



CARRYDUFF
BAPTIST CHURCH

To Know God's Love, To Show God's Love

Trustees' Report

Year ending 31st December, 2023

Information about the Charity

The Name of the Charity

The name of the charity as it appears in the register is **Carryduff Baptist Church**

- Charity no. 108488
- Date registered. 20th June 2022

Principal Address

Carryduff Baptist Church
39 Hillsborough Road
Carryduff
BT8 8HS

Constitution and Trustees

Carryduff Baptist Church is an unincorporated entity operating under a constitution last revised on 24th April 2022.

- That constitution dictates that duly appointed elders of the church shall automatically serve as charity trustees unless they are disqualified by law from doing so [14.2 (a)]. They will automatically relinquish that responsibility on cessation of holding the office of elder [14.2 (b)].
- Elders are proposed by existing elders (or deacons in the absence of elders) and approved or rejected by a Church Business Meeting [13.1].
- Any elder can be removed from office, and so from the position of trustee, by a Church Business Meeting called for the purpose [13].
- Furthermore the constitution makes provision for the elders to propose the appointment of additional trustees if they deem it appropriate. Such proposals are presented to a Church Business Meeting which shall approve or reject such appointments. Trustees so appointed may be removed by a Church Business Meeting. If no elders are in office trustees shall be proposed and approved by a Church Business Meeting [14.2 (c)].
- The Charity Trustees have the power to propose a corporate holding trustee (such as a limited company) to hold the Church's property. Such appointments must be ratified by a Church Business Meeting [14.2 (d)].

The following were trustees on 31st December 2023

- Timothy Edgar Price
- James Gordon Walker

Carryduff Baptist Corporation Ltd (NI019883) is a corporate holding trustee for the church building. The directors as of 31st December 2023 were:

- Desmond Gould
- Timothy Edgar Price

No other persons or entities were trustees during the financial year

The Purpose of the Church

Carryduff Baptist Church exists to advance the Christian faith, by:

- proclaiming the hope of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ;
- offering instructions in Christian doctrine to all who attend, as well as pastoral care and oversight to its members;
- promoting and facilitating the worship of God the Father, in the name of God the Son, through the power of God the Holy Spirit.

Public Benefits

The Church meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefits to its members and the wider, general public by making known the Christian gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of the Christian faith. The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include:

- Eternal salvation and adoption into the family of God through the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- The spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, bringing reconciliation both between human beings and God and between human beings.
- The gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and the Doctrinal Statement of the Church leading to spiritual and moral development and personal growth in the Christian Faith.
- The provision of regular Christian education, helping people to understand, live out, defend and promote the Christian gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need, assistance and comfort to the sick, elderly and bereaved.
- The development of individual abilities and gifts through the engagement of willing volunteers in practical and spiritual service.
- The positive impact on society that comes from the living out of a Christian faith and worldview. The benefits arising from this purpose will be demonstrated through:
 - the number of those attending services, meetings and events and benefiting directly each week from Bible teaching and corporate worship;
 - the leaders and helpers mobilised each week through various programmes and the positive contributions of members within the wider community; and
 - the effective pastoral care supporting both families and individuals. This will be evidenced through regular evaluation and informal feedback from members and those attending our services, meetings and events, their families and the general public within the local community in which the Church operates.

Activities and Achievements

The foundation of our work is the exercise of the ordinary means of grace, that is, meeting together for corporate worship comprising the reading and preaching of God's word, prayer, worship in song, and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. We meet each Sunday morning and most Sunday evenings together with a midweek meeting for prayer on Tuesday nights.

In addition we have our *Lifegroups*: smaller groups meeting in private homes for Bible study, prayer and fellowship. They meet once every three weeks (except for the summer months). These establish closer bonds between the members and adherents of the church and provide more direct support and encouragement.

We provide for our children and young people through *CBC Kids* and *CBC Youth* which meet on Sunday mornings during term time before our morning service to provide Christian instruction and fun together.

Once a month on Wednesday evenings *CBC Club* meets in the building providing games, crafts, and other activities as well as introductory talks on Christianity.

Our sports hall is used for football on Mondays as well as on occasions by:

- *Repair Café* – a local volunteer group which helps people get things fixed to save them from landfill.
- On occasion for vaccination sessions run by Carryduff Surgery
- For the first time this year, the *Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service* for donor sessions

We are actively engaged in local evangelism including door to door outreach over the summer, and special services addressing issues of particular contemporary interest and concern.

We host regular services in the local care and nursing homes – *Carryduff Nursing Home* and *Hollygate Residential Home* – as well as helping to conduct assemblies in the *Carryduff, Carr* and *Millennium Integrated* Primary Schools, as well as *The High School, Ballynahinch*.

At Christmas we hold special Christmas services as well as hosting a special joint carol service in Lough Moss Leisure Centre alongside Carryduff Community Church and Carryduff Presbyterian Church. Choirs from the local primary schools – Carr, Carryduff, and Millennium Integrated – regularly take part and so make the event a part of the school's own celebrations.

We brought the Association of Baptist Churches in Ireland's *Amazing Journey* to Carryduff Primary School, which presents an overview of the biblical storyline and the content of the Christian faith to the pupils in a lively and interactive way.

We also actively support missionary work: particularly CEF in Romania and SIM as well as our own Baptist Missions workers.

In the midst of all of this there is the ongoing pastoral work of visitation, pastoral care, support to those in personal crisis as well as the conduct of funerals and weddings.

Statement

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

Review of the Financial Position at the End of Year

The church is funded by voluntary gifts and donations and use is made of Gift Aid to augment those donations.

The church recorded a net surplus for the year of £21,775

Closing reserves at 31st December 2023 were £45,176

No funds are materially in deficit as of 31st December 2023.

Payments to Trustees

A Pastor is engaged by the church and receives a stipend for his role. We believe this is incidental as this position is necessary to enable the Church to provide the pastoral support required to fulfil the Church's stated purposes.

Payments made are fully disclosed both in the annual accounts of the church and in the annual report to the Commission.

Date and Signature(s)

The Trustees' Report was approved by the Board of Trustees



Trustee

Date: 18th September 2024