

# Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland · Charity number 105196

## Details

Status	Received
Registered	2016-08-09
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register</a>

## Contact

Address	18 Edendarriff Road Ballynahinch Co Down Northern Ireland United Kingdom Bt24 8qf BT24 8QF
Phone	02897560212
Email	<a href="mailto:la.carlisle@btinternet.com">la.carlisle@btinternet.com</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.magherahamlet-spa.org">www.magherahamlet-spa.org</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
2025-12-31	£89,639	£56,921	£0	1
2024-12-31	£84,571	£58,836	£0	1

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Mr James Rodgers		
Mr Stephen McBride		
Mr Wilfred Keys		
Mrs Evelyn Brown		

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

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105196

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# Accounts

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**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**  
**Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Investments £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Receipts</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	49,952	15,071	0	65,023	60,377
Charitable activities	3	1,784	11,298	0	13,082	17,694
Other trading activities	4	1,850	4,659	0	6,509	1,805
Investment income	5	2,345	435	920	3,700	3,856
Other	6	4	1,321	0	1,325	839
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>55,935</u>	<u>32,784</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>89,639</u>	<u>84,571</u>
<b>Payments</b>						
Charitable activities	7	20,243	22,716	0	42,959	51,996
Other	8	5,956	8,006	0	13,962	6,840
<b>Total Payments</b>		<u>26,199</u>	<u>30,722</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>56,921</u>	<u>58,836</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>29,736</u>	<u>2,062</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>32,718</u>	<u>25,735</u>

**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
Statement of Assets and Liabilities  
for the year ended 31 December 2025**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
<b>Funds reconciliation</b>						
Bank and cash at start of year		38,718	26,639	66,391	131,748	106,013
Transfers between accounts		0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		29,736	2,062	920	32,718	25,735
Bank and Cash at end of year		<u>68,454</u>	<u>28,701</u>	<u>67,311</u>	<u>164,466</u>	<u>131,748</u>
<b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>						
Bank deposit accounts					67,311	66,391
Bank current accounts					96,947	65,357
Cash					208	0
					<u>164,466</u>	<u>131,748</u>
<b>Other Assets</b>						
Investments	9				<u>96,611</u>	<u>100,951</u>

**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**31 December 2025**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of Financial Statements**

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000, the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015) to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

**Fund Accounting**

Restricted funds comprise 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 sets aside by the congregation for use in the future.

**2. Donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Freewill Offering	37,920	4,755	0	42,675	42,094
Loose collections	760	0	0	760	993
Donations and gifts	110	8,557	0	8,667	10,501
Gift aid	6,162	1,759	0	7,921	6,789
Legacies and bequests	5,000	0	0	5,000	0
	<u>49,952</u>	<u>15,071</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>65,023</u>	<u>60,377</u>

**3. Charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Fees from weddings and funerals	1,048	875	0	1,923	1,275
Fundraising events	136	5,459	0	5,595	5,793
Membership fees	0	1,560	0	1,560	2,060
Grants	600	3,404	0	4,004	8,566
	<u>1,784</u>	<u>11,298</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>13,082</u>	<u>17,694</u>

**4. Other trading activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	1,850	4,659	0	6,509	1,805
	<u>1,850</u>	<u>4,659</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,509</u>	<u>1,805</u>

**5. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	159	162	920	1,241	1,469
General investment fund	2,186	273	0	2,459	2,387
Rents investment properties	0	0	0	0	0
Other investment income	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>2,345</u>	<u>435</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>3,700</u>	<u>3,856</u>

Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
Notes to the Accounts  
31 December 2025

**6. Other income**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Investments	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Other income	4	1,321	0	1,325	839
	<u>4</u>	<u>1,321</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,325</u>	<u>839</u>

**7. Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Investments	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly assessments	2,731	0	0	2,731	3,207
Presbytery fees	411	0	0	411	411
Ministry and support staff costs	9,115	0	0	9,115	9,010
Congregational running expenses	7,677	14,656	0	22,333	29,911
Donations to missions and charities	153	8,060	0	8,213	9,301
Governance costs	156	0	0	156	156
	<u>20,243</u>	<u>22,716</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>42,959</u>	<u>51,996</u>

**8. Other expenditure**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Investments	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Property and equipment	1,953	6,559	0	8,512	1,227
Cleaner	1,003	1,447	0	2,450	2,463
Organist	3,000	0	0	3,000	3,150
	<u>5,956</u>	<u>8,006</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>13,962</u>	<u>6,840</u>

**9. Investments**

The congregation has the following investments. Amounts are shown at market valuation.

	2025	2024
	£	£
General Investment Fund <i>(These are endowment funds with interest only being received by the Church)</i>	<u>96,611</u>	<u>100,951</u>

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

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105196

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# Accounts

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**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**  
**Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Investments £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Receipts</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	43,665	16,712	0	60,377	56,589
Charitable activities	3	1,935	15,759	0	17,694	11,784
Other trading activities	4	1,250	555	0	1,805	3,964
Investment income	5	1,875	808	1,173	3,856	2,233
Other	6	104	735	0	839	127
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>48,829</u>	<u>34,569</u>	<u>1,173</u>	<u>84,571</u>	<u>74,697</u>
<b>Payments</b>						
Charitable activities	7	24,884	27,112	0	51,996	29,557
Other	8	4,155	2,685	0	6,840	16,425
<b>Total Payments</b>		<u>29,039</u>	<u>29,797</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>58,836</u>	<u>45,982</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>19,790</u>	<u>4,772</u>	<u>1,173</u>	<u>25,735</u>	<u>28,715</u>

**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
Statement of Assets and Liabilities  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
<b>Funds reconciliation</b>						
Bank and cash at start of year		18,928	21,867	65,218	106,013	77,298
Transfers between accounts		0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		19,790	4,772	1,173	25,735	28,715
Bank and Cash at end of year		<u>38,718</u>	<u>26,639</u>	<u>66,391</u>	<u>131,748</u>	<u>106,013</u>
<b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>						
Bank deposit accounts					66,391	65,218
Bank current accounts					65,357	40,170
Cash					0	625
					<u>131,748</u>	<u>106,013</u>
<b>Other Assets</b>						
Investments	9				<u>100,951</u>	<u>96,393</u>

**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**31 December 2024**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of Financial Statements**

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000, the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015) to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

**Fund Accounting**

Restricted funds comprise 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 sets aside by the congregation for use in the future.

**2. Donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Freewill Offering	37,284	4,810	0	42,094	37,713
Loose collections	993		0	993	2,485
Donations and gifts	410	10,091	0	10,501	10,936
Gift aid	4,978	1,811	0	6,789	5,454
Legacies and bequests	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>43,665</u>	<u>16,712</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>60,377</u>	<u>56,588</u>

**3. Charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Fees from weddings and funerals	200	1,075	0	1,275	150
Fundraising events	252	5,541	0	5,793	5,609
Membership fees		2,060	0	2,060	1,625
Grants	1,483	7,083	0	8,566	4,400
	<u>1,935</u>	<u>15,759</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>17,694</u>	<u>11,784</u>

**4. Other trading activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	1,250	555	0	1,805	3,964
	<u>1,250</u>	<u>555</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,805</u>	<u>3,964</u>

**5. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	106	190	1,173	1,469	398
General investment fund	1,769	618	0	2,387	1,835
Rents investment properties	0	0	0	0	0
Other investment income	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>1,875</u>	<u>808</u>	<u>1,173</u>	<u>3,856</u>	<u>2,233</u>

Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
Notes to the Accounts  
31 December 2024

**6. Other income**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Investments	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Other income	104	735	0	839	127
	<u>104</u>	<u>735</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>127</u>

**7. Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Investments	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly assessments	3,207	0	0	3,207	4,929
Presbytery fees	411	0	0	411	411
Ministry and support staff costs	8,532	478	0	9,010	6,342
Congregational running expenses	12,170	17,741	0	29,911	9,101
Donations to missions and charities	408	8,893	0	9,301	8,631
Governance costs	156	0	0	156	144
	<u>24,884</u>	<u>27,112</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>51,996</u>	<u>29,558</u>

**8. Other expenditure**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Investments	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Property and equipment	0	1,227	0	1,227	10,850
Cleaner	1,005	1,458	0	2,463	2,500
Organist	3,150	0	0	3,150	3,075
	<u>4,155</u>	<u>2,685</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,840</u>	<u>16,425</u>

**9. Investments**

The congregation has the following investments. Amounts are shown at market valuation.

	2024	2023
	£	£
General Investment Fund <i>(These are endowment funds with interest only being received by the Church)</i>	<u>100,951</u>	<u>96,393</u>

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

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105196

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# Accounts

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**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**  
**Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Investments £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Receipts</b>						
Donations and legacies	2	39,428	17,161	0	56,589	50,656
Charitable activities	3	1,650	10,134	0	11,784	14,996
Other trading activities	4	3,304	660	0	3,964	1,594
Investment income	5	1,847	246	140	2,233	2,074
Other	6	0	127	0	127	1,032
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>46,229</u>	<u>28,327</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>74,697</u>	<u>70,352</u>
<b>Payments</b>						
Charitable activities	7	15,881	13,676	0	29,557	25,867
Other	8	9,139	7,285	0	16,425	15,347
<b>Total Payments</b>		<u>25,020</u>	<u>20,961</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>45,981</u>	<u>41,214</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>21,209</u>	<u>7,366</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>28,715</u>	<u>29,138</u>

**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
Statement of Assets and Liabilities  
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
<b>Funds reconciliation</b>						
Bank and cash at start of year		47,719	14,501	15,078	77,298	48,160
Transfers between accounts		-50,000	0	50,000	0	0
Net movement in funds		21,209	7,366	140	28,715	29,138
Bank and Cash at end of year		<u>18,928</u>	<u>21,867</u>	<u>65,218</u>	<u>106,013</u>	<u>77,298</u>
<b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>						
Bank deposit accounts					65,218	15,078
Bank current accounts					40,170	62,220
Cash					625	0
					<u>106,013</u>	<u>77,298</u>
<b>Other Assets</b>						
Investments	9				<u>96,393</u>	<u>103,472</u>

**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**31 December 2023**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of Financial Statements**

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000, the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015) to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

**Fund Accounting**

Restricted funds comprise 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 sets aside by the congregation for use in the future.

**2. Donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Recorded giving	33,164	4,549	0	37,713	32,970
Loose collections	1,278	1,207	0	2,485	1,370
Donations and gifts	465	10,471	0	10,936	10,250
Gift aid	4,521	933	0	5,454	6,067
Legacies and bequests	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>39,428</u>	<u>17,161</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>56,589</u>	<u>50,657</u>

**3. Charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Fees from weddings and funerals	150	0	0	150	250
Fundraising events	600	5,009	0	5,609	0
Membership fees	0	1,625	0	1,625	1,435
Grants	900	3,500	0	4,400	13,311
	<u>1,650</u>	<u>10,134</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,784</u>	<u>14,996</u>

**4. Other trading activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	3,304	660	0	3,964	1,594
	<u>3,304</u>	<u>660</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,964</u>	<u>1,594</u>

**5. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	175	83	140	398	121
General investment fund	1,672	163	0	1,835	1,953
Rents investment properties	0	0	0	0	0
Other investment income	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>1,847</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>2,233</u>	<u>2,074</u>

Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
Notes to the Accounts  
31 December 2023

**6. Other income**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Investments	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Other income	0	127	0	127	1,032
	<u>0</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>1,032</u>

**7. Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Investments	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly assessments	4,929	0	0	4,929	3,085
Presbytery fees	411	0	0	411	374
Ministry and support staff costs	6,342	0	0	6,342	3,338
Congregational running expenses	3,655	5,445	0	9,101	12,204
Donations to missions and charities	400	8,231	0	8,631	6,746
Governance costs	144	0	0	144	120
	<u>15,881</u>	<u>13,676</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>29,557</u>	<u>25,867</u>

**8. Other expenditure**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Investments	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Property and equipment	5,044	5,805	0	10,850	9,733
Cleaner	1,020	1,480	0	2,500	1,458
Organist	3,075	0	0	3,075	4,155
	<u>9,139</u>	<u>7,285</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,425</u>	<u>15,346</u>

**9. Investments**

The congregation has the following investments. Amounts are shown at market valuation.

	2023	2022
	£	£
General Investment Fund <i>(These are endowment funds with interest only being received by the Church)</i>	<u>96,393</u>	<u>88,394</u>

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

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105196

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# Annual report

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**SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

**Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105196)**

**SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

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

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
68 Spa Road, Ballynahinch, Co. Down, BT24 8PT

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105196)

**CHARITY TRUSTEES**

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

Mr Stephen James McBride  
Mrs Minnie Evelyn Brown  
Mr Wilfred Keys  
Mr James Israel Rodgers

**PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS**

Convener: Rev. David Bingham  
Clerk of Session: Mr Stephen James McBride  
Treasurer: Mrs Susan Lorraine Bothwell

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Heanen Stanfield & McKee Ltd  
30 Bachelors Walk  
Lisburn  
BT28 1XN

**BANKERS**

Dankse Bank Limited  
P.O. Box 183  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast  
BT1 6JS

**SOLICITORS**

J Murland & Co  
Finlay House  
15 English Street  
Downpatrick  
Co. Down  
BT30 6AP

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

## **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees of the organisation 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 minister in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk Session are at least twice each year and normally every two months.

To be chosen for the office of eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member and a regular attendant at its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office is by the congregation. Members are elected after ratification by two thirds of the voting members present.

### **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 congregation assigned to it by the General Assembly. Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland has been assigned to Down 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 sessions of the congregations.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

### **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 the 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.

Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church 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 the world.

The Congregation's mission purpose is 'To Know Christ and Make Him Known'. Such that, by the grace of God 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.
- 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.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

**ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday at 10am and visitors are welcome to join us. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is observed three times per 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. Communion was held in January, May and November. A family service is held once a month.

The Congregation has a number of organisations which meet at various times through the week namely Kids for Christ, Crèche, Vibe, Youth Group, Boys' Brigade, Church Choir, Bible Study & Men for all Seasons.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

**Worship & Prayer**

The church meets at 10 am on a Sunday morning and the service is also shown on Zoom for those who are unable to attend church.

**Pastoral Care**

The church at present although 'declared vacant' has a minister under the terms of PCI Linkage Commission. The minister is 'temporary stated supply'. Both he and the elders attend to the pastoral needs of the church.

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited by a minister or elders. When requested, a Minister accompanied by an Elder will administer communion at the home of members who are unable to attend the Communion Service. When this is not possible, phone calls are made.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

**Mission and Outreach**

Our mid-week Bible study was held throughout the winter and autumn months and has seen an uptake of new members attending.

A special coronation lunch was held in May with the local children helping to decorate the hall for the event.

A Holiday Bible and Youth Week were held jointly with our sister church Magherahamlet Presbyterian followed by a BBQ for both congregations plus family and friends of children attending the Holiday Bible Club.

We held a church family outing in the summer to Hillsborough Forest park.

Car boot sales were held throughout the year to raise money to help with the running cost of the church hall.

Our Harvest Services took place in October and the choir from Spa Primary school joined us for a full to capacity church in the evening. Our evening service was attended by friends from Magherahamlet Presbyterian and Magherahamlet Parish churches followed by a time for fellowship in the Arnold Hall.

The Boys' Brigade Enrolment service took place in October again to a full church and the United carol service was held in December.

Our VIBE group organised 'Carols at the Crossroads' and sang to residents of the local nursing home and the church held a community Christingle Service on Christmas Eve.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Church continued to support a range of external missions and charities, including the Poppy Appeal, Christian Aid and Fields of Life as well as Charities of PCI.

The total amount donated to charities, including charities of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland was £7281.

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 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 areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributes to the denominations annual World Development Appeal, Christian Aid, Poppy Appeal, Presbyterian Children's Society and any other special appeals.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our Convener and our Representative Elder, Mrs Evelyn Brown. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structure of the church.

### **Property**

There were no major repairs required during the year with routine maintenance and servicing carried out as required by law.

## Organisations

**Our Boys' Brigade** meets weekly and has a membership of 58 boys and 9 officers. A wide variety of activities took place during the year including crafts, cookery, Bible stories and sports. Several boys worked on their Duke of Edinburgh awards, while some of our officers also serve in the wider BB organisation.

**Kids for Christ** (KFC) meets on a Sunday morning for primary age children. The children leave the morning service after the second hymn for Bible stories and activities in the church hall. KFC join the congregation for a family service on the last Sunday of the month to take part in the service with singing and scripture readings. They had a children's day service at the end of June and received gifts for the year. KFC had their outing to Mount Panther Farm Park in September and was enjoyed by all.

**Youth Group** is for secondary school age and discusses a range of topics at their gatherings. They also take part in the family services leading the praise and doing scripture readings.

**The Midweek Bible study** group met during the year and alternated between Spa and Magherahamlet church halls.

The **Church Choir** leads the praise at special services such as Easter, Harvest and Christmas when appropriate anthems are sung.

**VIBE** is our Youth Fellowship which meets twice a month. The group aims to provide a forum for young people in the community to come together for food, fellowship and bible study. VIBE reached out to the local community hosting a Christmas 'Carols at the Crossroads' accompanied by Dunmore Silver Band.

**Men For All Seasons** is a joint group between Spa and Magherahamlet which meets four times a year, once per season. It is ministry for all men, fathers and sons of all ages to come together for some active outings planned around each season of the year. The group had four outings in 2023 to a history talk in Dromara and walks in Castlewellan Forest Park and along the Dundrum coast route..

The Church also offers facilities for a number of organisations: Spa Brownies & Rainbows; Spa Good News Club, Spa Primary School for concerts and P.E. classes; Magherahamlet Girls' Brigade hold their annual display in the church hall; Spa Young Farmers lease the Old School for their meetings.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

**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 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 notice boards, 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 benefit 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 the purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct or 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.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Congregation's main source of income is from the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were 87 contributors including several new families. Total income was £79005 (£73603 in 2022) and total expenditure £50023 (£44465 in 2022.) The reduced expenditure was a direct result of not having to pay a minister as the church became vacant on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 and receipt of a Covid Recovery grant.

**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) 2008 to prepare receipts and payments 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 taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and signed on its behalf by

(signed) 

Name: Rev Alan Wilson

Date: 19.6.24

(signed) 

Name: STEPHEN MCBRIDE

Date: 19.6.24

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

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105196

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# Annual return

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## **Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023

### **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:

- Examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Commission under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- 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 by 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 a 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 report to the charity trustees of Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland continued**

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.

Stephen Mckee

30 Bachelors Walk  
Lisburn  
BT28 1XN

4 May 2024

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

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105196

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# Accounts

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**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**  
**Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
		£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	35,730	14,926	50,656	44,440
Charitable activities	3	11,018	3,978	14,996	17,025
Other trading activities	4	1,254	340	1,594	1,645
Investment income	5	1,894	180	2,074	1,990
Other	6	448	584	1,032	68,072
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>50,344</u>	<u>20,008</u>	<u>70,352</u>	<u>133,172</u>
<b>Payments</b>					
Charitable activities	7	14,584	11,283	25,867	60,972
Other	8	9,185	6,162	15,347	31,730
<b>Total Payments</b>		<u>23,769</u>	<u>17,445</u>	<u>41,213</u>	<u>92,702</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u><u>26,575</u></u>	<u><u>2,563</u></u>	<u><u>29,138</u></u>	<u><u>-24,630</u></u>

**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
Statement of Assets and Liabilities  
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
<b>Funds reconciliation</b>					
Bank and cash at start of year		29,130	3,952	33,082	57,712
Move BB account balance		-6,349	6,349	0	0
Move PW account balance		-1,637	1,637	0	0
Net movement in funds		26,575	2,563	29,138	-24,630
Bank and Cash at end of year		<u>47,719</u>	<u>14,501</u>	<u>62,220</u>	<u>33,082</u>
<b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>					
Bank deposit accounts					0
Bank current accounts				<u>62,220</u>	<u>33,082</u>
				<u>62,220</u>	<u>33,082</u>
<b>Other Assets</b>					
Investments	9			<u>103,472</u>	<u>111,364</u>
				<u>103,472</u>	<u>111,364</u>

**Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**31 December 2021**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**Basis of Financial Statements**

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000, the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015) to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

**Fund Accounting**

Restricted funds comprise 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 sets aside by the congregation for use in the future.

**2. Donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	£	£	£	£
Recorded giving	27,550	5,420	32,970	34,771
Loose collections	490	880	1,370	810
Donations and gifts	2,503	7,747	10,250	2,937
Gift aid	5,188	879	6,067	5,923
Legacies and bequests	0	0	0	0
	<u>35,730</u>	<u>14,926</u>	<u>50,656</u>	<u>44,441</u>

**3. Charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	£	£	£	£
Fees from weddings and funerals	200	50	250	100
Fundraising events	0	0	0	0
Membership fees	0	1,435	1,435	1,330
Grants	10,818	2,493	13,311	15,595
	<u>11,018</u>	<u>3,978</u>	<u>14,996</u>	<u>17,025</u>

**4. Other trading activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	1,254	340	1,594	1,645
	<u>1,254</u>	<u>340</u>	<u>1,594</u>	<u>1,645</u>

## 5. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	110	11	121	110
General investment fund	1,784	169	1,953	1,881
Rents investment properties			0	0
Other investment income			0	0
	<u>1,894</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>2,074</u>	<u>1,991</u>

## 6. Other income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Other income	448	584	1,032	2,972
	<u>448</u>	<u>584</u>	<u>1,032</u>	<u>2,972</u>

## 7. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
General Assembly assessments	3,085	0	3,085	9,835
Presbytery fees	374	0	374	280
Ministry and support staff costs	3,338	0	3,338	22,242
Congregational running expenses	7,028	5,177	12,204	18,204
Donations to missions and charities	640	6,106	6,746	5,759
Governance costs	120	0	120	4,652
	<u>14,584</u>	<u>11,283</u>	<u>25,867</u>	<u>60,972</u>

## 8. Other expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Property and equipment	4,435	5,298	9,733	23,970
Cleaner	595	863	1,458	1,700
Organist	4,155	0	4,155	6,060
	<u>9,185</u>	<u>6,162</u>	<u>15,347</u>	<u>31,730</u>

## 9. Investments

The congregation has the following investments. Amounts are shown at market valuation.

	2022	2021
	£	£
General Investment Fund <i>(These are endowment funds with interest only being received by the Church)</i>	88,394	96,311
Progressive Bond	0	4,991
Danske Bank Investment Account	15,078	10,062
	<u>103,472</u>	<u>111,364</u>

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

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105196

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# Annual report

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**SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

**Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105196)**

**SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

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

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland  
68 Spa Road, Ballynahinch, Co. Down, BT24 8PT

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105196)

**CHARITY TRUSTEES**

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

Mr Stephen James McBride  
Mrs Minnie Evelyn Brown  
Mr Arthur John Watson Gibson  
Mr Wilfred Keys  
Mr James Israel Rodgers

**PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS**

Convener: Rev Dario Leal  
Acting Clerk of Session: Mr Stephen James McBride  
Treasurer: Mrs Susan Lorraine Bothwell

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Heanen Stanfield & McKee Ltd  
30 Bachelors Walk  
Lisburn  
BT28 1XN

**BANKERS**

Dankse Bank Limited  
P.O. Box 183  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast  
BT1 6JS

**SOLICITORS**

J Murland & Co  
Finlay House  
15 English Street  
Downpatrick  
Co. Down  
BT30 6AP

## **STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **The Kirk Session**

The charity trustees of the organisation 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 minister in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk Session are at least twice each year and normally every two months.

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SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

### **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 the business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers, and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

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The Congregation's mission purpose is 'To Know Christ and Make Him Known'. Such that, by the grace of God 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.
- 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.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

**ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday at 10am and visitors are welcome to join us. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is observed three times per 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. A family service is held once a month.

The Congregation has a number of organisations which meet at various times through the week namely Kids for Christ, Crèche, Vibe, Youth Group, Boys' Brigade, Church Choir, Bible Study & Men for all Seasons.

During 2022 most of the Church activities got back to a more normal footing following the pandemic.

Communion was held in January, May and November using individually pre-packaged wine and wafers.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

**Worship & Prayer**

The church meets at 10 am on a Sunday morning and the service is also shown on Zoom for those who are unable to attend church.

**Pastoral Care**

The church remained vacant during 2022 with a convener who along with the elders overseen the pastoral needs of the congregation.

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited by a minister or elders. When requested, a Minister accompanied by an Elder will administer communion at the home of members who are unable to attend the Communion Service. When this is not possible, phone calls are made.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

**Mission and Outreach**

A Holiday Bible and Youth Week were held jointly with our sister church Magherahamlet Presbyterian followed by a BBQ for both congregations plus family and friends of children attending the Holiday Bible Club.

We held two church family outings in the summer of 2022 to Hillsborough and Castlewellan Forest parks.

The church celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a special service planned for 11<sup>th</sup> September which had to be postponed due to the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II. The service was rescheduled for late November and the Moderator Rev John Kilpatrick addressed the congregation and joined us for supper following the service. The church was decorated with artefacts from that period.

Our Harvest Services took place in October and the choir from Spa Primary school joined us for a full to capacity church in the morning. Our evening service was attended by friends from Magherahamlet Presbyterian and Magherahamlet Parish churches followed by a time for fellowship in the Arnold Hall.

The Boys' Brigade Enrolment service took place in November again to a full church and a carol service was held in December. Our Vibe group organised 'Carols at the Crossroads' and sang to residents of two local nursing homes.

Our PW ladies decide to close the Spa PW branch due to lack of numbers, age and a reluctance to come out at night. Ladies are encouraged to join the Wonder Woman Group at Magherahamlet Presbyterian Church.

Our car boot sales did not resume during 2022 but a coffee morning and sale was held in October to raise money to help with the running cost of the church hall.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Church continued to support a range of external missions and charities, including the Poppy Appeal, Christian Aid and Fields of Life as well as Charities of PCI.

The total amount donated to charities, including charities of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland was £5648.

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 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 areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributes to the denominations annual World Development Appeal, Christian Aid, Poppy Appeal, Presbyterian Children's Society and any other special appeals.

### **Presbytery**

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our Convener and our Representative Elder, Mrs Evelyn Brown. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structure of the church.

### **Property**

There were no major repairs required during the year with routine maintenance and servicing carried out as required by law.

## Organisations

**Our Boys' Brigade** meets weekly and has a membership of 58 boys and 9 officers. A wide variety of activities took place during the year including crafts, cookery, Bible stories and sports. Several boys worked on their Duke of Edinburgh awards, while some of our officers also serve in the wider BB organisation.

**Kids for Christ** (KFC) meets on a Sunday morning for primary age children. The children leave the morning service after the second hymn for Bible stories and activities in the church hall. KFC join the congregation for a family service on the last Sunday of the month to take part in the service with singing and scripture readings. They had a children's day service at the end of June and received gifts for the year. KFC had their outing to Global Adventures soft play area in September and was enjoyed by all.

**Youth Group** is for secondary school age and discusses a range of topics at their gatherings. They also take part in the family services leading the praise and doing scripture readings.

**The Midweek Bible study** group met during the year and alternated between Spa and Magherahamlet church halls.

The **Church Choir** leads praise at our Sunday Service and performs special anthems at Easter, Harvest and Christmas. The regular choir members are joined by extra members from the congregation for these special services.

**VIBE** is our Youth Fellowship which meets twice a month. The group aims to provide a forum for young people in the community to come together for food, fellowship and bible study. VIBE reached out to the local community by delivering Easter cards, Christmas cards and treats to over 50 homes and hosting a 'Carols at the Crossroads' accompanied by Dunmore Silver Band.

**Yahoo** (Young at heart only older) group did not meet in 2022 and is under review if it will continue.

**Men For All Seasons** is a new joint group between Spa and Magherahamlet which meets four times a year, once per season. It is a men's ministry group for men in all seasons of life. Ministry for all Men, Fathers and Sons of all ages are welcome to come for some active outings planned around each season of the year. The group had three outings in 2022 to Castlewellan, Seaforde and Drumkeeragh.

The Church also offers facilities for a number of organisations: Spa Brownies & Rainbows; Spa good News Club, Spa Primary School for concerts and P.E. classes; Magherahamlet Girls'

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

Brigade hold their annual display in the church hall; Spa Young Farmers lease the Old School for their meetings.

**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 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 notice boards, 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 benefit 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 the purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct or 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.

SPA CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Congregation's main source of income is from the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were 80 contributors including several new families. Total income was £70,352 (£68,072 in 2021) and total expenditure £41,213 (£92,701 in 2021.) The reduced expenditure was a direct result of not having to pay a minister as the church became vacant on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 and receipt of a Covid Recovery grant.

**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) 2008 to prepare receipts and payments 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 taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and signed on its behalf by

(Signed) 

Date 25.10.23.

NAME Rev Alan Wilson

(Signed) 

Date 25 - 10 - 23

Name STEPHEN MCBRIDE

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

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105196

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# Annual return

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**Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Spa Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland continued**

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-

**Stephen McKee**



30 Bachelors Walk

Lisburn

BT28 IXN

23 March 2023