

## Trustees' Annual Report

1. CHARITY:- FALKIRK – LARBERT CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

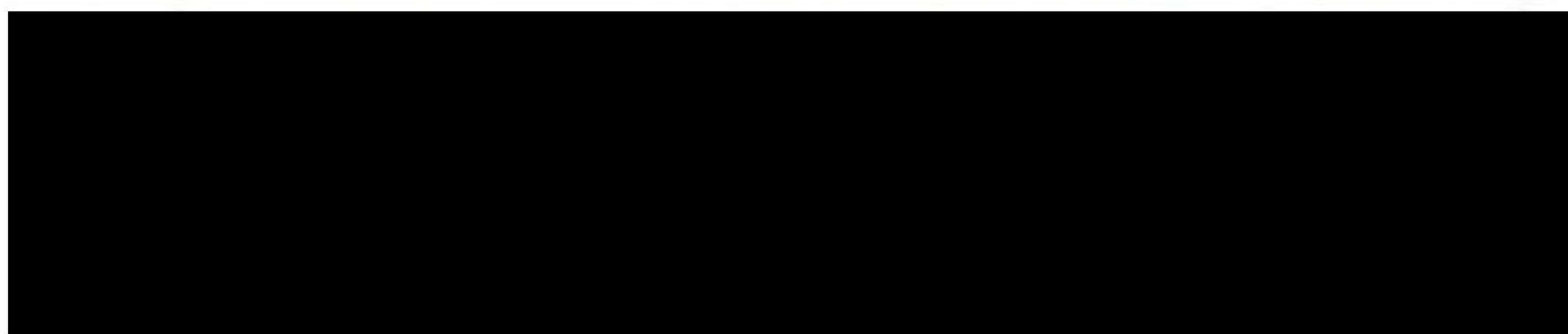
2. ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH, 2024


### LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

3. The Congregation is an unincorporated association originally registered as a religious charity, with Inland Revenue (Scotland) on the basis of a Declaration linking its activities with its parent charity, Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society of Britain, and now operates on the basis of a Constitution adopted on 19 July 2007

4. Registered Charity No. SC007688

5. The Congregation has during the year been administered by the following Trustees, being elders of the Congregation duly appointed pursuant to the directions of the Society and still serving at the date of this report.



 ceased to be a Trustee in November 2023 when he moved to Dunfermline.

New Trustees are selected by the existing Trustees, from the congregation membership, following prayerful consideration of their spiritual qualifications in the light of the Bible. If qualified, the appointment is confirmed by the Christian Congregation of Jehovah's, representing the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses.

6. The registered address of the Congregation is 126 Victoria Road, FALKIRK, FK2 7AX

7. The Congregation's Bank is Lloyds TSB Bank PLC. Tonbridge

8. At the end of the year there were 95 congregation members

9. The Congregation is within the Scotland 5 Circuit of Jehovah's Witnesses

### Objects and Activities

10. The Declaration restricts the operation of the Congregation to religious purposes and limits the use of its assets to such purposes, these being the practice and



advancement of Christianity founded on the Holy Bible. The Congregation is organised on the basis of scriptural precedent and as otherwise recommended by the Society, with which the Congregation is affiliated.

During the year the Congregation has achieved its objectives and continued to pursue its purposes by holding regular twice-weekly meetings for the public worship of God and Bible study. Further, most congregation members have assisted by sharing regularly in preaching the good news of God's Kingdom and teaching principles of Christian living including respect for secular authority, persons and property; the maintenance of personal morality and family values; and other facets of practical Christianity.

#### **Governance**

The affairs of the congregation are managed by the trustees who, as members of the charity, work closely together. Meetings to discuss financial matters are arranged whenever required, being included in the regular religious meetings of the congregation. All major decisions are made by formal resolutions at meetings of congregation members as provided for in the directions from the Society.

The trustees and all other persons engaged in the activities of the Congregation have done so on an entirely voluntary unpaid basis. No expenses or remunerations were paid to Trustees, nor were there any financial transactions between the charity and Trustees, or any person connected to a Trustee.

#### **Review of Year and Financial Developments**

11. The Congregation is funded by voluntary donations made by congregation members and others. It is confirmed that the congregation's accounts comply with the directions of the Society and with the relevant statutory requirements. There are no Notes to the Accounts, all relevant information having been included in this report. During the year donations received have been used to provide facilities for the holding of regular weekly meetings for worship and Bible study and also for the maintenance of the Kingdom Hall. Funds have also been donated to the Society to assist them in carrying out their related religious purposes.

#### Assets and Liabilities

12. At 31/3/24 the total cash assets of the Congregation were as follows:

Cash in Current Accounts: £ 10,184.74

13 These funds are held for the purposes of financing the future activities of the Congregation, including the acquisition/improvement of accommodation for the holding of meetings for worship and Bible study.

14. Property – Kingdom Hall, Victoria Road, FALKIRK held in trust for the Congregation by the service committee as Trustees. Value; £ 130,000 Kingdom Hall contents. Value: £20,000

**Liabilities** are as follows: None other than Kingdom Hall running costs

#### Notable Receipts and Expenses:

15. Of particular significance in the financial affairs of the Congregation during the year was:

- a) The grants of £8,750.00 were approved by Congregation resolutions for the charitable work of associated Charities, were as follows: £8,750.00 to The Society/IBSA to assist with the Worldwide Work Arrangements of Jehovah's Witnesses.



During the year there were donations collected specifically for Watch Tower Society and International Bible Students Association amounting to £961.64 and these were forwarded directly to them.

Since the Kingdom Hall has a self-contained flat attached for the use of the Circuit Overseer and his wife the Scotland No 5 of Jehovah's Witnesses contributed £1,451.42 toward the annual running costs.

In all respects the Congregation continues to co-operate closely with the other duly constituted congregations within the Circuit and with the Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses for the common purpose of advancing Christianity by preaching the good news of God's Kingdom by Jesus Christ.

#### **Internal Controls**

16. Proper controls and procedures are adhered to, so that the monthly financial reports made to the Trustees and the congregation, accurately represent all transactions, are in balance and provide reasonable assurance that finances are being used for their intended purpose. A competent person checks the accounts on a quarterly basis, using guidelines prepared by the Society. The result is announced to the congregation.

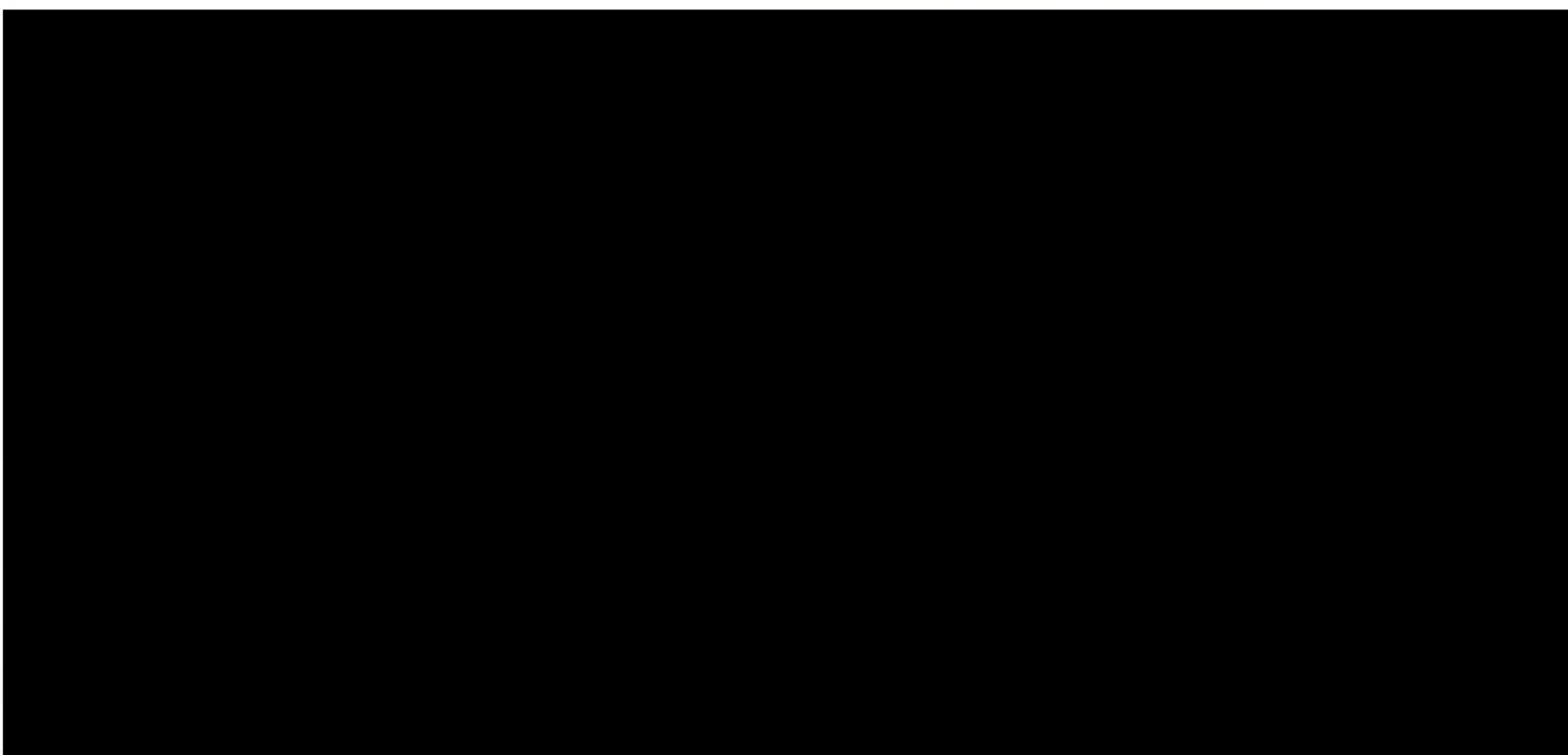
#### **Investment Policy**

17. The Trustees have the power to invest in any way they see fit, but having regard to the soundness of the financial institution, and our Christian principles. Any funds that may be needed in the short term will be invested on that basis.

#### **Reserves Policy**

18. The charity has a consistent income base, through donations from congregation members, some of which is by tax-effective means. Based on this income, we can plan confidently with relatively small reserves. The policy is to ensure that we have free reserves on hand, not designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed, equivalent to not less than three months working expenditure. At the year-end, the free reserves were roughly equal to four months working expenditure.

19. A meeting of the Trustees' was held in person during which this report was read and discussed and approved by the Trustees of the charity on 19/12/24 and signed on its behalf by:



Date 19/12/24