

DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2025 - 2028



Christianity
In Society

www.christianityinsociety.org
contact@christianityinsociety.org

Our mission

The Centre for Christianity in Society exists to
connect Christ with contemporary culture by
explaining Christianity truthfully,
engaging issues thoughtfully and
equipping Christians thoroughly
for the **glory of God** and the **good of all people**.

Our context's need

Across Ireland, north and south, Christians face profound challenges.

Moral attitudes and related laws are changing rapidly.

Christianity is increasingly rejected as a toxic relic of a troubled past.

Many believers lack confidence to share their faith and clarity about making godly decisions.

Church leaders often feel ill-equipped to guide their congregations through cultural complexity.

But Christ is still the answer to people's needs.

Churches and individual Christians need help to respond faithfully and wisely. Few Christian voices speak clearly and compassionately from a biblical perspective and deep roots in the Irish context. We need to explain Christianity truthfully in media outlets and everyday conversations. We need to engage the issues of the day with deep understanding and compassion. We need to equip Christians to live all of life for Christ's glory and share their faith with confidence.

Our response

The Centre for Christianity in Society is a timely and strategic response to Ireland's need.

We are a collaborative group of Christians ...

... with a passion for thinking deeply about our faith in relation to the questions non-Christians ask and the cultural shifts reshaping society.

... inspired by a love for Ireland and its people and a belief that Christ is Lord over all and that he is the greatest need for all people across this island and beyond.

... committed to faithfulness to Christ as revealed in the gospel and the Scriptures and to generous collaboration with all who share our values.

... bringing a unique blend of experience and proven gifting as communicators, theological and other education, and lived commitment to Christ in the Irish context.

Our team is uniquely equipped to:

- explain Christianity faithfully in media and evangelistic settings;
- equip Christians to choose wisely and evangelise confidently; and,
- engage cultural issues with theological depth and pastoral sensitivity.

Church leaders and Christians across denominations and contexts have already seen the value of our contribution. But the need is great, and we can do more with your support.

That's why, in 2021, we registered as a company limited by guarantee and a charity.

It's why, in 2025, we are planning for significant growth over the next three years.

It's why we're asking you to consider partnering with us in our mission.

Join us in connecting Christ with contemporary culture in Ireland and online to see non-Christians evangelised, churches strengthened, and Christ glorified.

Our values

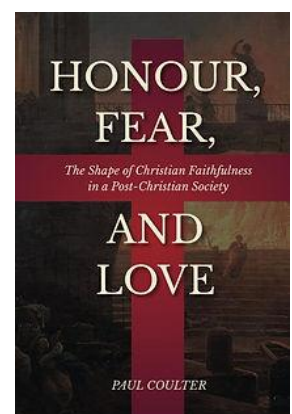
Honour everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the emperor.

1 Peter 2 verse 17

We affirm the core beliefs of the Christian faith (we subscribe to the [Statement of Faith of the World Evangelical Alliance](#)) and work within four values based on 1 Peter 2 verse 17:

- **Fearing God** – as servants of God, we aim for absolute truthfulness in everything we say and integrity in all we do, integrating insights from quality scientific and sociological research with biblical truth.
- **Honouring the authorities** – we seek proper permission to work in any context into which we are invited and aim to help people in authority in the Church and in the world to fulfil their responsibilities well.
- **Honouring everyone** – since every person is created and loved by God, we aim to relate to everyone, irrespective of their beliefs, with truth (honesty and transparency) and grace (humility and sensitivity).
- **Loving the family of believers** – as diversely gifted people from different denominational backgrounds united in God's love, we work collaboratively and inclusively with all individuals, churches or organisations that share our core beliefs and values.

The implications of these values, as explained in 1 Peter, are developed by our Executive Director, Dr Paul Coulter, in his book *Honour, Fear, and Love: The Shape of Christian Faithfulness in a Post-Christian Society*, which we co-published in 2025. It is available to purchase through Amazon.



Our people

OPERATIONS TEAM



Dr Paul B
Coulter
Executive
Director
(voluntary)

A medic, pastor and theologian, Paul coordinates and oversees CCS ministries and Associates



Gareth
Kimpton
Business
Operations
Manager
(voluntary)

A public servant with a Masters in Christian Studies, Gareth oversees practical operations for CCS



Mathew
Thampi
Ministry
Support
Assistant
(voluntary)

A software consultant with over 35 years' experience, Mat assists with ministry support for CCS

DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES



Keith Gardiner
Chair



Arthur Canning



Paul Coulter



Gareth Kimpton

ASSOCIATES / RECOGNISED SPEAKERS



Sarah Coffey
Associate



Michael Shaw
Associate



Tim Houston
Associate



Andy Witherall
Associate



Dr David Glass
Recognised Speaker

Further details about our people and our story are available on our website:

www.christianityinsociety.org/about

Our ministries

Explaining Christianity truthfully

Presenting the Christian faith clearly to seekers and sceptics through:

- **Media comment** on both Christian and mainstream broadcasters.
- **Evangelistic** speaking and catalysing evangelistic events with questions and answers.
- **Understanding Christianity** resources explaining the basics of the faith.
- **First Steps** laying foundations in the faith for new and growing believers.



24 studies exploring the Christian faith for use by individuals or groups

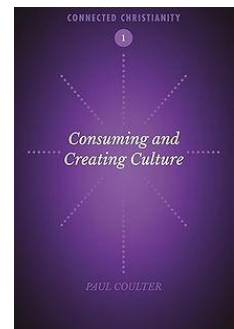
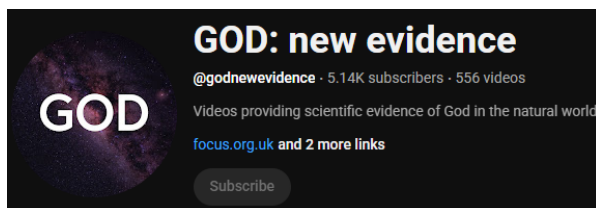


Six weeks of lessons, studies and Bible readings for new and growing believers

Engaging issues thoughtfully

Informed comment on issues impacting society through:

- **Podcast and videos** on big questions and issues, including God New Evidence videos.
- **Online articles** on issues in the news and perennial questions.
- **Connected Christianity** booklets exploring specific issues in depth.
- **Seminars** in churches and conferences on big issues and questions.



Equipping Christians thoroughly

Courses and seminars training Christians in apologetics and ethics, including:

- **Graceful Apologetics** Foundations and Engaging Issues courses
- **Knitted Together**, a seminar on abortion
- **Straight Paths** course laying foundations in ethics and seminars in specific issues
- **Everyday Gospel**, monthly learning community in Belfast equipping on specific issues



Our reach

Between January 2023 and June 2025, we delivered in-person evangelistic talks, training seminars and Bible teaching to an estimated

8,000 people

at events organised by

27 churches, organisations and conferences

including churches from various denominations – Anglican, Baptist, Brethren, Elim Pentecostal, Methodist, Presbyterian and independent –

across Ireland and in 8 other countries

Albania, England, Macedonia, Malaysia, Poland, Romania, Sweden and Switzerland.

In the same period, our online articles had over

5,000 reads

and our online videos had over

69,000 views

with the God New Evidence videos being watched for

2,700 hours

and the channel adding

388 new subscribers.

For all this we thank God, and we pray for His continued work in the lives of those we reached.

The feedback in the Endorsements at the end of this Plan gives some sense of the impact of these activities. However, their true impact is known only to the Lord. We have sought faithfully to sow the seed. It is He who gives the increase.

Our plans for September 2025 – September 2028

Area	At end September 2025	By end September 2026	By end September 2027	By end September 2028
Elevating the work of the Centre				
Volunteers	Executive Director Operations Manager Ministry Support Assistant Associates - 3 in NI	Executive Director Operations Manager Ministry Support Assistant Associates - 4 in NI	Executive Director Operations Manager Ministry Support Assistant Associates – 5 in NI; 2 in Republic	Executive Director Operations Manager Ministry Support Assistant Associates – 6 in NI; 4 in Republic
Employees	Communications (contractor)	Communications (contractor) Lead Apologist 2 days Ministry Support Manager 1 day	Communications (contractor) Lead Apologist 3 days Ministry Support Manager 2 days	Communications (contractor) Lead Apologist 4 days Ministry Support Manager 2 days
Aspirational budget	Salaries £0 Comms £8,000 * Ministry costs £6,000 Office costs £2,000 TOTAL £16,000 * includes contractor fees	Salaries £30,042 Comms £10,000 Ministry costs £8,000 Office costs £2,500 TOTAL £50,542	Salaries £51,811 Comms £11,000 Ministry costs £10,000 Office costs £6,000 * TOTAL £78,811 * increase due to office rental	Salaries £66,242 Comms £12,000 Ministry costs £12,000 Office costs £7,000 TOTAL £97,242
Explaining Christianity truthfully				
Evangelistic events	Invited to 4 events in churches, reaching 300 per year	Invited to 8 events in churches and universities, reaching 600 per year Catalyse 3 'Open to Question' events in neutral venues across NI per year, reaching 60 people	Invited to 12 events in churches and universities, reaching 900 per year Catalyse 6 'Open to Question' events in neutral venues across NI per year, reaching 120 people	Invited to 14 events in churches and universities, reaching 1200 per year Catalyse 9 'Open to Question' events in neutral venues across NI and 3 in RoI per year, reaching 240 people
Evangelistic resources	25,000 God New Evidence video views per year 7 Q&A videos (no viewing stats)	25,000 God New Evidence video views per year 10 Q&A videos – 300 views	25,000 God New Evidence video views per year 15 Q&A videos – 600 views	25,000 God New Evidence video views per year 20 Q&A videos – 1000 views

Area	At end September 2025	By end September 2026	By end September 2027	By end September 2028
	Understanding Christianity online (no stats)	Understanding Christianity print on demand version– 20 engagements	Understanding Christianity – 40 engagements	Understanding Christianity – 60 engagements
Media contributions	Christian radio (UCB and Premier) – 4 times per year Secular media (newspapers, radio) – 2 contributions per year	Christian radio (UCB and Premier) – 6 times per year Secular media (newspapers, radio) – 6 contributions per year	Christian radio (UCB and Premier) – 8 times per year Secular media (newspapers, radio) – 8 contributions per year Train 1 new spokesperson	Christian radio (UCB and Premier) – 12 times per year Secular media (newspapers, radio) – 12 contributions per year
Engaging issues thoughtfully				
Online articles	1 new article on CCS website 2,000 reads per year	9 new articles on CCS website 2,500 reads per year 1 new author	18 new articles on CCS website 3,000 reads per year 1 new author	24 new articles on CCS website 4,000 reads per year 1 new author
Booklets	First Connected Christianity booklet released May 2025	1 further Connected Christianity booklet Sell 50 copies (print and digital)	1 further Connected Christianity booklet Sell 150 copies (print and digital)	1 further Connected Christianity booklet Sell 300 copies (print and digital)
Book	Co-published <i>Honour Fear and Love</i> in May 2025	Co-publish second book – <i>Roots, Shoots and Fruits</i> (on ethics)		Co-publish third book – <i>Gospel Conversations</i> (practical skills)
Podcast	Historic podcast episodes	Monthly podcast episodes with guests from across Ireland 20 subscribers	Fortnightly podcast episodes with guests from across Ireland 120 subscribers	Fortnightly podcast episodes with guests from across Ireland 200 subscribers
Videos	Videos static on website	6 new videos – 50 views	8 new videos – 100 views	10 new videos – 200 views

Area	At end September 2025	By end September 2026	By end September 2027	By end September 2028
Equipping Christians thoroughly				
Courses in Ireland and online	Graceful Apologetics Foundations in person once Graceful Apologetics videos refreshed	Graceful Apologetics Foundations in person once Complete new Graceful Apologetics Foundations videos and handbook Write Roots, Shoots and Fruits Course Rebrand Gospel-Shaped Pastoral Care Course for CCS Gospel-Shaped Pastoral Care Course in person once	Graceful Apologetics Foundations in person twice Graceful Apologetics Foundations online release – 10 purchases Produce Roots, Shoots and Fruits Course videos and handbook and release – 10 purchases Write Graceful Apologetics: Issues Gospel-Shaped Pastoral Care Course in person once Release online Gospel-Shaped Pastoral Care Course – 10 purchases	Graceful Apologetics Foundations in person twice Graceful Apologetics Foundations online – 20 purchases Roots, Shoots and Fruits in person once Roots, Shoots and Fruits online – 20 purchases Produce Graceful Apologetics: Issues videos and handbook Gospel-Shaped Pastoral Care Course in person once Release online Gospel-Shaped Pastoral Care Course – 20 purchases
Seminars in Ireland	Seminars in 5 churches and at 1 conference per year	Seminars in 6 churches and at 2 conferences per year	Seminars in 12 churches and at 3 conferences per year	Seminars in 16 churches and at 4 conferences per year
Overseas	Eastern Europe – 1 trip per year for 1 person	Eastern Europe – 2 trips per year for 1 person	Eastern Europe – 1 trip per year for 1 person and 1 for 2 people	Eastern Europe – 2 trips per year for 2 people
Colleges	Irish Baptist College – ethics Union Theological College – Pastoral Care and Leadership Munster Bible College – ethics KVBC Equip, Malaysia – Ministry	Irish Baptist College – ethics Union Theological College – Pastoral Care and Leadership Munster Bible College – ethics KVBC Equip, Malaysia – Ministry and Ethics	Irish Baptist College – ethics Union Theological College – Pastoral Care and Leadership Munster Bible College – ethics KVBC Equip, Malaysia – Ministry and Ethics	Irish Baptist College – ethics Union Theological College – Pastoral Care and Leadership Munster Bible College – ethics KVBC Equip, Malaysia – Ministry and Ethics
Students		Plan for one-day summer school in 2026 – 10 attending Contribute to two Christian Union programmes	Two-day summer school 2027 – 10 attending Contribute to three Christian Union programmes	Three-day residential summer school 2028 – 15 attending Contribute to four Christian Union programmes

Our partnership needs

Great needs and opportunities for thoughtful gospel contributions in Ireland face us. To respond as we believe God is leading us, we need partners in three areas:

Prayer

We believe nothing of eternal significance happens without prayer. We are seeking faithful prayer supporters who will stay informed about what we are doing and will commit to interceding for us and for those we are seeking to communicate with.

You can subscribe to our prayer updates here: christianityinsociety.org/subscribe

Serving

Most of the work of CCS is done on a voluntary basis. There are three ways you could volunteer:

1. We are seeking additional **Associates** based anywhere in Ireland to speak and write for the Centre. We are keen to connect with anyone based on the island of Ireland with a heart for our ministry and some experience or signs of gifting in these areas.
2. We are also looking for people who can partner with us to run **‘Open to Question’ events**. These are evenings in a relaxed setting at tables with refreshments – ideally in a neutral venue – with a thought-provoking talk followed by time for questions. If you can provide the venue, invite the people, and supply the refreshments, we can provide the speakers.
3. Another way you could volunteer is by helping us with **administration** – that could include designing and circulating publicity materials, editing videos, or helping facilitate events.

To discuss helping in any of these ways, contact us: christianityinsociety.org/contact

Finance

We need financial support to further our mission. Some will come from resource sales and speaker honoraria, but we also need donations from individuals, churches and charitable trusts. If you are passionate about our mission and are able to give, please consider donating.

UK taxpayer can increase the value of their gifts through Gift Aid.

You may also wish to consider leaving a gift to the work of Christianity in Society in your will so that generations to come will hear of Christ and live for his glory.

To find out how to donate, please email us or visit our website: christianityinsociety.org/donate

Endorsements

We have every confidence that the subjects we request help with will be handled with biblical accuracy and contemporary relevance.

Rev John Kirkpatrick, former moderator Presbyterian Church in Ireland

both biblically clear and pastorally sensitive, engaging with current trends and helping us to engage with society in a way that is full of truth, grace and hope.

Pastor Johnny Grant, Carrigaline Baptist Church and Munster Bible College

As a church family, we really benefited from the insight from the Centre for Christianity in Society on reaching out with the good news in today's world. A variety of speakers was helpful, and they were very willing to work with us on achieving our purpose.

Keith McIlwaine, Associate Pastor, Hamilton Road Baptist Church, Bangor

Paul Coulter's grasp of the issues around the value and beginning of life were extremely insightful and he communicated the issues in a manner that was accessible and helpful for the chaplaincy students.

Rev Dave Gray, former Presbyterian Chaplain, Queen's University Belfast

Paul's input each evening was incredibly helpful and stimulating. His insight was informative, his presentation was clear and his ability to address questions was excellent

Pastor David Dunlop, Windsor Baptist Church, Belfast

I was particularly pleased that when addressing a live, sensitive and possibly volatile subject Paul kept the good news of Jesus Christ central.

Davy Ellison, Elder, Antrim Baptist Church, and Director of Studies, Irish Baptist College

Paul did two sessions with us this autumn (he has done many more in the past). The most recent were on "The Sanctity of Life" & "The Certainty of Death". Both were presented very clearly and very helpfully - especially so against a background of the prevalent issues around abortion and assisted dying. Very useful to all and especially to our young people.

Robert Hamilton, Pastoral Worker, Scrabo Hall Church, Newtownards

Dr Paul Coulter has been a great blessing to me and many others through his ministry. His careful application of Biblical truth to significant cultural issues such as abortion and sexuality, has never been more important. Dr Coulter has the ability to communicate in warm, winsome manner, which promotes healthy dialogue and understanding.

Ollie Neill, Youth and Young Adults Worker, Crescent Church, Belfast



Christianity In Society

Connecting Christ with Contemporary Culture

