

Moira Baptist Church

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

Moira Baptist Church ("the Church") acknowledges the headship of Jesus Christ over his Church and exists to glorify the triune God by maintaining and promoting his worship both individually and corporately.

The principal charitable object of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the teaching of scripture, understood in its historical and evangelical sense, the Doctrinal Statement and Baptist principles. Its members devote themselves to the teaching of scripture, to fellowship, breaking of bread, prayer and evangelism.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The activities carried out by the Church include:

- holding regular services for public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching for all age groups;
- providing pastoral care to the members of the church through visitation and prayer;
- organising meetings and events that promote our charitable purpose;
- participating in the life of the local community;
- supporting other Christian organisations and charities through volunteering, financial gifts and prayer.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Church should undertake.

Public benefit

The Church 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 the Christian Faith.

The Church continues to reach out into the community in a number of ways through different organisations as follows:

- (i) Sunday Services
- (ii) Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
- (iii) Home Groups
- (iv) Sunday School/Bible Classes
- (v) Creche
- (vi) Wonderkidz
- (vii) Moira Baptist Youth
- (viii) Seekers
- (ix) Mums and Tots
- (x) Baptist Women's Fellowship
- (xi) Men's Fellowship
- (xii) Ladies' Bible studies
- (xiii) Evergreens
- (xiv) Care Team
- (xv) Our own Missionaries with New Tribes Mission and Wycliffe Bible Translators

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Trustees' Report (continued)

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Achievements and performance

2024 was a year where there was cause to look back and reflect on the goodness of God to the fellowship with the following being some highlights:

New Assistant Pastor

Pastor Jonathan Dodds commenced as our new Pastoral Assistant in 2023 developing his gifts and ministry. We give thanks to God for the encouragement as he continued to develop his ministry in the pulpit whilst providing pastoral support to members and supporting church activities so much so that the church overwhelmingly supported 'calling' Jonathan to the role of Assistant Pastor. The Church was pleased that he accepted the call.

Numerical and Spiritual Growth

There were 3 baptisms during the year and a number of new families have been attending each Sunday. Sadly we said goodbye to a number of longstanding members who entered into their eternal reward. The membership grew from 165 to 175.

MBC Holiday Bible Club

This was an event organised during the Summer where up to 100 children and young people came together under the sound of God's Word whilst participating in craft and games.

Mission '24

The Church hosted a week of mission in October 2024. Pastor Andrew Campbell was the speaker each evening with special guest speakers sharing their life experiences and how their faith in God had helped them.

Outreach Further Afield

A number of young people connected to the fellowship went on various outreach teams both at home and abroad with missionary organisations. for a second year the Church was able to support our sister Church in Waterford by sending a ministry team for a week in the summer.

Financial review

The Church recorded a net surplus for the year of £86,702

Closing unrestricted reserves at 31 December 2024 were £2,982,290

Closing restricted reserves at 31 December 2024 were £NIL

Policy on reserves

It is Church policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible) which equate to at least 4 months unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. This is estimated at £45,000 of unrestricted funds and on 31 December 2024 the Church had £190,678 of unrestricted funds available.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Moira Baptist Church is an unincorporated entity operating under a constitution last updated in 22 March 2023.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Pastor Mark Patterson
Ralph Patterson
Simon Morrison
Peter Smyth
Kenneth Watson
Geoffrey Wilson
Jonathan Rountree
Jonathan Lloyd
Martin Burke
Andrew Cross
Samuel Johnston
William Paul
Adam Patton
Brian Greenaway
David McKeown
Andrew Fleming
Gareth Davidson (resigned 20 March 2024)
Daniel Johnston (appointed 13 November 2024)
James Pickering (appointed 13 November 2024)
Lyle English (appointed 13 November 2024)
Pastor Jonathan Dodds (appointed 13 November 2024)
Thomas Greenaway (appointed 13 November 2024)

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 25 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



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Mr Peter Smyth
Trustee



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Mr Ralph Patterson
Trustee