

# Ballycrochan Baptist Church

Northern Ireland · Charity number 108404

## Details

Status	Received
Registered	2022-05-23
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register</a>

## Contact

Address	1 Ballycrochan Road Bangor County Down Bt19 6nf BT19 6NF
Phone	07825108256
Email	<a href="mailto:secretary@ballycrochanbaptist.org">secretary@ballycrochanbaptist.org</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.ballycrochanbaptist.org">www.ballycrochanbaptist.org</a>

## Activities

**Purposes:** The principal charitable object of the church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the teachings of Scripture, the Doctrinal Statement and Baptist principles.

**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, Older people, Preschool (0-5 year olds), Volunteers, Youth (14-25 year olds)

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£169,136	£181,439	£0	4

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andy Cole		
David Lloyd		
David Mason		
Gareth Wallwin		
Glenn Forrest		
Glyn Denny		
Jonny Hair		
Mr Jeremy Parker		
Neil Watson		

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108404

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# Accounts

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**Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024  
for  
Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

McIlveen Howard Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
169a Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast  
BT4 3HZ

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Reference and Administrative Details  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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**TRUSTEES**

Mr A Cole  
Mr G Denny  
Mr G Forrest  
Mr J Hair  
Mr M Kennedy  
Mr J Parker (resigned 20/3/24)  
Mr G Wallwin  
Mr N Watson  
Mr D Lloyd  
Mr R Gamble (resigned 23/10/24)  
Mr B McKay (appointed 29/4/24)

**PRINCIPAL ADDRESS**

1 Ballycrochan Road  
Bangor  
Co Down  
BT19 6NF

**REGISTERED CHARITY  
NUMBER**

108404

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

McIlveen Howard Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
169a Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast  
BT4 3HZ

**BANKERS**

Danske Bank  
Branch Business  
PO Box 183  
Donegall Square West  
Belfast  
BT1 6JS

## Ballycrochan Baptist Church

### Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and aims**

Acknowledging the headship of Christ over his church the members of the Church unite to glorify the God of the Scriptures by maintaining and promoting His worship both individually and corporately, by devoting themselves to the teaching of Scripture, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer and in evangelism.

The principal charitable object of the church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the teachings of Scripture, the Doctrinal Statement and Baptist principles.

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**

Throughout the year we continued with many activities that were of direct benefit to our members and the community.

## Ballycrochan Baptist Church

### Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

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#### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

##### Missions

The Missions Team seeks to continually promote and encourage missionary interest within Ballycrochan Baptist Church.

We also take responsibility for the church missionary calendar including the Missionary Weekend, Tearfund Sunday, Summer Workers programme and Scripture Union school workers within our local area.

We commenced 2024 with a speaker from Christian Union Ireland on 24th January. It was exciting to hear how God is working among the students. A freewill offering was given to help towards the work of CUI.

On the 3rd of March we had a speaker from Tearfund for our yearly Tearfund Sunday bread and cheese lunch. The annual Baptist Missions Rally was held in Ballynahinch Baptist on 14th May.

On Sunday 18th August we were privileged to have a speaker from Mission France who was also a speaker at the Worldwide Missionary Convention.

Sunday 20th October was our Missions Sunday. We had a speaker from Baptist Missions at the morning service who is working in the Fermanagh / Monaghan border regions. Then a speaker from Slavic Gospel Association at the evening service and a light supper was served following the service. It was a great day and we were reminded that through all situations "God's work still goes on."

On Wednesday 27th November we heard from a representative of Release International. Another great informative evening of how God is working in many countries.

##### Café Connect

Café Connect continues to run one Friday a month from September to June. A team of volunteers staff the event providing the refreshments, augmented by a few other people.

The usual attendance is about thirty, mostly people from our church, sometimes with friends and family. Occasionally others with no connection to the church come in and they are made welcome.

There is a good atmosphere, a chance for those attending to catch up in a relaxed way.

This year it was suggested that one Friday should be a MacMillan Coffee morning. This was held on 25th October 2024 and raised a total of £583. Because it was advertised on the MacMillan website two MLAs and colleagues came. Their photograph at BBC appeared in the Spectator so the church shared in their publicity.

The December Café Connect had a Christmas theme. The tables were decorated and there was a light-hearted Christmas quiz.

##### Evangelism

During 2024, the Evangelism team has worked to reach out to our friends, family members, the local community and those in need with the message of the Gospel. We've looked for ways to engage people with the message of Christ and to create opportunities for our church members to invite others to church.

A gifted team from Klass Kids (Crown Jesus Ministries) joined us in March and delivered another action packed Easter Programme aimed at Primary School children called 'The Greatest Rescue Ever'.

Approximately 90 children came along on a Saturday afternoon for lots of lively singing, puppet shows, games, crafts, snacks and most importantly they heard a Bible story of the Greatest Rescue Ever. This was a very clear presentation of the Gospel.

## **Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

We are so thankful to Klass Kids for helping us with the Easter events over the last couple of years and for their energy, enthusiasm, dedication and desire to share the Gospel.

At the end of September, we had a visit from Milo the Gospel Dog who along with his owners, acted out the Gospel story. It was encouraging to have a number of families visiting who don't normally attend church join us for this outreach event. Everyone enjoyed a hot dog before heading home!

As a church we were able to help struggling families in our local community to celebrate Christmas. Increasing numbers of parents are worried about being able to afford Christmas presents for their children and need to rely on food parcels to supplement what they can afford.

We gathered donations for three charities, the Salvation Army Christmas Gift Appeal, the Storehouse North Down (food bank). Donations of new, unwrapped toys and gifts for children and boxes of food and drinks were delivered well in advance of Christmas and were gratefully received. The Salvation Army reported that with our help and others, over 245 local families made up of 518 children benefitted from the Christmas Toy Appeal.

We also supported our Junior Youth Club to share the Christmas story at JYC in December. A school worker from E3 SUNI's School Project was the speaker. Each young person left with a Christmas Story booklet, chocolate reindeer, candy cane and an invite to our Christmas Services.

An invite to our Christmas Services along with a sachet of hot chocolate was also given to all the adults who come along to Parents and Toddlers.

At the end of February, we had a special night "Unboxed" with a guest speaker who is a Young People and Community Pastor. This was an informal and relaxed evening when he shared his testimony, his love for Jesus and how Jesus transformed his life. He is a talented musician and songwriter and shared a few songs throughout the evening. We had approximately 95 people attending which was a great encouragement.

As we strive to share the Gospel message with others through a range of outreach events, let us trust in the power of God's word to bring about transformation in the lives of those who hear.

#### **Baptist Women**

BW began its annual programme with our traditional ladies' breakfast in October. Our speaker was a counsellor and retired minister's wife. She gave a very helpful presentation on the many ways we, as ladies, can care for ourselves and each other by being mindful of our spiritual, physical, and mental health.

In November we welcomed a speaker from the Faith Mission in West Belfast. She spoke with passion about this ministry which includes door to door visitation, prayer ministry and ladies' ministry and delicious desserts were enjoyed by all.

The food theme continued in January with a Gals to Grans Chinese meal and quiz night which was a great opportunity to have fun and fellowship.

#### **Pulse**

Ephesians 4v2. 'Be completely humble and gentle, be patient, bearing with one another in love.'

The Pulse Group is now in its second year, meeting on the first Tuesday morning of each month, from September to May.

We are a group of around 20 senior women in Ballycrochan who enjoy meeting together, getting to know one another better and taking an interest in our church family and its activities.

We keep ourselves informed of what is happening in the various departments, pray for them when we meet, and also at home. We let it be known that we are willing to give practical help in the background when that is appropriate so that we are still involved in the work of the church in our retirement years.

## Ballycrochan Baptist Church

### Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

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#### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In the natural way that friends meet we are informal, have fun, share, and are a help to one another and others.

#### Toddlers

Psalm 127:3 "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him."

Toddlers for the year 2023/2024 finished at the end of May with a party, bouncy castles, party food and 24 of our tots leaving us to go to pre/pre or pre-school! Each of them was given a Toddler Bible which we hope and pray will be read by them or to them by their parents.

In September we started with fewer families than usual. However, numbers have increased and, although not so many are "on the roll" as last year, the average attendance is similar, around 25 adults and 30+ toddlers and babies each week.

On our last Wednesday before the Christmas break the children listened very attentively to a mini talk about the baby Jesus and Santa, then distributed little Christmas books and chocolate.

As a team of helpers we are united in doing our best to make our church hall a really happy and welcoming place for all who come, from the grannies to the babies. We feel that, in some small way, we can be a listening ear, and we can pray for those who have been bereaved, who have health problems or family issues which are troubling them.

We are very grateful to the kitchen teams for their part, spending most of the morning preparing and washing up after our snacks. We also really appreciate the help from those that setup before each session and clear away at the end.

We are grateful most of all to God for the opportunities we have to welcome folk into our church and get to know them. Our prayer is that Toddlers will be a link in the chain which brings many, both young and old, to the Lord Jesus.

#### Campaigners

January 2024 began with the preparations for the Scripture Exam which focused on the story of Gideon and a Psalm of each Clans choosing. Our own Pastor Neil Watson was the speaker at the Family Service in March where nearly all the Clansmen received their award.

In March the Junos, Inters and Craftsmen took part in the Regional Table Quiz. Junos came second while Inters and Craftsmen came first.

We were so thankful when a member of the clan came to tell us he had come to faith in the springtime. He is so kind and helpful to us in Inters and Craftsmen. We were very pleased to be invited to attend his Baptism in November.

Our Annual Display under the title of 'On the Bookshelf' took place in April. This provided scope for a wide variety of interpretations. It was a real pleasure to have the Regional Chief of Campaigners and his wife as Inspecting Officers and Neil provided the Clan 'C'. The distribution of Awards testifies to the volume of work completed each evening.

The year drew to a close with our individual parties.

After a time of rest and refreshment the Clan recommenced in September. We were very pleased to welcome a new Assistant Leader and a young person completing his Craftsmen Service. Both of them are working in the Junos' Clan. We are also very grateful to our Assistant Pastor who continues to help in this Clan too.

A total of 45 young people are registered with Campaigners with the majority attending every week.

Campaigner Sunday took place in November under the theme of 'The Family of God', with the Director of Baptist Youth as our speaker. Who knew that Disney's Rapunzel could be used to teach Bible truths!

We drew the year to a close with the usual parties and special visitor at Christmas.

## Ballycrochan Baptist Church

### Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

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#### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

##### Star Kids

2024 was another busy year in SKC. Our numbers have remained stable and despite losing three P7s last summer, we have loved seeing some new faces come along each week. That is a great encouragement.

Once again we were able to have some fun as we supported our P7s in their transition to Equip. As well as some trial sessions in the month of June, we were also able to enjoy a sunny Saturday afternoon at Pirates Golf and then on to McDonalds. This enabled our P7s to reconnect with the old friends from SKC that had moved on to Equip in previous years.

We are so thankful in SKC for the Equip ministry and feel comforted in the knowledge our young teenagers can continue to access Bible teaching appropriate for their age and stage after they leave us.

Each Sunday, we continue on our journey through the Bible. We are about half way through our third year using the Mustard Seeds materials and are still in the depths of the Old Testament, which has so many wonderful characters and powerful lessons about God's love and faithfulness.

During 2024 we learned about: Samuel, Saul, David, the Psalms, Solomon, Elijah, Elisha, Jonah, Esther and, of course, our annual look at the Christmas and Easter stories as well as the SUNI Back to School materials. We look forward to what the programme brings in 2025.

We currently have around 25 children on our register, from preschool through to P7. Our numbers enable us to run three classes for the following age groups: pre-school to P2, P3-P4 and P5-P7.

Our teaching team currently consists of eight teachers and we are so thankful to our extended team of helpers that have been stepping in at times when we have had a gap. As well as this, we appreciate the terrific support from our church family in covering SKC in the summer.

##### Equip

Equip has continued to grow in size with the addition of three young people joining the group as they move from SKC. As always, the aim of Equip is to help and equip the youth as they grow and mature for the future when the aim would be for them to stay in the main church and be able to understand and enjoy the ministry from our pastor.

We have continued to use the Mustard Seeds series, and we have been looking at Encounters with Jesus. This took us up to the end of June 2024.

From September, we have been looking at Ephesians:

1. One Plan
2. One Faith
3. One People
4. One Body
5. One Lifestyle
6. One Battle

During the July/August holiday period, when numbers can be a little lower, the youth have been sitting in at the main church service every other week and the following week in Equip to discuss the previous Sunday's message.

We have continued to have some outside church evenings to encourage friendships and socializing with each other, along with meeting people from other churches. In December, we attended a Christmas event in Lisburn Baptist that they all seemed to enjoy.

We have also been meeting at one of our houses once a month after the Sunday evening service. The format is very relaxed, with a short message, some food, fun, and fellowship. We hope that they continue to enjoy these times together as we encourage them to invite friends from other churches along.

## **Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Junior Youth Club**

We have been so encouraged that, since we started JYC up a year ago, we have had on average around 60-65 children (ages 9-13) in through the church doors on Saturday nights. We're happy to have so many but it's not just about numbers.

We are getting to know our regulars which is lovely to build relationships with them and their parents when they pick them up each week.

At Christmas, our local SU School's Worker came in to do a little talk which went really well. It was a really nice link as she knew a lot of the kids from the local primary schools from being in taking assemblies and RE lessons.

We have invited a speaker from a nearby church to do a talk for Easter in April and are planning to give out little Easter gospel books and a treat plus an invitation to the Easter church services too.

We are extremely blessed to have 22 leaders. We have three teams of seven/eight which spreads the load so hopefully it's not too big a burden for anyone. We are so grateful for people giving up their time, especially the ones who don't have kids there! All the leaders are sensible, reliable and so good with the kids which gives us peace of mind.

As you can imagine, youth club nights are busy and noisy with a lot of kids in the building but we are thankful for good behaviour and no accidents so far. Please pray that this continues.

##### **Community Service**

In addition to our usual activities, we have continued hosting the NI Blood Transfusion Service at our buildings several times during the year. It has been a great privilege to provide this support to our local community and health service and we look forward to welcoming them again in 2025.

Ballycrochan Baptist Church

Report of the Trustees  
for the year ended 31 December 2024

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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities**

'The LORD is my shepherd.. he guides me along right paths for his name's sake.'

We are grateful to God as we look back on this past year in Ballycrochan Baptist Church, and can see how God has led us as a church as our good shepherd. Through times of joy, and times of difficulty, He has shown us time and time again that he is a wholly faithful God.

It has been a joy to see many new faces in our Sunday services and such an encouragement to see people coming to our church, worshipping with us, and then serving in different ways. We are grateful for those who make an effort every Sunday to extend a warm welcome to those who are new to our church - this is an extremely valuable ministry.

A particular encouragement this year was seeing some of our young people getting baptised, and sharing their testimony of how God has been at work in their lives. We continue to pray for them, and the young people coming through our church that they will follow Jesus and seek to live for him.

It has also been a delight to see involvement in our small group Bible studies while we wrestled with some tricky passages in Hebrews, and gained rich encouragement from some of the Psalms. There has been great Bible engagement from all who attend, and we have seen this bearing fruit in each other's lives.

While there have been many encouragements, this year has also been a difficult year for many in our church family. There have been many families who have been bereaved this year, and many who have struggled with ill health. Even in these difficult times however, it has been a living testimony to see people living out their faith, even in the darkest valley, showing God's faithfulness to us all. There have been several challenges for us this year as a church family, but we continue to seek to follow our good shepherd and rely on Him for our guidance.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude as we recognise all the hard work so many of our church family put into serving the Lord in this church. We want to say thank you to everybody who serves in so many different ways and thank you for the way in which you do it - with selfless and joyful hearts.

It was a privilege to go into three different care homes this year at Christmas time, to share the hope of the gospel, and encourage those who attended. We always want to be a presence in our community and pray we will get more opportunities like these.

We pray that Ballycrochan will continue to be a community of believers who seek to honour God in all that we do, for His name's sake.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... 15 JUNE 25 ..... and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
Mr A Cole - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

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I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages ten to seventeen.

**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 requirements of 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 Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the 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. The 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.



Mrs Pauline McDonnell FCA  
Chartered Accountants Ireland  
McIlveen Howard Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
169a Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast  
BT4 3HZ

Date: 15/06/2025

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	132,279	33,421	165,700	163,658
Investment income	3	3,436	-	3,436	60
<b>Total</b>		<u>135,715</u>	<u>33,421</u>	<u>169,136</u>	<u>163,718</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Church running costs		137,856	-	137,856	118,321
Church Departments		5,207	-	5,207	3,313
Mission		-	6,875	6,875	4,885
Special Donations		-	1,300	1,300	-
Association Accounts		-	30,201	30,201	32,265
<b>Total</b>		<u>143,063</u>	<u>38,376</u>	<u>181,439</u>	<u>158,784</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(7,348)	(4,955)	(12,303)	4,934
Transfers between funds	8	(4,955)	4,955	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(12,303)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,303)</u>	<u>4,934</u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		915,571	-	915,571	910,637
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>903,268</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>903,268</u></u>	<u><u>915,571</u></u>

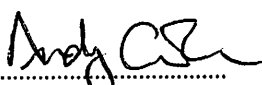
The notes form part of these financial statements

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Balance Sheet  
31 December 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	6	750,000	750,000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank		153,268	165,571
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>153,268</u>	<u>165,571</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>903,268</u>	<u>915,571</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>903,268</u></u>	<u><u>915,571</u></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	8		
Unrestricted funds		<u>903,268</u>	<u>915,571</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u><u>903,268</u></u>	<u><u>915,571</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 15 JUNE 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Mr A Cole - Trustee

  
.....  
Mr G Forrest - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

## Ballycrochan Baptist Church

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

#### 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 historical 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 measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost 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.

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	60,714	58,364
Gift aid	21,656	19,794
Legacies	5,000	1,000
Offering	41,398	42,831
Baptist Missions	13,508	17,065
Baptist Aid / Zimbabwe Orphans	3,683	3,333
Baptist College	4,675	4,204
Retired Pastor Fund	1,665	1,689
Baptist Youth	1,230	1,264
Baptist Women	464	405
Pastoral Support Scheme	400	460
Tell Romania	3,359	1,090
Tearfund	2,373	2,852
Scripture Union	-	589
Campaigners	500	63
Carried forward	160,625	155,003

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Brought forward	160,625	155,003
Sundries	1,030	1,612
Junior Youth Club	918	-
Asia Link	120	120
Missionary Support Fund	-	560
Catering	445	680
ABI Insight	1,368	997
Ministry Partnership Scheme	-	3,977
BBC Women's	436	351
BBC Men's	182	358
Release International	346	-
Slavic Gospel Association	230	-
	<u>165,700</u>	<u>163,658</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>3,436</u>	<u>60</u>

**4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The Pastor, assistant Pastor and church administrator who are all trustees receive remuneration for their pastoral roles but not for their duties as trustees.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The Pastor, assistant Pastor and church administrator who are all trustees receive expenses incurred in their pastoral roles but not for their duties as trustees.

**5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	129,030	34,628	163,658
Investment income	<u>60</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>129,090</u>	<u>34,628</u>	<u>163,718</u>
 <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Church running costs	118,321	-	118,321

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Church Departments	3,313	-	3,313
Mission	-	4,885	4,885
Association Accounts	-	32,265	32,265
<b>Total</b>	<u>121,634</u>	<u>37,150</u>	<u>158,784</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	7,456	(2,522)	4,934
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<u>(2,522)</u>	<u>2,522</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	4,934	-	4,934
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	910,637	-	910,637
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>915,571</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>915,571</u>

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	<u>750,000</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 December 2024	<u>750,000</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>750,000</u>

Included in cost or valuation of land and buildings is freehold land of £120,000 (2023 - £120,000) which is not depreciated.

Buildings have not been depreciated in accordance with the valuation carried out during the year. Had buildings been depreciated at 1.5% straight line the depreciation would have been £9,450.

The Northern Baptist Corporation are the legal trustees of the building.

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Fixed assets	750,000	-	750,000	750,000
Current assets	153,268	-	153,268	165,571
	<u>903,268</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>903,268</u>	<u>915,571</u>

**8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1/1/24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/12/24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	915,571	(7,348)	(4,955)	903,268
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted	-	(4,955)	4,955	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>915,571</u>	<u>(12,303)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>903,268</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	135,715	(143,063)	(7,348)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	33,421	(38,376)	(4,955)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>169,136</u>	<u>(181,439)</u>	<u>(12,303)</u>

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/12/23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	910,637	7,456	(2,522)	915,571
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted	-	(2,522)	2,522	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>910,637</u>	<u>4,934</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>915,571</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	129,090	(121,634)	7,456
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	34,628	(37,150)	(2,522)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>163,718</u>	<u>(158,784)</u>	<u>4,934</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/12/24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	910,637	108	(7,477)	903,268
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted	-	(7,477)	7,477	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>910,637</u>	<u>(7,369)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>903,268</u>

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	264,805	(264,697)	108
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted	68,049	(75,526)	(7,477)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>332,854</u>	<u>(340,223)</u>	<u>(7,369)</u>

**9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	60,714	58,364
Gift aid	21,656	19,794
Legacies	5,000	1,000
Offering	41,398	42,831
Baptist Missions	13,508	17,065
Baptist Aid / Zimbabwe Orphans	3,683	3,333
Baptist College	4,675	4,204
Retired Pastor Fund	1,665	1,689
Baptist Youth	1,230	1,264
Baptist Women	464	405
Pastoral Support Scheme	400	460
Tell Romania	3,359	1,090
Tearfund	2,373	2,852
Scripture Union	-	589
Campaigners	500	63
Sundries	1,030	1,612
Junior Youth Club	918	-
Asia Link	120	120
Missionary Support Fund	-	560
Catering	445	680
ABI Insight	1,368	997
Ministry Partnership Scheme	-	3,977
BBC Women's	436	351
BBC Men's	182	358
Release International	346	-
Slavic Gospel Association	230	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	165,700	163,658
 <b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	3,436	60
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	169,136	163,718
 <b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Repairs	15,013	12,888
Salary and expenses	94,952	80,521
Puplit Supply	300	525
Utilities	9,159	7,377
Printing & Stationery	9,454	3,355
Insurance	3,236	6,800
Carried forward	132,114	111,466

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Brought forward	132,114	111,466
Audit Fee	1,920	1,800
Sundries	825	1,023
Telephone & Internet	642	547
Catering	2,150	3,270
Bank fee	205	215
Campaigners	500	513
Mother & Toddlers	300	271
Star Kids	594	949
BBC Men's	273	263
Tearfund	2,374	2,975
Scripture Union	-	700
Tell Romania	3,400	1,090
Junior Youth Club	1,996	-
Special Gifts	1,300	-
Baptist Missions	13,785	17,359
Baptist College	4,674	4,204
PIP Fund	1,455	1,400
ABCI Subscription	1,208	1,111
Baptist Youth	1,907	1,934
ABC Insight	1,050	939
Baptist Aid / Zimbabwe Orphans	3,633	2,644
Evangelism	790	855
Retired Pastor Fund	1,645	1,689
Release International	346	-
Baptist Women	464	525
Pastoral Support Scheme	380	460
Pulse	159	-
Slavic Gospel Association	645	-
Asia Link	110	120
BBC Women's	595	462
	<u>181,439</u>	<u>158,784</u>
 Total resources expended	 <u>181,439</u>	 <u>158,784</u>
 Net (expenditure)/income	 <u><u>(12,303)</u></u>	 <u><u>4,934</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108404

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# Accounts

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Charity Name	Charity No. (if any)
BALLYCROCHAN BAPTIST CHURCH	108404

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations & legacies	129,030	34,628	-	163,658	213,236
Interest on deposit account	60	-	-	60	86
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)</b>	<b>129,090</b>	<b>34,628</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>163,718</b>	<b>213,322</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).</b>					
Proceeds from sale of fixed asset	-	-	-	-	-
Loan repayments received	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A2 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>129,090</b>	<b>34,628</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>163,718</b>	<b>213,322</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Church running costs	118,321	-	-	118,321	127,324
Church Departments	3,313	-	-	3,313	4,218
Mission	-	4,885	-	4,885	7,930
Special donations	-	-	-	-	-
Association accounts	-	32,265	-	32,265	26,098
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A3 Sub total</b>	<b>121,634</b>	<b>37,150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>158,784</b>	<b>165,570</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)</b>					
Capitalisation of property	-	-	-	-	-
Loans made	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A4 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>121,634</b>	<b>37,150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>158,784</b>	<b>165,570</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>7,456</b>	<b>- 2,522</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,934</b>	<b>47,752</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>- 2,522</b>	<b>2,522</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>160,637</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>160,637</b>	<b>112,885</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>165,571</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>165,571</b>	<b>160,637</b>

**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	Current Account	17,435	-	-	17,435	19,041
	No 2 Account	14,455	-	-	14,455	7,885
	Deposit	53,681	-	-	53,681	133,711
	Investment account	80,000	-	-	80,000	0
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>165,571</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>165,571</b>	<b>160,637</b>
	(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		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

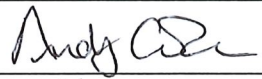

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B3 Investment assets			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Church and Church Hall	Unrestricted	750,000	750,000	750,000
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>		<b>750,000</b>	<b>750,000</b>	<b>750,000</b>

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

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

Signature

Print Name

Andy Cole  
 GLENN FORREST

Date of approval

9/4/24  
 9/4/24

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108404

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# Annual report

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**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

Acknowledging the headship of Christ over his church the members of the Church unite to glorify the God of the Scriptures by maintaining and promoting His worship both individually and corporately, by devoting themselves to the teaching of Scripture, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer and in evangelism.

The principal charitable object of the church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the teachings of Scripture, the Doctrinal Statement and Baptist principles.

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.

## **Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Public benefit**

Throughout the year we continued with many activities that were of direct benefit to our members and the community.

##### **Missions**

The Missions Team seeks each year to encourage missionary interest within Ballycrochan Baptist, and to take responsibility for the Church Missionary Calendar.

In February a Baptist Missions worker from Belturbet came along with his family to tell us about the ongoing work in the town. This included his Grandfather, Grandmother, Father, Mother, his wife, and their 3 boys. It was amazing to have 4 generations of the one family present with us.

In March we held our Tearfund Day. At the morning service we learnt of the ongoing work and needs of Tearfund, followed by a light lunch.

Later in the Spring we were privileged to host the Director of Baptist Missions and our local Scripture Union worker.

August provides an opportunity to meet many missionaries attending the Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention. This year we had a speaker from Fireblade Ministries who told us about their involvement with the Motorbike circuits and sharing God's word with the bikers.

At our Missions Sunday in October, we had a speaker from 100 Fold (a ministry of UFM Worldwide) and in the evening the Pastor from Blackrock Baptist Church in Dublin. We had a great day and finished with a light supper following the evening service. We also took on a project for a team working in the Carumas Valley Peru with Baptist Missions. The response to this was terrific and they were able to get all of the video projection equipment that they needed.

Our God is a missionary God and as a local church we are entrusted with the responsibility to share His work of mission by keeping ourselves informed, being constant in PRAYER, GIVING and REACHING OUT with the Good News of the Gospel.

##### **Evangelism**

The year commenced with Pastor Neil and Pastor Benji facilitating a three week Hope Explored course which started in March. Hope Explored presents the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. There was a good number of church and non-church folk attending each of the sessions, which were encouraging and enjoyable.

The Great Easter Adventure took place on Saturday 25th March for all primary-aged children and was a great success with 75 children attending. Klass Kids from Crown Jesus Ministries partnered in this special event with us to reach into our community with the Gospel. The Klass Kids team have such an energy and commitment to serve at these special events with the aim of reaching children that church does not already minister to. The team provided a lively programme of singing, craft, games, puppets and a clear presentation of the Easter Story. The children appeared attentive and enjoyed the programme along with some Easter treats.

In October we had a 'Bible Heroes' kids' service. It was great to have a speaker from Scripture Union E3 come along and speak to the kids about her Bible Hero Joshua! The kids enjoyed the songs, quiz and Bible story, before everyone headed over to the hall for some refreshments and craft.

As a church we reached out in December to help struggling families in our local community to celebrate Christmas. We gathered donations for two charities, the Salvation Army and The Warehouse (Newtownards). Our donations were greatly appreciated by both charities as they were under great pressure to meet rising demands from families in need.

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**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

On the first and third Friday of each month a group from the church meet in Bangor at 11am with the purpose of sharing the Gospel with the people of Bangor, whether through gospel tracts and/or through conversations that may come along. It is a time of absolute joy and privilege to serve God in this way, in our home city and to get to know some fascinating people and share the gospel.

**Café Connect**

The Cafe Connect ministry commenced last year and takes place on the last Friday of the month in the Foyer from 10am to 11.30am with good coffee, food and chat! This is a drop in cafe for all our church family and for people in our community, providing a relaxed opportunity to get to know people better.

**Baptist Women**

Our aim in BWF is to provide a time for ladies in our church to meet for mutual encouragement and fellowship. We meet one Tuesday night per month and feedback about this year's meetings has reinforced how much our ladies appreciate this time together. We are delighted that this year has seen the reintroduction of the Tuesday morning Pulse meetings, and we are grateful to those that have taken on the lead for this important ministry.

We were blessed to begin our 23/24 programme with the September breakfast and were delighted to welcome a speaker from Baptist Missions who shared her testimony and news about the work in Belturbet. In October we welcomed a Consultant Anaesthetist who volunteers with the Mercy Ships organisation, which provides people living in Africa with access to life changing surgeries.

In November we were treated to a wreath making workshop when we learned of the significance of wreath making and turned our thoughts towards Christmas. December was our Christmas outing for a very enjoyable meal at a local restaurant to finish the year.

**Pulse**

Ephesians 4v2: "Be completely humble and gentle, be patient, bearing with one another in love."

A new group for women commenced in September 2023, meeting on one Tuesday morning each month from September to May. It has been named "Pulse" as we have a heart for one another and our church family. We have had 16 to 25 coming along and we have fun, fellowship, prayer for our church, and a time of encouragement in a very informal setting.

**Connect**

Connect is a fellowship group for families, couples and young (and not so young!) adults that come to our church, to help them connect and support one another.

The group met up several times throughout the year for food and fellowship with opportunities to bring along friends and family members. This year our events have included a coastal path walk and BBQ, a picnic at Ward Park, indoor games and Ten Pin Bowling.

**Toddlers**

Every Wednesday during term time we welcome about 30 adults and 35 tots into the hall for an hour and a half.

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

Painting, craft, sand, play dough, books, jigsaw puzzles, toy kitchen, toy garage, see saw, slide, dolls' prams and ride on bikes and cars keep the tots amused and give their parents, grannies or carers a chance for a break and a chat. The morning finishes with "sing time" and a jelly baby!

Again, this year we have several families who have come to live in Bangor from overseas and also many carers who have been coming for a long time with each new generation of babies and toddlers.

At Easter and again at Christmas the children received a book and some chocolate. We have appreciated Neil's mini talks to the tots and a visit from Santa to give out the presents.

As a team of helpers, we are keen to make both adults and children feel really welcome in our church.

**Star Kids**

2023 has been a fantastic year in Star Kids Club and we reflect on it with positivity. Over the last couple of years we have bid farewell to two sizeable groups of P7 children, nine in total, who are now enjoying being part of the Equip ministry for young people in years 8-10. We are delighted that the Equip team is able to provide this vital ministry and our children have a really clear pathway to support them on their walk with God after they leave us. While we are always a little sad to say goodbye to our P7s, we have also been thrilled to welcome a number of new children to Star Kids Club. Since September we have welcomed four new children to SKC and we are so pleased that they are joining us regularly on a Sunday morning.

Having commenced our new 'Mustard Seeds' materials in September 2022 when we began our walk through Genesis, we started with the story of Jacob in January 2023, and steadily made our way through the early books of the Old Testament. During 2023 we have learnt about many key figures, such as Jacob & Esau, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, Caleb, Joshua and Samson. We even learnt about some less familiar characters such as Gideon and Ehud and have enjoyed the valuable lessons from these early parts of the Old Testament. We deviated from the programme at times to focus on important lessons from the Easter and Christmas stories as well as taking time to think about key times of the year for the children. It was a great opportunity to think about our relationship with God and his love for us when we experience change, particularly at the end of a school year and the beginning of another, which can sometimes be a difficult transition for our children. We really enjoyed the support materials from Scripture Union NI for these special sessions.

We have a terrific and dedicated team of teachers and it is an absolute joy to see everyone working so well together in their service to the children and to this ministry.

**Equip**

The aim of EQUIP is prepare young people in the Year 8 - Year 10/11 category for sermons on a Sunday, to understand the basics of the Christian faith and to grow in that understanding to a level that the Sunday sermon won't be difficult to follow and understand but rather is something that becomes a natural extension of their studies in EQUIP.

From April to June the young people finished off our Mustard Seeds study on 10 key doctrines of the Christian Faith which included such topics as:

- What is the Bible?
- What is the Trinity?
- What is Sin?
- What is a Christian?

These studies, along with the others in the series, proved very useful for the young people in grounding them in the core teachings of the Bible and created plenty of discussion, interaction, and questions.

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

---

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

September saw an influx of new young people into Equip to double our numbers with weekly attendance consistent and encouraging. The group dynamic is fantastic with lots of chat, fun, interaction, and friendships being built. The young people have created their own WhatsApp group to encourage and fellowship with each other and we are reliably informed that a verse of the day gets posted each day.

The studies since September have been working through the book of Ephesians using the Mustard Seeds materials and have seen us study topics such as One Plan, One Faith, One People, One Body, One Lifestyle and One Battle. The studies have, as before, been extremely encouraging, challenging and engaging.

Our group of leaders has expanded this year, for which we are very grateful, providing opportunities for different approaches to our studies which for the young people keeps things interesting and varied, but all the while consistent with the teaching materials.

**Ignite**

Ignite began the year with a small group of young people (secondary school age and beyond), yet it has been a privilege to see God working in their lives over the last while. Meeting regularly for Bible Study we have been greatly encouraged as the young people have engaged well in these studies, offering interpretations of the text, and been willing to ask big questions.

This year though has been a year of transition for Ignite. We have been operating with a small group of young people, mostly at the latter end of secondary school, many of them have finished school and moved into university or work. As we consider the years ahead, we have had some encouraging meetings involving a few of the younger young people coming through our church, and it was a blessing to see them getting involved in discussion groups. It has also been a wonderful encouragement to see the growth in our older young people, and it is our prayer that this will continue in the next few years as they transition out of school into whatever avenue they choose to pursue.

**Campaigners**

Every new year brings new opportunities and new challenges. 2023, while following the usual pattern, brought new opportunities to reach young people and their families for the Lord.

The Scripture exam in January saw Clansmen study some of the Miracles that Jesus performed and learn portions of Psalm 100. The Family Service on 12th March saw everyone who took part, receive their reward.

Our thoughts then turned to preparation for the Display with the theme of "Into Orbit." This theme was originally planned for the display of 2020! The Campaigner year drew to a close with a very enjoyable Display with the Awards presented by the Development Officer for Campaigners NI.

The AGM was held in May when plans were made for the 2023-24 session which marks the 40th year of Campaigners in Ballycrochan Baptist Church.

Campaigners resumed in September after the summer break for the 2023-24 session with two major events planned. In October, Ballycrochan played host to Eagles Clans from Bangor Elim and Newtownards Elim and Ballycrochan for the District Eagles' Fun Day. Approximately 35 Eagles enjoyed a variety of activities with Clan 'C' provided by "The Monkey Man".

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

Campaigner Sunday in November was a very special event which marked 40 years of Campaigners at Ballycrochan. The theme was "Jesus is King" and our speaker was the Chairman of Campaigner Council. At the conclusion of the service the birthday cake was cut. Many of the congregation joined for lunch in the church hall; it was lovely to enjoy fellowship with so many visitors. We owe huge thanks to everyone that helped to organise the event.

As 2023 drew to a close, we had the usual round of Christmas parties and our "special visitor" excelled himself. Thank you, Santa.

Thank you to all the Chiefs and Assistant Leaders in Campaigners who give of their times and talents so willingly so that Monday nights can happen. We thank God for the Clansmen in our care and ask for His continuing guidance and wisdom as we face the challenges. We thank God for the opportunities that we have to tell of His saving power.

**Community Service**

In addition to our usual activities, we have continued hosting the NI Blood Transfusion Service at our buildings several times during the year. It has been a great privilege to provide this support to our local community and health service and we look forward to welcoming them again in 2024.

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

"My heart is filled with thankfulness"

As we reflect upon our 41st year as Ballycrochan Baptist Church, we do so with the attitude of gratitude. The Lord has been so good to us, His grace really is sufficient for every need and His faithfulness knows no limit!

One of the encouragements of the past year has been the little signs that God has been working in the lives of a number of people who are not yet believers. It is lovely to see people asking important questions and seeking answers in their lives. Conversations and opportunities continue. We are very thankful for the Friday morning team who engage people in spiritual conversations in our city centre. Please pray that we will see folk coming to faith in Jesus and entering God's family.

Another rich encouragement has been seeing new people coming along to our church. Newcomers have enriched church life and it is lovely to make new friends. Some have been attending our midweek prayer meetings and Small Groups; our times of fellowship around an open Bible are favourite times of the week in church. There is plenty of room for more people to come. It is mutually beneficial to us all.

Our sincere thanks to all who faithfully serve the Lord in lots of different ways within the church family. We are very thankful for the deep sense of unity of heart and purpose that we have at present in Ballycrochan. Let's continue to guard and keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. By this everyone will know that we belong to Jesus!

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 9 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr A Cole - Trustee

**Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108404

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# Annual return

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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
Ballycrochan Baptist Church**

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I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages nine to sixteen.

**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 requirements of 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 Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

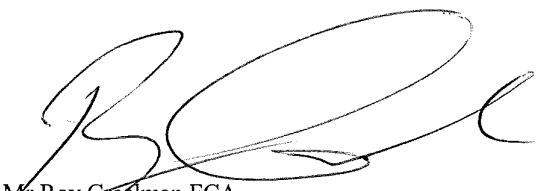
I have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the 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.



Mr Roy Creelman FCA  
Chartered Accountants Ireland  
McIlveen Howard Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
169a Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast  
BT4 3HZ

Date: ..... 9/4/24 .....