The average weekly attendance at Sunday morning worship was 165 in person and 200-300 online.

### **Pastoral care**

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the minister, elders or by one of the congregation's pastoral visitors. Restrictions to this work applied during the pandemic.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Spiritual Formation**

A programme of events was organised during the year to help members of the congregation and others grow deeper in their faith. A prayer room and space for prayer in the church before Easter was of particular note.

### **Mission and outreach**

At local, national and international levels, Fitzroy members continue to be involved in a wide range of groups, organisations and programs extending Christ's Kingdom. The elders provide support to all mission and outreach group leaders, helping to promote their work and providing a spokesperson for each group on Kirk Session.

### **United Appeal**

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 denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. 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, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregation and the wider structures of the church. We are grateful to June Pat Gamble for serving us on Presbytery for many years and Mr Norman McKinley has agreed to take this role from November 2022.

### **General Assembly**

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Property**

We own 119 Fitzroy Avenue, Fitzroy Church and Halls, a Manse in Maryville Park Belfast and the former School of Music property on Donegall Pass Belfast.

### **Volunteers and Employees**

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their thanks for the many years of service provided by two former employees Paul Bowman (Youth Director) and Dorothy Ramsay (Pastoral Worker).

### **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. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

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 result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary 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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

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 Commissions public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions. There were 154 (2021:151) contributing families during the year donating a total of £264,205 (2021: £275,374).

Total expenditure increased from £236,147 to £286,054 due to increased charitable donations and increased property running costs.

### **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 congregations and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (1 January 2020)". 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.

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

### 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 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 hold at least 12 month's normal expenditure. At the year-end unrestricted reserves were £208,123 which represents 7 month's normal expenditure. The Trustees however, consider it prudent to hold reserves at this level as the funding of its present activities is dependent of the ongoing financial support of members.

### RISK REVIEW

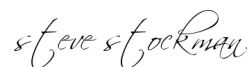
A review of major risks has been undertaken by the Trustees and systems and procedures implemented to manage identified risks. The principal risks are in relation to the likelihood of reputational damage and financial risks associated with the expectation of ongoing financial support from members. These 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 20 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Patricia Eaton

20 April 2023



Steve Stockman

20 April 2023

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 13 to 25.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 65(3)(a) of the Charities Act Northern Ireland 2008 and regulations made under section 66 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity financial statements 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 financial statements and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and no matter has come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe:

- (1) that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act;
- (2) that the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records;
- (3) that the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed: *Scott McCullough*      Dated: 20 April 2023

Scott McCullough      FCA Chartered Accountant

Gordon Street Mews  
27-29 Gordon Street  
Belfast  
BT1 2LG

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY  
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	88,837	175,368	-	264,205	275,374
Charitable activities	3	6,159	4,067	-	10,226	9,095
Investments		3,350	-	-	3,350	3,109
Other		-	-	-	-	540
<b>Total</b>		<b>98,346</b>	<b>179,435</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>277,781</b>	<b>288,118</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	100,968	185,086	-	286,054	236,147
<b>Total</b>		<b>100,968</b>	<b>185,086</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>286,054</b>	<b>236,147</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(11,701)	-	-	(11,701)	16,231
Net Income / (expenditure) before gains		(2,621)	(5,651)	-	(8,272)	51,971
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(14,323)</b>	<b>(5,651)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(19,974)</b>	<b>68,202</b>
Total funds at 1 January 2022		222,446	1,602,225	9,837	1,834,508	1,766,306
<b>Total funds at 31 December 2022</b>		<b>208,123</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,814,534</b>	<b>1,834,508</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Investments – general investment fund	6		130,641		142,343
Church Buildings, 119 & Manse	7		1,488,111		1,509,346
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	8	8,182		23,220	
Cash at bank and in hand		194,968		166,899	
		<u>203,150</u>		<u>190,119</u>	
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	<u>(7,366)</u>		<u>(7,300)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>195,784</b>		<b>182,819</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u><b>1,814,536</b></u>		<u><b>1,834,508</b></u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year</b>					
Danske Bank Loan			-		-
<b>Total assets</b>			<u><u><b>1,834,510</b></u></u>		<u><u><b>1,834,508</b></u></u>
<b>Charity Funds</b>					
Endowment Funds	10		9,837		9,837
Restricted Funds	10,11		1,596,574		1,602,225
Unrestricted Funds	10		208,124		222,446
			<u><b>1,814,535</b></u>		<u><b>1,834,508</b></u>

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 20 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

*Patricia Eaton*

Patricia Eaton

*Steve Stockman*

Steve Stockman

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2020).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the congregation is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### **FUND ACCOUNTING**

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **INCOMING RESOURCES**

###### **(i) Recognition of incoming resources**

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the congregation becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

###### **(ii) Incoming resources with related expenditure**

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

###### **(iii) Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the congregation has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

###### **(iv) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts**

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

###### **(v) Volunteer help**

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

###### **(vi) Investment income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

###### **(vii) Investment gains and losses**

This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES**

###### **(viii) Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the congregation to pay out resources.

###### **(ix) Grants with performance conditions**

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

##### **ASSETS**

###### **(x) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is recorded on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write of the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Buildings: - over 50 years

###### **(xi) Investments**

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	88,837	175,368	264,205	275,374
Legacies and bequests	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Donations and Legacies</b>	<b>88,837</b>	<b>175,368</b>	<b>264,205</b>	<b>275,374</b>

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	2,159	2,159	9,095
Other sundry income	6,159	1,908	8,067	-
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>6,159</b>	<b>4,067</b>	<b>10,226</b>	<b>9,095</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	17,205	-	17,205	16,838
Presbytery fees	572	-	572	-
United Appeal	-	12,000	12,000	12,000
Ministry (excluding pension)	53,587	-	53,587	51,127
Support Costs	25,649	270	25,919	21,027
Worship	3,955	-	3,955	2,164
Youth and Pastoral	-	35,582	35,582	42,290
Property: Depreciation	-	21,235	21,235	21,235
Property: Expenditure	-	70,204	70,204	34,666
Mission & Charities	-	46,795	46,795	34,800
	<b>100,968</b>	<b>185,086</b>	<b>286,054</b>	<b>236,147</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**5. EMPLOYEES**

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Wages and Salaries	80,625	80,404
Social Security Costs	7,402	6,725
Pension contributions	11,932	11,212
	<b>99,959</b>	<b>98,341</b>

**Number of Employees and Minister**

The average number of employees, including the minister of the congregation, during the year was:

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Minister	1	1
Youth Director	1	1
Secretarial	1	1
Others	1	1
	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

There were no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**6. INVESTMENTS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>General Investment Fund</b>		
Value at start of year	142,343	126,112
Disposals	-	-
Gains on revaluation	(11,701)	16,231
<b>Value at end of year</b>	<b>130,641</b>	<b>142,343</b>

**7. FIXED ASSETS**

	Church Buildings, 119 & Manse £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>		
At 1 January 2022	1,636,756	1,636,756
Additions	-	-
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>1,636,756</b>	<b>1,636,756</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 January 2022	127,410	127,410
Charge for year	21,235	21,235
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>148,645</b>	<b>148,645</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>1,488,111</b>	<b>1,488,111</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**8. DEBTORS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gift Aid Recoverable	8,182	23,220
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b><u>8,182</u></b>	<b><u>23,220</u></b>

**9. CREDITORS: amount falling due within one year**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	7,366	7,300
<b>Total Creditors</b>	<b><u>7,366</u></b>	<b><u>7,300</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

**Current Year**

	Endowment Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	120,804	130,641
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,488,111	-	1,488,111
Debtors	-	-	8,182	8,182
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	106,106	88,862	194,968
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(7,366)	(7,366)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,594,217</b>	<b>210,482</b>	<b>1,814,536</b>

**Prior Year**

	Endowment Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	132,506	142,343
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,509,346	-	1,509,346
Debtors	-	-	23,220	23,220
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	92,880	74,019	166,899
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(7,300)	(7,300)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,602,226</b>	<b>222,445</b>	<b>1,834,508</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**11. STATEMENT OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	Income £	Expend £	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
Property Capital Fund	-	21,235	(21,235)	1,509,346	1,488,111
Property Fund	87,840	66,604	21,235	79,767	101,002
Babies and Toddlers	-	-	-	250	250
Youth and Pastoral Fund	31,476	39,723	(8,247)	9,687	1,440
Church weekend	1,670	300	1,370	-	1,370
Prayer Ministry	-	100	(100)	100	-
Youth Bursary	-	-	-	1,241	1,241
Fitzroy Mission Support	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
United Appeal	12,000	12,000	-	-	-
Fields of Life - Uganda	3,679	3,552	126	1,834	1,960
Tear Fund/Christian Aid	1,275	1,225	50	-	50
Ukraine Appeal	23,744	23,744	-	-	-
Other grants	2,752	1,603	1,149	-	1,150
	<b>179,435</b>	<b>185,086</b>	<b>(5,652)</b>	<b>1,602,225</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

#### **12. PENSION COSTS**

The minister of the congregation is a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). This is a scheme operated by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a separate registered charity. The congregation pays an assessment to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland equivalent to the employer's pension contribution for the Scheme and based on the stipend paid to the minister. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) is a funded Scheme of the defined benefit type, providing defined benefits based on career average revalued salary. The Scheme has assets held in a separately administered fund managed by a board of trustees. The Presbyterian Church and the Scheme Trustees have agreed a funding plan to ensure the Scheme is sufficiently funded to meet current and future obligations. A formal schedule of contributions was drawn up on 25 November 2015 whereby the Presbyterian Church agreed to pay from 31 December 2015 contributions of 24% of pensionable salaries to cover the accrual of benefits for future service, expenses, the cost of insuring death in service benefits and funding the scheme deficit.

The contributions made by the congregation during the year were £9,894 (2021 £9,514).

The congregation operates a defined pension contribution policy for its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by an independent scheme manager. The contributions made to this scheme amounted to £2,038 (2021: £1,698).

#### **13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Rev Steve Stockman, a trustee, received remuneration of £41,223 and expenses of £7,682 as minister of the congregation. Pension contributions of £9,894 were paid by the congregation in respect of the minister to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). Mr Paul Bowman, a Trustee, received remuneration of £26,249 as Youth Director of the congregation. Mrs Flo Adair, a Trustee, received £2,400 for bookkeeping and accounting services. None of the other trustees received any remuneration, but UHY Hacker Young Fitch received £1,272 for processing payroll for the employees and independently examining the charity accounts. Michael Fitch, a Trustee, is a director of UHY Hacker Young Fitch.

**Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104519

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# Annual return

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# **Fitzroy 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 NIC104519**

## 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

Fitzroy congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

University Street, Belfast, BT7 1HL

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104519)

## CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Mrs Flo Adair <sup>(1)</sup>	Mr. Philip Mateer <sup>(1) (2)</sup>
Mr. Christopher Blake	Dr. Stephen McIlwaine <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Patricia Blake	Mr Norman McKinley
Mr Paul Bowman	Dr. David McNeill
Mrs. Heather Carey	Mrs. Anne McMurray
Prof. Patricia Eaton	Mrs Sara Patterson
Mr. Michael Fitch <sup>(1)</sup>	Dr. Ivor Spence <sup>(1)</sup>
Mrs. Elma Greer	Rev Steve Stockman
Miss June Pat Gamble <sup>(1) (2)</sup>	Mr. David Thompson
Mr David Hall	
Mr. Paul Lutton (retired on 31/12/22)	

1. Property Trustees for 119 University Avenue
2. Property Trustees for Fitzroy Church (Other Trustees are Chris Morris and Neill Scott)

## PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister	Rev Steve Stockman
Clerk of Session	Mr Michael Fitch (retired on 13/10/22) Prof. Patricia Eaton (appointed 13/10/22)
Deputy Clerk of Session	Dr Stephen McIlwaine (retired on 13/10/22) Mrs Anne McMurray (appointed on 13/10/22)
Congregational Secretary	Dr Ivor Spence (retired on 20/10/22) Mrs Helen Miller (appointed on 20/10/22)
Treasurer	Mrs Flo Adair

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Scott McCullough FCA  
27-29 Gordon Street  
Belfast BT1 2LG

### **BANKERS**

Danske Bank  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast BT1 6JS

## **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees (“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 Sessions 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 minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice a year. During 2022 Kirk Session met 9 times.

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. During the year no new elders were elected.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **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. Fitzroy Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Belfast South 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.

### **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE**

Fitzroy 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.

The congregations mission statement is:

Fitzroy exists:

to celebrate God's goodness in our worship [*Worship*] and  
to express God's love through our lives by  
introducing people to Jesus Christ [*Mission*],  
integrating them into His Church [*Pastoral Care*],  
educating them in a Christ-like lifestyle [*Spiritual Formation*], and  
enabling them to participate in Christ's mission today [*Mission*].

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Kirk Session has four 10:10 Groups (sub committees): Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission.

The congregation aims to live out its Mission and Vision as a family of God's people by being:

**A Covenant Community:** where our relationships are rooted in the promises of God by living faithfully toward Him and toward one another.

**An Intergenerational Community:** where adults intentionally take the lead to engage with, encourage and nurture younger members to maturity in Christ.

**An Outward Looking Community:** where we want the blessings of God that belong to us in the gospel to become blessings for others beyond the bounds of our community.

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.

## **ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation has four core purposes: Worship and Prayer, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Formation and Mission and our strap line is based on the words of Jesus in John 10:10: "I have come that you have life in all its fullness."

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on at least 10 occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper.

The congregation has a number of small groups and a wide range of organisations and activities not only for the benefit of the congregation but the wider community: in the local area, Belfast and beyond. Further information is available on our web site: [www.fitzroy.org.uk](http://www.fitzroy.org.uk).

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Our mission is multifaceted and includes witness, service, justice, healing, reconciliation, liberation, peace, evangelism, fellowship, contextualisation and much more. We have identified seven ways in which we express our mission in Fitzroy:

- Presence
- Participation and partnership
- Peacemakers
- Practical love
- Proclamation
- Prophetic
- Prayer

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Worship and prayer**

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11am and on many Sundays for an event at 7pm. During the week the small groups provide an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the Bible and for a time of prayer.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life at two Sacraments of Baptism and gave thanks for faithful service and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved.

At 31 December 2022 there were 312 (2021:312) communicant members and 194 (2021:206) families (446 (2021:501) people) under pastoral care of the Congregation. During the year no one was baptised or admitted to the Lord's Table for the first time due to Covid restrictions. The average weekly attendance at Sunday morning worship was 165 in person and 200-300 online.

### **Pastoral care**

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the minister, elders or by one of the congregation's pastoral visitors. Restrictions to this work applied during the pandemic.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Spiritual Formation**

A programme of events was organised during the year to help members of the congregation and others grow deeper in their faith. A prayer room and space for prayer in the church before Easter was of particular note.

### **Mission and outreach**

At local, national and international levels, Fitzroy members continue to be involved in a wide range of groups, organisations and programs extending Christ's Kingdom. The elders provide support to all mission and outreach group leaders, helping to promote their work and providing a spokesperson for each group on Kirk Session.

### **United Appeal**

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 denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. 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, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregation and the wider structures of the church. We are grateful to June Pat Gamble for serving us on Presbytery for many years and Mr Norman McKinley has agreed to take this role from November 2022.

### **General Assembly**

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

### **Property**

We own 119 Fitzroy Avenue, Fitzroy Church and Halls, a Manse in Maryville Park Belfast and the former School of Music property on Donegall Pass Belfast.

### **Volunteers and Employees**

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their thanks for the many years of service provided by two former employees Paul Bowman (Youth Director) and Dorothy Ramsay (Pastoral Worker).

### **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. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

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 result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary 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

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

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 Commissions public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions. There were 154 (2021:151) contributing families during the year donating a total of £264,205 (2021: £275,374).

Total expenditure increased from £236,147 to £286,054 due to increased charitable donations and increased property running costs.

### **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 congregations and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (1 January 2020)". 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.

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

### 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 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 hold at least 12 month's normal expenditure. At the year-end unrestricted reserves were £208,123 which represents 7 month's normal expenditure. The Trustees however, consider it prudent to hold reserves at this level as the funding of its present activities is dependent of the ongoing financial support of members.

### RISK REVIEW

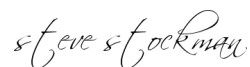
A review of major risks has been undertaken by the Trustees and systems and procedures implemented to manage identified risks. The principal risks are in relation to the likelihood of reputational damage and financial risks associated with the expectation of ongoing financial support from members. These 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 20 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Patricia Eaton

20 April 2023



Steve Stockman

20 April 2023

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Fitzroy Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 13 to 25.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 65(3)(a) of the Charities Act Northern Ireland 2008 and regulations made under section 66 of that Act. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity financial statements 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 financial statements and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and no matter has come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe:

- (1) that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act;
- (2) that the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records;
- (3) that the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed: *Scott McCullough*      Dated: 20 April 2023

Scott McCullough      FCA Chartered Accountant

Gordon Street Mews  
27-29 Gordon Street  
Belfast  
BT1 2LG

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	88,837	175,368	-	264,205	275,374
Charitable activities	3	6,159	4,067	-	10,226	9,095
Investments		3,350	-	-	3,350	3,109
Other		-	-	-	-	540
<b>Total</b>		<b>98,346</b>	<b>179,435</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>277,781</b>	<b>288,118</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	100,968	185,086	-	286,054	236,147
<b>Total</b>		<b>100,968</b>	<b>185,086</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>286,054</b>	<b>236,147</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(11,701)	-	-	(11,701)	16,231
Net Income / (expenditure) before gains		(2,621)	(5,651)	-	(8,272)	51,971
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(14,323)</b>	<b>(5,651)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(19,974)</b>	<b>68,202</b>
Total funds at 1 January 2022		222,446	1,602,225	9,837	1,834,508	1,766,306
<b>Total funds at 31 December 2022</b>		<b>208,123</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,814,534</b>	<b>1,834,508</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Investments – general investment fund	6		130,641		142,343
Church Buildings, 119 & Manse	7		1,488,111		1,509,346
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	8	8,182		23,220	
Cash at bank and in hand		194,968		166,899	
		<u>203,150</u>		<u>190,119</u>	
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	<u>(7,366)</u>		<u>(7,300)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>195,784</b>		<b>182,819</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u><b>1,814,536</b></u>		<u><b>1,834,508</b></u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year</b>					
Danske Bank Loan			-		-
<b>Total assets</b>			<u><u><b>1,834,510</b></u></u>		<u><u><b>1,834,508</b></u></u>
<b>Charity Funds</b>					
Endowment Funds	10		9,837		9,837
Restricted Funds	10,11		1,596,574		1,602,225
Unrestricted Funds	10		208,124		222,446
			<u><b>1,814,535</b></u>		<u><b>1,834,508</b></u>

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 20 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

*Patricia Eaton*

Patricia Eaton

*Steve Stockman*

Steve Stockman

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2020).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the congregation is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### **FUND ACCOUNTING**

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **INCOMING RESOURCES**

###### **(i) Recognition of incoming resources**

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the congregation becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

###### **(ii) Incoming resources with related expenditure**

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

###### **(iii) Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the congregation has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

###### **(iv) Tax reclaims on donations and gifts**

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

###### **(v) Volunteer help**

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

###### **(vi) Investment income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

###### **(vii) Investment gains and losses**

This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

##### **EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES**

###### **(viii) Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the congregation to pay out resources.

###### **(ix) Grants with performance conditions**

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

##### **ASSETS**

###### **(x) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is recorded on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write of the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Buildings:           - over 50 years

###### **(xi) Investments**

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	88,837	175,368	264,205	275,374
Legacies and bequests	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Donations and Legacies</b>	<b>88,837</b>	<b>175,368</b>	<b>264,205</b>	<b>275,374</b>

**3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	2,159	2,159	9,095
Other sundry income	6,159	1,908	8,067	-
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>6,159</b>	<b>4,067</b>	<b>10,226</b>	<b>9,095</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	17,205	-	17,205	16,838
Presbytery fees	572	-	572	-
United Appeal	-	12,000	12,000	12,000
Ministry (excluding pension)	53,587	-	53,587	51,127
Support Costs	25,649	270	25,919	21,027
Worship	3,955	-	3,955	2,164
Youth and Pastoral	-	35,582	35,582	42,290
Property: Depreciation	-	21,235	21,235	21,235
Property: Expenditure	-	70,204	70,204	34,666
Mission & Charities	-	46,795	46,795	34,800
	<b>100,968</b>	<b>185,086</b>	<b>286,054</b>	<b>236,147</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**5. EMPLOYEES**

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Wages and Salaries	80,625	80,404
Social Security Costs	7,402	6,725
Pension contributions	11,932	11,212
	<b>99,959</b>	<b>98,341</b>

**Number of Employees and Minister**

The average number of employees, including the minister of the congregation, during the year was:

	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Minister	1	1
Youth Director	1	1
Secretarial	1	1
Others	1	1
	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

There were no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**6. INVESTMENTS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>General Investment Fund</b>		
Value at start of year	142,343	126,112
Disposals	-	-
Gains on revaluation	(11,701)	16,231
<b>Value at end of year</b>	<b>130,641</b>	<b>142,343</b>

**7. FIXED ASSETS**

	Church Buildings, 119 & Manse £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>		
At 1 January 2022	1,636,756	1,636,756
Additions	-	-
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>1,636,756</b>	<b>1,636,756</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 January 2022	127,410	127,410
Charge for year	21,235	21,235
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>148,645</b>	<b>148,645</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<b>1,488,111</b>	<b>1,488,111</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**8. DEBTORS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gift Aid Recoverable	8,182	23,220
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b><u>8,182</u></b>	<b><u>23,220</u></b>

**9. CREDITORS: amount falling due within one year**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	7,366	7,300
<b>Total Creditors</b>	<b><u>7,366</u></b>	<b><u>7,300</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

**Current Year**

	Endowment Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	120,804	130,641
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,488,111	-	1,488,111
Debtors	-	-	8,182	8,182
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	106,106	88,862	194,968
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(7,366)	(7,366)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,594,217</b>	<b>210,482</b>	<b>1,814,536</b>

**Prior Year**

	Endowment Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	9,837	-	132,506	142,343
Church Buildings & Manse	-	1,509,346	-	1,509,346
Debtors	-	-	23,220	23,220
Bank and Cash in Hand	-	92,880	74,019	166,899
Creditors falling due within 1 yr	-	-	(7,300)	(7,300)
	<b>9,837</b>	<b>1,602,226</b>	<b>222,445</b>	<b>1,834,508</b>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**11. STATEMENT OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	Income £	Expend £	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
Property Capital Fund	-	21,235	(21,235)	1,509,346	1,488,111
Property Fund	87,840	66,604	21,235	79,767	101,002
Babies and Toddlers	-	-	-	250	250
Youth and Pastoral Fund	31,476	39,723	(8,247)	9,687	1,440
Church weekend	1,670	300	1,370	-	1,370
Prayer Ministry	-	100	(100)	100	-
Youth Bursary	-	-	-	1,241	1,241
Fitzroy Mission Support	15,000	15,000	-	-	-
United Appeal	12,000	12,000	-	-	-
Fields of Life - Uganda	3,679	3,552	126	1,834	1,960
Tear Fund/Christian Aid	1,275	1,225	50	-	50
Ukraine Appeal	23,744	23,744	-	-	-
Other grants	2,752	1,603	1,149	-	1,150
	<b>179,435</b>	<b>185,086</b>	<b>(5,652)</b>	<b>1,602,225</b>	<b>1,596,574</b>

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**

### **for the year ended 31 December 2022**

#### **12. PENSION COSTS**

The minister of the congregation is a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). This is a scheme operated by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a separate registered charity. The congregation pays an assessment to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland equivalent to the employer's pension contribution for the Scheme and based on the stipend paid to the minister. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) is a funded Scheme of the defined benefit type, providing defined benefits based on career average revalued salary. The Scheme has assets held in a separately administered fund managed by a board of trustees. The Presbyterian Church and the Scheme Trustees have agreed a funding plan to ensure the Scheme is sufficiently funded to meet current and future obligations. A formal schedule of contributions was drawn up on 25 November 2015 whereby the Presbyterian Church agreed to pay from 31 December 2015 contributions of 24% of pensionable salaries to cover the accrual of benefits for future service, expenses, the cost of insuring death in service benefits and funding the scheme deficit.

The contributions made by the congregation during the year were £9,894 (2021 £9,514).

The congregation operates a defined pension contribution policy for its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by an independent scheme manager. The contributions made to this scheme amounted to £2,038 (2021: £1,698).

#### **13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Rev Steve Stockman, a trustee, received remuneration of £41,223 and expenses of £7,682 as minister of the congregation. Pension contributions of £9,894 were paid by the congregation in respect of the minister to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009). Mr Paul Bowman, a Trustee, received remuneration of £26,249 as Youth Director of the congregation. Mrs Flo Adair, a Trustee, received £2,400 for bookkeeping and accounting services. None of the other trustees received any remuneration, but UHY Hacker Young Fitch received £1,272 for processing payroll for the employees and independently examining the charity accounts. Michael Fitch, a Trustee, is a director of UHY Hacker Young Fitch.