

First Dromore Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland · Charity number 105072

Details

Status Received

Registered 2016-08-08

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

Contact

Address 3
Diamond Road
Dromore
BT25 1pq
BT25 1PQ

Phone 07484899180

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: Children (5-13 year olds), General public, Men, Older people, Overseas/developing countries, Parents, Preschool (0-5 year olds), Volunteers, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£239,949	£195,038	£0	1

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Harold Samuel Gamble		
Miss Margaret Black Mcgrehan		
Mr David Leslie Cassells		
Mr John Cochrane		
Mr Louis Jones		
Mr Mark Patterson		
Mr Matthew Poots		
Mr S A Poots		
Mr Trevor Poots		
Mrjim Cochrane		
Rev Dr Keith Mcilroy		

First Dromore Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105072

Accounts

First Dromore Presbyterian Church	105072	
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2024	To	31/12/2024	
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
General Funds	180,017	-	-	180,017	153,068
Property/Building Fund	-	1,913	-	1,913	2,603
Mission & Charity Fund	-	12,709	-	12,709	13,012
Sunday School Fund	-	658	-	658	549
Presbyterian Women	-	4,017	-	4,017	536
Youth Group Fellowship	-	3,675	-	3,675	2,600
Girls Brigade	-	3,424	-	3,424	3,403
Boys Brigade	-	17,708	-	17,708	16,997
Friendship Group	-	1,612	-	1,612	909
POPs	-	1,341	-	1,341	1,180
Investment Income	5,941	-	6,934	12,875	4,233
	-	-	-	-	-
A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)	185,958	47,057	6,934	239,949	199,090
A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	185,958	47,057	6,934	239,949	199,090
A3 Payments					
General Funds	126,768	-	-	126,768	97,523
Property/Building Fund	-	19,539	-	19,539	41,655
Mission & Charity Fund	-	14,585	-	14,585	14,074
Sunday School Fund	-	2,112	-	2,112	1,655
Presbyterian Women	-	3,452	-	3,452	1,222
Youth Group Fellowship	-	-	-	-	2,381
Girls Brigade	-	3,653	-	3,653	4,495
Boys Brigade	-	21,424	-	21,424	14,287
Friendship Group	-	1,957	-	1,957	1,470
POPs	-	1,548	-	1,548	1,056
	-	-	-	-	-
A3 Sub total	126,768	68,270	-	195,038	179,818
A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	126,768	68,270	-	195,038	179,818
Net of receipts/(payments)	59,190	- 21,213	6,934	44,911	19,272
A5 Transfers between funds	- 16,530	23,464	- 6,934	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	179,300	74,968	277,311	531,579	512,307
Cash funds this year end	221,960	77,219	277,311	576,490	531,579

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Ulster Bank Current	67,662	-	-	67,662	79,354
	Ulster Bank Reserve	31,157	11,700	-	42,857	34,070
	AIB Current	9,989	-	-	9,989	9,989
	AIB Reserve	80,971	-	-	80,970	78,527
	Bank Of Ireland	23,199	19,447	-	42,645	84,398
	Danske	8,982	30,508	32,879	72,371	70,000
	Progressive	-	-	84,432	84,432	81,206
	Dudley BS	-	-	80,000	80,000	-
	Natwide	-	-	80,000	80,000	80,000
	Organisations	-	15,564	-	15,564	14,035
			-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	221,960	77,219	277,311	576,490	531,579
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
				Total	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B3 Investment assets	Nat West/HSBC Shares		-	19,518	13,331
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
		Total	-	19,518	13,331

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Church Buildings & Manse		-	1,215,000	1,215,000
	Fixtures & Fittings		-	80,000	80,000
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			Total	-	1,295,000

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	When due (optional)	Amount due (optional)	Last year
B5 Liabilities				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
		Total		-	-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature


Print Name
 John Wilkinson
 Alan Poots

Date of approval
 25/02/2025
 25/02/2025

First Dromore Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105072

Accounts

First Dromore Presbyterian Church	105072
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2023	To	31/12/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
General Funds	153,068	-	-	153,068	119,795
Property/Building Fund	-	2,603	-	2,603	4,148
Missions & Charity Fund	-	13,012 #	-	13,012 #	16,308
Sunday School Fund	-	549 #	-	549 #	399
Presbyterian Women	-	536 #	-	536 #	392
Youth Group Fellowship	-	2,600 #	-	2,600 #	4,600
Girls Brigade	-	3,403 #	-	3,403 #	3,289
Boys Brigade	-	16,997 #	-	16,997 #	13,752
Friendship Group	-	909	-	909	1,657
POPS	-	1,180	-	1,180	937
John Cochrane Bequest	-	-	-	-	121,998
Investment Income	1,935	-	2,298	4,233	4,203
	-	-	-	-	-
A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)	155,003	41,789	2,298	199,090	291,478
A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	155,003	41,789	2,298	199,090	291,478
A3 Payments					
General Funds	97,523	-	-	97,523	119,180
Property/Building Fund	-	41,655	-	41,655	25,859
Missions & Charity Fund	-	14,074	-	14,074	15,137
Sunday School Fund	-	1,655	-	1,655	990
Presbyterian Women	- #	1,222 #	-	1,222	932
Youth Group Fellowship	- #	2,381 #	-	2,381	565
Girls Brigade	-	4,495	-	4,495	2,627
Boys Brigade	-	14,287	-	14,287	13,160
Friendship Group	-	1,470	-	1,470	816
POPS	-	1,056	-	1,056	763
	-	-	-	-	-
A3 Sub total	97,523	82,295	-	179,818	180,029
A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	97,523	82,295	-	179,818	180,029
Net of receipts/(payments)	57,480	- 40,506	2,298	19,272	111,449
A5 Transfers between funds	- 39,266	41,564	- 2,298	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	161,086	73,910	277,311	512,307	400,858
Cash funds this year end	179,300	74,968	277,311	531,579	512,307

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Ulster Bank Current Account	79,354		-	79,354	168,423
	Ulster Bank Reserve	-	34,070	-	34,070	-
	AIB Current Account	9,989	-	-	9,989	9,989
	Nationwide	-	-	80,000	80,000	80,000
	AIB	27,718	23,863	26,946	78,527	76,208
	Bank of Ireland	62,239	3,000	19,159	84,398	83,891
	Danske	-	-	70,000	70,000	-
	Progressive	-	-	81,206	81,206	81,206
	Organisations	-	14,035	-	14,035	12,590
			-	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	179,300	74,968	277,311	531,579	512,307
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK

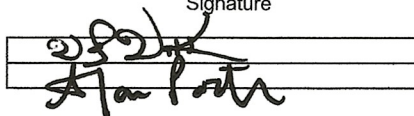
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
				Total		

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B3 Investment assets	RBS/HSBC Shares		-	13,331	12,843
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
		Total	-	13,331	12,843

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Church Building & Manse		-	1,215,000	1,215,000
	Fixtures & Fittings		-	80,000	80,000
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			Total	-	1,295,000

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	When due (optional)	Amount due (optional)	Last year
B5 Liabilities	None			-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
		Total		-	-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature


Print Name
 William John Wilkinson
 Alan Poots

Date of approval
 28 May 2024
 28 May 2024

First Dromore Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

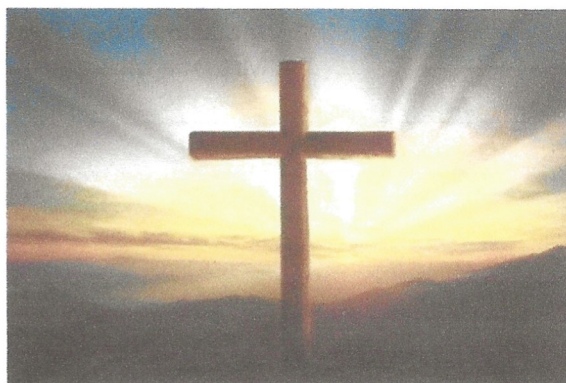
Northern Ireland - Charity number 105072

Annual report

**FIRST DROMORE
CONGREGATION OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN
IRELAND**



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



Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105072)

**FIRST DROMORE CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

First Dromore congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

3 Diamond Rd

Dromore

BT25 1PQ

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105072)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Rev Dr Keith McIlroy (Chairperson) Dr Harold Samuel Gamble Mr. Samuel Alan Poots Miss Margaret Black McGrehan Mr Trevor Poots	Mr. William John Wilkinson Mr. David Leslie Cassells Mr. Samuel Rowland Patterson MSc Mr. Jim Cochrane
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PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister	Rev Dr Keith McIlroy
Clerk of Session	Mr. William John Wilkinson
Congregational Treasurer	Mr. Samuel Alan Poots
Congregational Secretary	Mrs Jane McBratney

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Ivan Shannon & Co Accountants
39 Church Street
Ballynahinch
Co Down
BT24 8AF

BANKERS

Ulster Bank Ltd
18 Bow Street
Lisburn
Co Antrim
BT28 1BN

SOLICITORS

John Elliott Solicitors
40 Linenhall Street
Belfast
BT2 8BA

FIRST DROMORE CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

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

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

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held once a month and at other such times for other purposes as deemed appropriate by the code.

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

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance, the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. First Dromore congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Dromore 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

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion.

First Dromore Church congregation of the 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 congregation's mission purposes is by the grace of God, to help people of all ages become fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ. Our vision is, by the grace of God, to be an inclusive, welcoming community of Christ's people of all ages, which:

- is increasingly characterised by love for God, and love and concern for others;
- is committed to the historic Christian gospel as revealed in the Bible;
- is relevant to people of this time and place.

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 and have a passion for reaching and building up the next generation;
- 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.

Vacancy

Early in January 2023 the Rev. J. McKane received and accepted a call from New Row Presbyterian Church Coleraine. The Session, Church committee and congregation congratulated him on his call and wished God's richest blessing upon him and his wife and young family, as he took up this charge.

In due course the Dromore Presbytery placed Rev A Faulkner in charge of the vacancy commission to oversee the choice of a new minister. The Linkage Commission in Church House after hearing the case put by FDPC, agreed in June that we should proceed and seek out a person of God's choice to pastor the people in First Dromore.

After prayerful consideration session decided to call 4 persons for interview – in fact 3 attended. Thereafter session made a list of one to preach on a stated Sunday morning - 8th October 2023. On the following Monday evening a congregational meeting was called and in the presence of the Vacancy Commission the Rev Dr. K McIroy received a unanimous call on the first vote. FDPC were delighted to ordain and install Rev. Dr. McIroy on December 15th 2023.

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several 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 holds regular bible study/prayer meetings and has a wide range of organisations including:

- Sunday School & Bible Class
- Kidszone
- Creche
- Girls Brigade
- POPS (Parents of Pre School)
- Badminton Club
- Boys Brigade
- Friendship Group
- Young Adults – Lighthouse Group
- Presbyterian Women
- Men's Discipleship Group
- Bowls and Table tennis
- Coffee and chat mornings

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11.30am and 6.00pm. We celebrated communion on 6 occasions. We were also glad to be able to renew fellowship

with our Methodist friends on Good Friday for a special communion service. This is usually reciprocated on Christmas morning in the Methodist building.

Evening services have taken various formats and have sought to include participation from members of the congregation. This year -2023 - the format generally followed was - Elder led service; This is my story; Praise Service; and a Missionary focus evening.

A midweek meeting on 2nd and 4th Wednesday provided an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the scriptures and for a time of prayer. This year we studied a variety of topics including "Jesus as Prophet, Priest and King", the Christian and Culture as well as a series on Daniel.

In December the church leadership organised and delivered a series of Christmas events open to the Dromore Community. These events included: Christmas with the Elders; A Messy Church led principally by 3 young leaders and supported by other young parents; A School Christmas Carol service at which the session clerk spoke; a Church Fellowship Carol Service.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life through the Sacraments of Baptism. There were 5 Infant baptisms. . We conducted one marriage service. There were also 15 funeral thanksgiving services and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

At 31 December 2023 there were 160 communicant members and 204 families connected with the congregation. In normal circumstances, the average weekly attendance at morning worship is 173.

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 and other volunteers. Recordings of our morning services were produced weekly and made available on a Phonline and YouTube to those who are no longer able to get out to worship due to infirmity or on request.

The Social Engagement Team prepared baby gifts for families who had babies in 2023 and these were delivered by the minister.

A Coffee Morning with an attendance of approximately 30 people is held on 1st and 3rd Thursdays providing a warm space for food, friendship, and fellowship.

At Christmas 2023 a Christmas pack was made available to all families associated with the congregation and delivered by their district elder.

Mission and outreach

Prayer letters and other information from a range of relevant mission organisation and individuals are distributed throughout the congregation via a weekly email.

From time to time visiting speakers attend worship and they spoke about their areas of mission in 2023. In addition we heard about the work of Dromore Youth for Christ (who we financially support monthly) International Justice Mission, Open Doors Scripture Union and European Mission fellowship. This year the congregation continued to develop a church partnership, facilitated by EMF, with Pastor Mihai Chisari and Imagio Dei Baptist Church Christ whom we support financially.

Several members of the congregation serve on the Board of Governors of Dromore Central Primary, Dromore High School and the Board of Youth for Christ and the Board of Ballynahinch Counselling Services.

During the early summer the congregation organised a Holiday Bible Club (attended by approx. 70 young people). This event had a range of activities including singing, games, memory verses, crafts, stories from the Bible and a final night BBQ for children and their parents.

In the Spring a series of 4 exploring church membership classes were held to help introduce interested individuals to the basics of the Christian faith, the distinctive of Presbyterianism and the responsibilities and privileges of church membership.

The congregation supports the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond that which 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 congregations in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership, and pastoral care. Our contribution to this fund in 2023 was £8554.

The congregation supported the work of the Presbytery Stand at the Balmoral show financially and prayerfully. Members of the congregation also served on the stand during the show.

On the third Sunday in October the Congregation welcomed the BB and GB to a joint annual enrolment service. The purpose of this service was to encourage and inspire those in leadership in these organisations and assure them of our thoughts, prayers and support.

The congregation also contributed to the denomination's annual World Development Appeal to the sum of £400. Other special appeals are prayerfully and financially supported.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at meetings of Dromore Presbytery by our minister and one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church. Significant issues are duly brought to the attention of session members.

General Assembly

The Minister and one of the elders was nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast.

Property

The Congregational Committee continue to provide oversight and maintenance of our suite of buildings, manse, and graveyard. During 2023 part of the main church building was rewired at a cost of £21,914. The Manse was redecorated throughout and necessary repairs undertaken during the vacancy.

Organisations

Sunday School

Children attending Sunday school took part in activities such as listening to Bible stories, played games and quizzes, and learnt songs. We had an outing to Infinity adventure and the secondary age group had an outing to play mini golf. On Children's Day, the children took part in the church service and received gifts.

Bowls

Social bowls are played in the church hall on the second and fourth Tuesday morning in the month from September to March. Approximately 16 male and female meet on a regular basis.

Badminton

The church hall is open for badminton on Friday evenings during the months of September to April. It is open to all ages over 11 years. Table tennis is available for younger family members and those not on the badminton court. An average number of 12 out of 20 members attend each evening.

Boys Brigade

Boys Brigade meets each Thursday night with 134 Boys registered. Activities scheduled and delivered included... Scripture Memory Verses; Baking; Camping; Crafts; Singing; Music (drums); Football; Basketball; Gaga Ball; Stool Ball; Volleyball; Board Games; Horsebox; Mat work; Christmas Party; Let's Go Hydro; Airsoft; Circuit Training; Art; BB Enrolment; Remembrance Sunday; Competitions entered... CS - Dodgeball CS - Volleyball CS - Outdoor Football CS - Table tennis CS - Music BBNI Competition Seniors - Outdoor Football Seniors - Badminton Seniors - Table Tennis Seniors - Music BBNI competition Juniors - 5-aside Indoor Football Juniors - Unihoc Juniors - Quiz Juniors - Dodgeball Juniors - BBNI Music Competition.

Coffee and Chat Morning

Throughout 2023 approximately 20-40 adults met every two weeks through Jan – December. This gave people an opportunity to meet socially and develop friendships. This organisation caters for people within and without the church family.

Church Choir

The church choir comprises 20 men and women who meet regularly on a Thursday night for practice. The choir leads worship on a Sunday morning under the direction of the church organist.

Kidszone

This group meets each Sunday morning during worship to provide instruction for young people between 4-11 on the Bible. Approximately 20-30 young people attend under the guidance of 14 helpers.

Creche

Creche is available for babies and toddlers during Sunday morning worship.

Lighthouse

This is a group of young people between 25-40 years of age who meet to develop their faith and for social reasons. They meet monthly.

Friendship Group

The group met on the fourth Wednesday afternoon of each month with a break during the summer. Although the group is open to all ages, the membership of between 30-35 adults are mainly in the older age range and are drawn from First Dromore and other congregations. Afternoon tea is provided. There was a varied programme of Christian and secular speakers during the year. A Christmas lunch with Carol singing and gifts was held in December. Items of toiletries, stationery etc were collected by members throughout the

year and forwarded to the Mission to Seamen, Belfast. Copies of 'Our Daily Bread' were made available to members.

Men's Discipleship

A group of 12-15 men met once a month to discuss a book relating to how real-life issues interact and impact faith. These evenings provided the opportunity for good intergenerational discussion and fellowship.

Presbyterian Women

A new committee was elected in March 2023. PW meets on the first Monday of each month from October to April. Presently there are 35 members. During the year PW focused on a variety of themes but central to all our thinking was Jesus and 'Going deeper together'. A special effort in 2023 was to increase the age range of the membership and to involve members in the delivery of the programme. A PW dinner was held for members and friends. Some members attended the PW annual conference in Church House. From September 2023 the theme for PW was 'Being Transformed'.

POPS

On Wednesday mornings approximately 20 Adults and 25 babies and pre-school children gather in our main hall for friendship and play. The children are provided with a healthy snack and parents offered tea and scones. There is also some singing and rhyme time. These mornings have proven to be an invaluable source of support to new and experienced mums and carers especially post pandemic.

Girls Brigade

Girls Brigade meet each Tuesday night with 40 girls registered. A range of activities are provided for the girls.

Volunteers

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

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

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were 155 contributing families during the year [164 in 2022] donating a total of £136,901 (a 12.5% increase on receipts of £121,715 in 2022). The number of contributing families decreased in 2022 due to bereavement. The number of families opting for bank standing order facility continued in 2023.

The total Income of the congregation during the year was £199,090 (including organisations) compared to £291,478 in the previous year. A bequest in 2022 of £121,998 is the main reason for the reduction in total income in 2023.

Total expenditure of unrestricted funds (including organisations) decreased only slightly from £180,029 in 2022 to £179,818 in 2023. There have been various movements in this expenditure. The largest movement was a decrease of £19k for ministry costs due to our Minister leaving at the end of March. Utility costs in particular heating and lighting remained high throughout the year. Property expenditure increased by 64% compared with 2022 due to the cost of rewiring part of the main church building.

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 commitments.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 208 to prepare a receipts and payment account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. 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.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 28th May 2024 and signed on its behalf by

Name Mr William John Wilkinson

Handwritten signature of Mr William John Wilkinson in black ink.

Date 28th May 2024

Name Mr Alan Poots

Handwritten signature of Mr Alan Poots in black ink.

Date 28th May 2024

First Dromore Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105072

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of First Dromore Presbyterian Church.

I report on the accounts of First Dromore Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

1. Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
2. Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
3. State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts 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 accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Signed: 

Name: Kelly Gillespie FCA

Relevant professional qualification or body: Chartered Accountants Ireland

Address: 39 Church Street, Ballynahinch, Co Down, N Ireland, BT24 8AF

Date: 28/05/24.

First Dromore Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105072

Accounts

**FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2022
		£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	241,793	4,148	-	245,941
Investment income	3	1,920	-	2,283	4,203
Charitable activities	4	-	16,308	-	16,308
Other	5	-	25,026	-	25,026
Total		243,713	45,482	2,283	291,478
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	119,180	25,859	-	145,039
Charitable activities	6	-	15,137	-	15,137
Other	6	-	19,853	-	19,853
Net Income / (expenditure)		119,180	60,849	-	180,029
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		124,533	(15,367)	2,283	111,449
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		55,696	67,851	277,311	400,858
Net movement in funds		124,533	(15,367)	2,283	111,449
Transfers between funds		(19,143)	21,426	(2,283)	-
Valuation on transition		1,295,000	-	-	1,295,000
Net movement in funds		1,456,086	73,910	277,311	1,807,307

**FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	9	1,295,000	-	-	1,295,000
Investments		-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets		1,295,000	-	-	1,295,000
Current assets:					
Debtors		-	-	-	-
Current Investments		-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		161,086	73,910	277,311	512,307
Total current assets		161,086	73,910	277,311	512,307
Liabilities:					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		-	-	-	-
Net current assets or liabilities		1,456,086	73,910	277,311	1,807,307
Total assets less current liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities		-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities		1,456,086	73,910	277,311	1,807,307

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on

16th May 2023 and signed on its behalf by



William John Wilkinson
16/05/2023



Alan Poots
16/05/2023

**FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)' Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be reliably measured. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets are initially recorded at cost. The Trustees will conduct a repairment review when events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of fixed assets may not be recoverable.

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	Measured at fair value
Fixtures and fittings	10% on cost

Land is not depreciated.

**FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Taxation

First Dromore Presbyterian Church is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and therefore is not subject to tax on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

Fund accounting

Funds are classified as either restricted or unrestricted funds, defined as follows:

Restricted funds are subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor with their authority or created through the legal process, but still within the wider objects of the charity.

Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital fund is not reduced, but the income from there is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the object of the charity.

Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the market value at the beginning and end of the financial year, or, if purchased in the year, the difference between the cost and market value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between proceeds on disposal and the market value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year.

**FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2022 Total funds £
Free Will Offering	96,380	-	-	96,380
Loose collections	1,468	-	-	1,468
Harvest	7,557	-	-	7,557
Graveyard	1,160	-	-	1,160
Gift Aid - previous years	211	-	-	211
GB & BB Enrolment	863	-	-	863
Power NI - Solar Panels	4,829	-	-	4,829
BB Camp	1,405	-	-	1,405
EA Youth Grant	2,365	-	-	2,365
General Donations	1,020	-	-	1,020
Dividends	995	-	-	995
NIE Wayleave	11	-	-	11
Use of Hall	550	-	-	550
Rent - Manse Farm	490	-	-	490
Book income	491	-	-	491
Manse & Property	-	3,658	-	3,658
Rent Manse Farm	-	490	-	490
John Cochrane bequest	121,998	-	-	121,998
	<u>241,793</u>	<u>4,148</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>245,941</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2022 Total funds £
Deposit account interest	1,920	-	-	1,920
Bequest income	-	-	2,283	2,283

<u>1,920</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,283</u>	<u>4,203</u>
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**FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2022 Total funds £
Mission Collections	-	9,264	-	9,264
Poppy Appeal	-	615	-	615
Presbyterian Childrens Society	-	440	-	440
MacMillan Cancer Support	-	355	-	355
Youth for Christ	-	530	-	530
EMF	-	5,104	-	5,104
	<u>-</u>	<u>16,308</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,308</u>

5. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2022 Total funds £
Sunday School Fund	-	399	-	399
Presbyterian Women	-	392	-	392
Youth Group Fellowship	-	4,600	-	4,600
Girls Brigade	-	3,289	-	3,289
Boys Brigade	-	13,752	-	13,752
Friendship Group	-	1,657	-	1,657
POPs	-	937	-	937
	<u>-</u>	<u>25,026</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,026</u>

**FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2022 Total funds £
Raising Funds	119,180	25,859	-	145,039
Charitable activities	-	15,137	-	15,137
Other	-	19,853	-	19,853
	119,180	60,849	-	180,029

7. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

During the year, one Trustee (Rev Jonathan McKane) has been paid remuneration in his capacity as a Minister of Religion. Such remuneration is common for similar churches and charitable organisations. The total amount paid was £42,551.

There were no Trustees expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022.

8. STAFF COSTS

	2022 £
Wages and salaries	6,450
Social security costs	-
Other pension costs	-
	6,450

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

Ministerial	1
Administrative	1
	2

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Church buildings and manse £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or Valuation			
Revaluation at 31 December 2022	1,215,000	80,000	1,295,000
Depreciation			
At 01 January 2022	-	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-	-
On disposal	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value			
at 31 December 2022	<u>1,215,000</u>	<u>80,000</u>	<u>1,295,000</u>

The interests in the properties owned and occupied by the charity were valued by external valuers, Shooter Property Services in April 2023 on the basis of fair value. Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable, willing parties on an arm's length basis in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (FRS 102) and the Charities SORP.

The fixtures and fittings were valued by the Trustees on 31 December 2022, who are of the opinion that this is an appropriate valuation.

Accordingly no depreciation has been charged in year ended 31 December 2022.

**FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 01 January 2022 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31 December 2022 £
Unrestricted funds	55,696	1,456,086	1,511,782
Restricted funds	67,851	73,910	141,761
Endowment funds	277,311	-	277,311
	<u>400,858</u>	<u>1,529,996</u>	<u>1,930,854</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	243,713	119,180	1,275,857	1,400,390
Restricted funds	45,482	60,849	21,426	6,059
Endowment funds	2,283	-	(2,283)	-
	<u>291,478</u>	<u>180,029</u>	<u>1,295,000</u>	<u>1,406,449</u>

**FIRST DROMORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure for the year ended 31 December 2022.

	2022	2021	2020
Income	1,234,567	1,123,456	1,012,345
Expenses	(876,543)	(965,432)	(1,054,321)
Net Income	358,024	158,024	(42,976)

	2022	2021	2020
Assets	2,345,678	2,234,567	2,123,456
Liabilities	(1,234,567)	(1,123,456)	(1,012,345)
Equity	1,111,111	1,111,111	1,111,111

First Dromore Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105072

Annual report

FIRST DROMORE CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

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

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105072)

FIRST DROMORE CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

First Dromore congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

3 Diamond Rd

Dromore

BT25 1PQ

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105072)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Rev Jonathan McKane
(Chairperson)
Dr Harold Samuel Gamble
Mr. Samuel Alan Poots
Miss Margaret Black McGrehan
Mr Trevor Poots

Mr. William John Wilkinson
Mr. David Leslie Cassells
Mr. Samuel Rowland
Patterson MSc
Mr. Jim Cochrane

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister
Clerk of Session
Treasurer
Congregational Secretary

Rev Jonathan McKane
Mr. William John Wilkinson
Mr. Samuel Alan Poots
Mrs Jane McBratney

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Ivan Shannon & Co Accountants
39 Church Street
Ballynahinch
Co Down
BT24 8AF

BANKERS

Ulster Bank Ltd
18 Bow Street
Lisburn
Co Antrim
BT28 1BN

SOLICITORS

John Elliott Solicitors
40 Linenhall Street
Belfast
BT2 8BA

FIRST DROMORE CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

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

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

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held once a month and at other such times for other purposes as deemed appropriate by the code.

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

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. First Dromore congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Dromore 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

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion.

First Dromore Church congregation of the 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 congregation's mission purposes is by the grace of God, to help people of all ages become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Our vision is, by the grace of God, to be an inclusive, welcoming community of Christ's people of all ages, which:

- is increasingly characterised by love for God, and love and concern for others;
- is committed to the historic Christian gospel as revealed in the Bible;
- is relevant to people of this time and place.

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 and have a passion for reaching and building up the next generation;
- 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 meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several 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 holds regular bible study/prayer meetings and has a wide range of organisations including

- Sunday School & Bible Class
- Girls Brigade
- POPS (Parents of Pre School)
- Badminton Club
- Boys Brigade
- Friendship Group
- Young Adults – Lighthouse Group
- Presbyterian Women
- Men's Discipleship Group
- Bowls and Table tennis

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11.30am and 6.00pm. We celebrated communion on 6 occasions. We were also glad to be able to renew fellowship with our Methodist friends on Good Friday for a special communion service.

Evening services have taken various formats and have sought to include participation from members of the congregation.

A midweek meeting on 2nd and 4th Wednesday provides an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the scriptures and for a time of prayer. This year we have studied a variety of topics including "Quiet Times", the Christian and culture as well as how we express our faith.

As well as our regular services during the year we acknowledged God's gift of new life through the Sacraments of Baptism. There were 4 Infant baptisms and 2 Baptisms on profession of faith in 2022. We conducted 1 marriage service and conducted 8 funeral thanksgiving services and sought to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

At 31 December 2022 there were 159 communicant members and 187 families connected with the congregation. In normal circumstances the average weekly attendance at morning worship is 180.

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 and other volunteers. Recordings of our morning services were produced weekly and made available on a Phonenumber and YouTube to those who are no longer able to get out to worship due to infirmity or on request.

The Social Engagement Team prepared baby gifts for families who had babies in 2022 and these were delivered by the minister.

At Easter those aged 70 received a greeting card from the congregation.

A Coffee Morning with an attendance of approximately 30 people is held on 1st and 3rd Thursdays providing a warm space for food, friendship, and fellowship.

In the Autumn a "Connect" meal was held to help establish and build connections with some of the new families and individuals who had come to the congregation in recent years.

At Christmas 2022 a Christmas pack was made available to all families associated with the congregation and delivered by their district elder.

Mission and outreach

Prayer letters and other information from a range of relevant mission organisation and individuals are distributed throughout the congregation via a weekly email.

From time to time visiting speakers attend worship and they speak about their areas of mission in 2022 we heard about the work of Dromore Youth for Christ (who we financially support monthly) International Justice Mission, Open Doors Scripture Union and European Mission fellowship. This year the congregation also formed a church partnership facilitated by EMF with Pastor Mihai Chisari and Imagio Dei Baptist Church.

Several members of the congregation serve on the Board of Governors of Dromore Central Primary, Dromore High School and the Board of Youth for Christ and the Board of Ballynahinch Counselling Services. The minister also produced video assemblies for use in the local primary school.

During the summer the congregation organised a Holiday Bible Club (attended by approx. 70). This event had a range of activities including singing, games, memory verses, crafts, and stories from the Bible.

In the Spring a series of 4 exploring church membership classes were held to help introduce interested individuals to the basics of the Christian faith, the distinctive of Presbyterianism and the responsibilities and privileges of church membership.

In the Autumn the congregation hosted a joint evangelism training event with Banbridge Road Presbyterian Church to equip and inspire church members to share their faith.

In September representatives of session attended an evangelism conference in Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church.

The congregation supports the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis 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 congregations in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership, and pastoral care. Our contribution to this fund in 2022 was £9264.

The congregation supported the work of the Presbytery Stand at the Balmoral show financially and prayerfully. Members of the congregation also served on the stand during the show.

On the first Sunday in September the Congregation held a "Back to School with God" Service with input from local principals, school staff and pupils. The purpose of this service was to encourage and inspire those in our local educational community.

The congregation also contributed to the denomination's annual World Development Appeal to the sum of £400 other special appeals are prayerfully and financially supported, of special note this year was an appeal to Support the church in Moldova in their outreach to Ukrainian refugees following the conflict in central and eastern Europe.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at meetings of Dromore Presbytery by our minister and one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church. Minutes of the meetings are duly circulated to session members.

General Assembly

The Minister and one of the elders was nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast. This year the General Assembly took place from the 22nd to 25th June.

Property

The Congregational Committee continue to provide oversight and maintenance of our suite of buildings, manse, and graveyard. During 2022 a new heating system was installed in the

manse. A fire alarm system was installed in the main Church Building which is monitored centrally for both Church and Halls.

Organisations

Men's Discipleship

A group of 12-15 men met once a month to discuss a book relating to how real-life issues interact and impact faith. These evenings provided the opportunity for good intergenerational discussion and fellowship.

Foundations

This was a quarterly course that sought to introduce and refresh participants on core practices of the Christmas faith using mixture of upfront teaching, interviews, and workshops.

Presbyterian Women

A new committee was elected in the autumn and 3 events were held including an introductory get to know you games night, a mission focus evening with restoratives from Leprosy Mission and a Christmas hand lettering workshop. These events were attended by approx 40 ladies and provided great opportunities for intergenerational fellowship and friendship.

POPS

On a Wednesday morning approximately 20 Adults and 25 babies and pre-school children gather in our main hall for friendship and play. The children are provided with a healthy snack and parents offered tea and scones. There is also some singing and rhyme time. These mornings have proven to be an invaluable source of support to new and experienced mums and carers especially post pandemic.

Young Adults – Lighthouse Group

The Lighthouse Group meet monthly for bible study and prayer.

Girls Brigade

Girls Brigade meet on a Tuesday night with 59 girls registered.

Social Bowls

Social bowls are played in the church hall on the second and fourth Tuesday morning in the month from September to March. Approximately 16 male and female meet on a regular basis.

Sunday school

Activities included songs, Bible stories, learning memory verses, games and quizzes for primary age children. Secondary school children had classes with their teachers. In June we had a party including games and a bouncy castle. On Children's Day, the children took part in the church service and received gifts. In September we resumed classes for primary age children and had a bowling night for the secondary age group.

Friendship Group

As we were unable to meet in person due to the age profile of our members, we visited and distributed over 30 Easter eggs in April, held a Jubilee party in June and maintained telephone contact until we recommenced our in person monthly programme in October.

Boys' Brigade

The Boys Brigade meet on a Thursday night with 126 boys registered with a varied range of activities organised throughout the year these include: -

- Scripture/memory verses
- Baking /Camping /Crafts
- Singing/Music (drums)
- Football/Basketball/Gaga Ball/Stool Ball/Volleyball/Board Games
- Horsebox/Mat work
- Christmas Party/Mini Golf/Paintballing
- Circuit Training
- Art

During the year the boys entered several competitions

Volunteers

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

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were 164 contributors during the year [146 in the previous year, 2021] donating a total of £121,715 (£111,891 in the previous year, 2020). The number of

contributors increased in 2022. There was also an increased number opting for bank standing order facility. Investment income increased by £3634 compared with 2021 due to longer term investment maturing during the year.

The total Income of the congregation during the year was £291,478 compared to £143,974 in the previous year. The main reason for the change was a bequest received in the year for £121,998. Grant funding from Education Authority Youth Service was also made available to support the youth organisations.

Total expenditure (including organisations) increased from £ £157,784 to £180,029 due to significant increase in running costs in particular heating and lighting. Property expenditure remained high due to the installation of a monitored Fire alarm system in the main church.

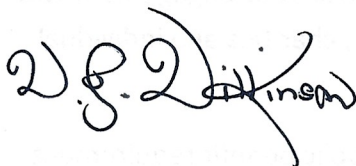
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. 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.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 16 May 2023 and signed on its behalf by

Name Mr William John Wilkinson



Date 16 May 2023

Name Mr Alan Poots



Date 16 May 2023

First Dromore Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105072

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of First Dromore Presbyterian Church.

I report on the accounts of First Dromore Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 1 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

1. Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
2. Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
3. State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts 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 accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Signed: *K. Gillespie*

Name: Kelly Gillespie ACA

Relevant professional qualification or body: Chartered Accountants Ireland

Address: 39 Church Street, Ballynahinch, Co Down, N Ireland, BT24 8AF

Date: *16/05/23*