

THE GATHERING - CARDIFF

England & Wales · Charity number 1168154

Details

Other names	THE GATHERING
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2016-07-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	United Reformed Church Windsor Place Cardiff CF10 3BZ
Phone	029 2022 5190
Email	mail@thegatheringcardiff.org
Website	www.thegatheringcardiff.org

Activities

Objects: The objects of The Gathering (The CIO) are for the public benefit in South Wales, regardless of sexual orientation, gender, ability, age, faith or ethnicity, with a particular focus on the LGBT+ community by providing a secure and safe environment for them:-1) To advance the Christian faith in accordance with our statement of faith attached hereto;and2) The promotion of equality and diversity within faith groups and Churches by:a) The elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance;b) Promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds;c) Providing a safe space to those who have previously encountered discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender varianced) Bridging the gap between Churches and the LGBT+ community by working in partnership with other churches and LGBT+ organisations.Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of The Gathering (the CIO) for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with [Section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005] and [Section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008]

Activities: The Gathering operates to create a safe space for the LGBT community and allies, to learn more about the Christian faith and provides a space for worship following Christian traditions. We also aim to bridge the gap between places of worship and the LGBT community by providing support both to places of worship and to members of the community.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Religious Activities, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN CARDIFF
- Cardiff

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£15,212	£10,333	-	-
2023-12-31	£10,754	£9,169	-	-
2022-12-31	£5,221	£3,467	-	-
2021-12-31	£3,854	£4,924	-	-
2020-12-31	£13,655	£4,740	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev DELYTH ANGHARAD LIDDELL	Chair	2016-03-27
Alison Myfanwy Lintern-Gittens		2020-10-18
David Shepherd		2024-12-15
Dr NICI LINTERN-GITTENS		2016-03-27
Rebecca Westwood		2023-10-22
Rev Ruth Eleri Rowan		2023-09-03

THE GATHERING - CARDIFF

England & Wales - Charity number 1168154

Accounts



The Gathering -
Cardif

2024



Annual Report

1st Jan 2024 - 31st Dec 2024



A Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Registered Charity 1168154
Company Number CE007824

*Established as a Church Community 20th Nov 2011
Registered as a Charity 11th Jul 2016*



Welcome from Pastoral Leaders



Croeso! Welcome!

We give thanks for all that 2024 has brought to The Gathering – Cardiff, and for every person who continues to be part of our journey. Whether you've been with us from the beginning or joined more recently, your presence is a gift.

This year we were proud to launch our short film *Fruits of the Spirit*, created with Iris Prize and led by Georgia Day. The film boldly highlights the discrimination still faced by LGBTQIA+ people in church spaces, and we're excited for the conversations it will inspire. We were also thrilled to welcome a new Administrator at the end of 2024—helping us keep up with the growing number of queries coming through our social media and inboxes. It's a real sign of how far we've come since 2011.

Ruth completed their first full year as part of our Pastoral Leaders team, and we are so thankful for their presence and ministry. We also expanded our Pride presence once again, adding a joyful first-time visit to Merthyr Pride.

Thank you for reading this report and for your continued support of our inclusive, hope-filled community of faith.

With love and gratitude,

Revd Delyth Liddell

Pastoral Leader and Chair of Trustees



Statement of Faith

- We are a church of individuals coming together as one community to explore our faith, worship, and experience fellowship.
- We adhere to the traditional Christian creeds i.e. The Apostle's Creed.
- We believe in Christ's message of love and acceptance for all.
- We believe that everyone has a right to worship God
- We believe we are called to create a safe space for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Questioning, Intersex and Allies to meet and worship God and learn about the Christian faith.
- We believe that Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Questioning, Intersex and Allies have a right to express their sexuality or gender identity how they see fit without being censored or being barred from worship.
- We believe that we should respect those with whom we disagree, and show the love and grace of Christ through our actions and behaviour.

Charitable Objects

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- The elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance;
- Promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds;
- Providing a safe space to those who have previously encountered discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance
- Bridging the gap between churches and the LGBT community by working in partnership with other churches and LGBT organisations.

(Nothing in our constitution shall authorise an application of the property of The Gathering for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with Section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.)



Trustees

Our trustees, including Pastoral Leaders (PLs) at the beginning of the financial year (1st January 2024) were:

- Revd. Delyth Liddell (Chair, PL)
- Gareth Tanswell (Secretary, PL)
- Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens (Treasurer, PL)
- Revd. Ruth Rowan (PL)
- RG* (2019-25)
- Geraint Owen (2019-25)
- Alison Lintern-Gittens (2020-23)
- Becky Bennett-Wilding (2022-25)
- Rebecca Westwood (2023-2026)



**RG's identity has been omitted from this report following granting of a dispensation by the Charity Commission.*

Elections & Resignations

Following an election at our Annual Church Meeting in May 2024, Amy Bowen and Sammy Woodward were elected as trustees. Amy Bowen resigned in October 2024 due to personal reasons. Sammy Woodward resigned in December 2024 as a trustee due to taking on the paid staff role of Administrator for The Gathering.

Due to these resignations, The Gathering opened up elections again and David Shepherd was appointed as a trustee in December 2024.

As at 31st December 2024 our trustees are:

- Revd. Delyth Liddell (Chair, PL)
- Gareth Tanswell (Secretary, PL)
- Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens (Treasurer, PL)
- Revd. Ruth Rowan (PL)
- RG* (2019-25)
- Geraint Owen (2019-25)
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- Becky Bennett-Wilding (2022-25)
- Rebecca Westwood (2023-26)
- David Shepherd (2024-27)



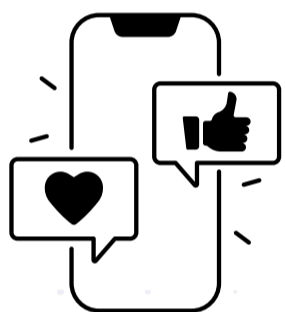
The Admin Stuff



Attendance

Our regular Sunday Evening services throughout 2024 were attended in-person by an average of 22 people each week - a slight increase from last year. There were a total 1124 instances of attendance throughout the year, including at least 64 unique people who are registered with us on ChurchSuite and 30 new people attending for the first time in 2024!

We also continued to livestream all of our weekly services on Facebook throughout 2024.



Social Media Engagement

Through Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, our content was viewed approximately 6,450 times per month in 2024. We also had 1,847 unique visitors to our website throughout this year, with 5,110 page views.



Banking

As of 31st December 2024, The Gathering - Cardiff held cash assets with Unity Trust Bank and PayPal.

Organisational Accountability

As of 31st December 2024, The Gathering - Cardiff holds the following professional registrations:



Charity Commission of England and Wales:	1168154
Information Commissioners Office	IZB410053
Christian Copyright Licencing International:	651680 (<i>Copyright Licence</i>) 187116 (<i>Streaming Licence</i>)
His Majesty's Revenue and Customs:	EW50100



2024 In Review

Services & Socials



Our regular services continued on Sunday Evenings throughout 2024 and we held several special services too, including:

- 2 Eucharist Services
- Dawn Easter service at Barry Beach
- Pride Thanksgiving Service
- Vigil for Palestine
- Trans Day of Remembrance Service
- Christmas Carol Service



We also had several services throughout the year run by members of our community who aren't Pastoral Leaders.



*TDOR Service -
24th Nov 2024*



*Gathering Crafted items
at Pride*

Live Worship music returned to The Gathering in 2024 too, with four services (including the Carol Service) in which our worship band played! We also held 6 social events - 4 craft socials, 1 movie night, and 1 trip to Winter Wonderland). And to enable more people come to The Gathering who live a little further afield or for whom travelling in to central Cardiff is a challenge, we introduced travel subsidies!



Pride Season

In 2024, The Gathering attended 5 Prides in total, including Pride Cymru, where we continue to run the Faith Space throughout the pride weekend! The other Prides we attended were:

- Big Queer Picnic (Cardiff)
- Barry Pride
- Caerphilly Pride
- Merthyr Pride



Swansea Pride



Staffing

In December, The Gathering hired Sammy on a part time freelance basis as an Administrator. They quickly got to work organising our file storage and email systems and we look forward to the work they will do in 2025.

Georgia also continued their good work as LGBTQI+ Community Link Worker throughout 2024 with a focus on the short film 'The Fruits of the Spirit'.



*Sammy -
Administrator*



Fruits of the Spirit Short Film

In 2024, things really took off with our community short film 'Fruits of the Spirit'! We had a very successful premiere for the film at Chapter Arts Centre, which saw hundreds of people pack out the cinema to watch the film and a Q&A afterwards. We had a wonderful time, raised lots of money to go towards the film's festival journey, and had lots of free wine courtesy of Iris!



Soon afterwards, we had a few more relaxed screenings in and around Cardiff for those who couldn't attend the big one, and started submitting to film festivals! While we still have a few festival decisions pending, the festival journey of 'Fruits of the Spirit' is almost at an end - but we have seen our little film be screened across the world in the UK, US, Spain, and India! We submitted to festivals across 25 countries (with a focus on UK and LGBTQ+ festivals). As of December 2024, we had received one honourable mention, one award, one finalist position, and four official selections!

We also designed a training session with a corresponding workbook in order to start taking FotS around churches that want to be more inclusive to LGBTQ+ people. These training sessions use the film as a vehicle for discussion as we talk about LGBTQ+ inclusivity in church spaces, and is suitable for use in any denomination or tradition. It's geared particularly towards allies and churches who aren't sure about their next steps to becoming inclusive and affirming to LGBTQ+ people, and we are super proud of the resource and the potential that it has to make churches a safer place for our community.



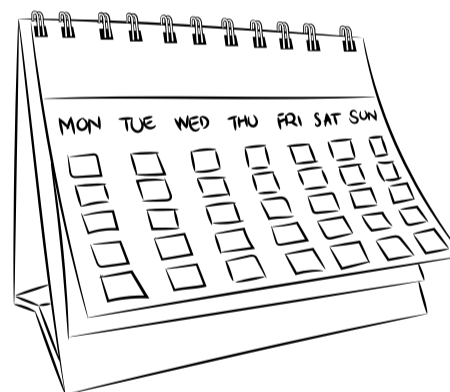
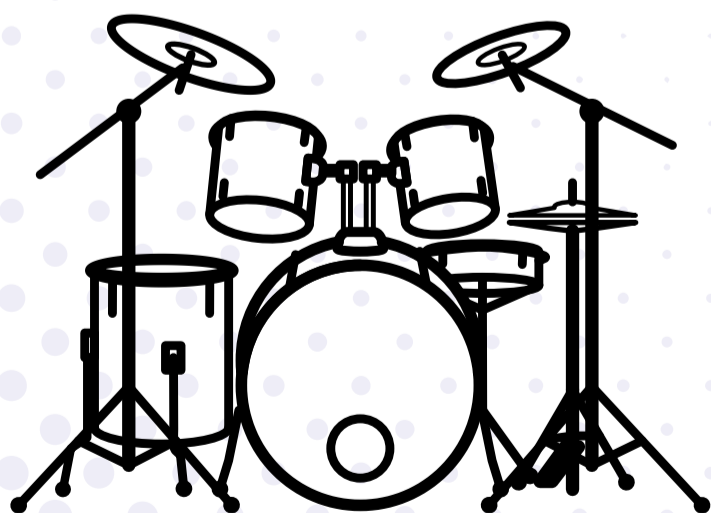
Looking Forward to 2025

Pride Season

In 2025 we are aiming to go to 5 Prides throughout Pride Season, including Pride Cymru and 4 other smaller, community prides. 2025 will also mark the 10th Anniversary of the Faith Space at Pride Cymru, which we continue to run and are very excited to be part of at this important anniversary!

Queer Theology 101

The Gathering is revamping our Queer Theology 101 course this coming year! This course provides people with a starter on queer theology and how to read the Bible from a queer and affirming lens. We first ran this course in early 2023 and had lots of positive feedback from the participants, so we're excited to revamp the material and run the course again!



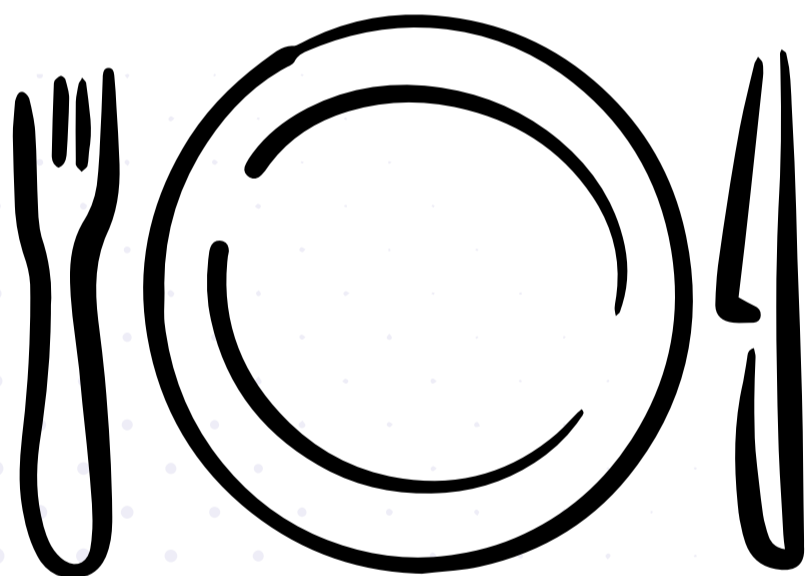
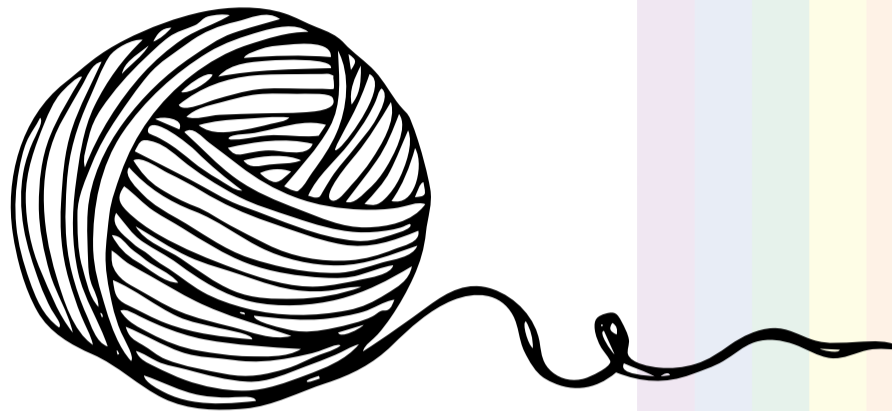
Live Worship

We are aiming to have live worship in one service every month throughout this next year. We're grateful for all the volunteers in our worship band for their hard work.



Craft Socials

Alongside having live worship once per month, we are also aiming to run our craft socials once per month, which provide a relaxed and sober environment for people to socialise and be creative. We often use these as a way for us to create the community's resources for Pride, including the posters and placards we use in the marches, and the crocheted freebies for our stalls and the Faith Space.



Shared Meals

We have also begun having shared meals before our Sunday evening service, which we're aiming to do once a month in 2025. These are free meals provided for our community and take us back to our roots as sharing meals together was a key part of our very earliest meetings over a decade ago. These meals provide a warm and welcoming space for everyone to come in fellowship together.

Website Updates

Alongside their other responsibilities, our administrator is going to be working hard on updating the website pages, including information about the new socials and providing more detail for new people about how accessible our venue is and what the services are like.



Ways You Can Contribute To The Work of The Gathering

We are always glad of any support that people can offer us, whether that be through prayer, fellowship, joining in with us on a Sunday evening, or giving financially to help to fund our work. Here are a few methods that you can contribute to our work financially.



Credit/Debit & MyChurchSuite

You can make one-off or regular donations by Credit/Debit Card or Direct Debit using our MyChurchSuite platform.



PayPal & PayPal Giving Fund

We have a PayPal account which can receive payments by sending the payment to **mail@thegatheringcardiff.org**

Or we are partnered with PayPal Giving Fund who also claim Gift Aid through their donations

<https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3233746>



Facebook

We are registered on the Facebook Donate platform, so anyone can begin a fundraiser there to raise money for The Gathering – Cardiff.



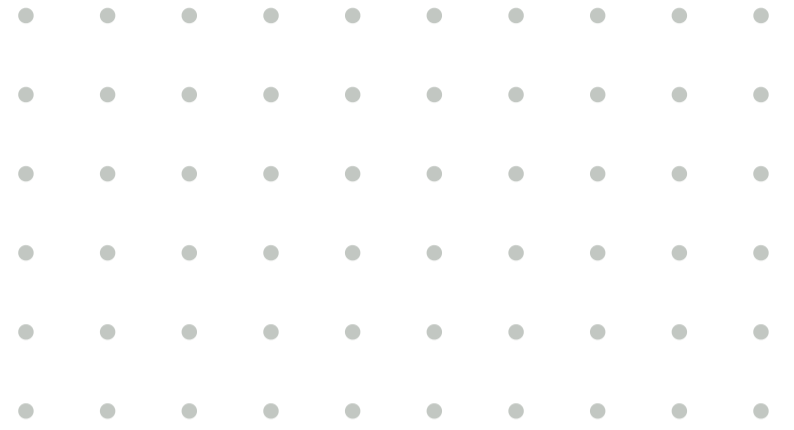
Charities Aid Foundation

We are also registered with the Charities Aid Foundation where you can donate online or using a CAF Voucher.



The Gathering -
Cardiff

2024



Annual Accounts

1st Jan 2024 -
31st Dec 2024



A Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Registered Charity 1168154
Company Number CE007824

*Established as a Church Community 20th Nov 2011
Registered as a Charity 11th Jul 2016*



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01.01.24	To	Period end date 31.12.24
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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 £
A1 Receipts					
Direct Giving	11,507	-	-	11,507	6,176
Donation	1,243	-	-	1,243	65
Facebook	-	-	-	-	94
Gift Aid	2,313	-	-	2,313	4,069
Amazon Smile Donations	-	-	-	-	37
Donations (Paypal)	-	-	-	-	313
FotS Training	150	-	-	150	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	15,212	-	-	15,212	10,754
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	15,212	-	-	15,212	10,754
A3 Payments					
Website Fees	688	-	-	688	-
PAYE Software Fees	127	-	-	127	89
Salary	4,866	-	-	4,866	5,134
General Gathering Expenses	129	-	-	129	35
Streaming Licences	270	-	-	270	-
LGBT+ Worker Equipment and Expenses	572	489	-	1,061	442
Churchsuite	414	-	-	414	414
Pride	1,143	-	-	1,143	890
Paypal Spending	-	-	-	-	220
Paypal fees	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	-	-	-	-	700
HMRC Payments	440	-	-	440	103
Fruits of the Spirit Project	418	-	-	418	700
Service Charges	71	-	-	71	37
DBS Checks	108	-	-	108	146
SMS Credits	-	-	-	-	63
Insurance	159	-	-	159	159
Case for Microphone	-	-	-	-	-
Training	439	-	-	439	38
Sub total	9,844	489	-	10,333	9,169
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Mevo Camera and Case	423	-	-	423	-
Laptop and Cables	661	-	-	661	-
iPad and Case	382	-	-	382	-
Sub total	1,465	-	-	1,465	-
Total payments	11,310	489	-	11,798	9,169
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,903	- 489	-	3,414	1,586
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	13,659	527	-	14,186	-
Cash funds this year end	17,562	38	-	17,600	1,586

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 £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Balance (Barclays/Unity)	16,893	38	-
	Paypal Balance	669	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds <small>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</small>	17,562	38	-
		OK	OK	OK



Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Leaflet Holders	Unrestricted	£38.00	£0.00
	Computer Monitor	Unrestricted	£20.00	£0.00
	TV	Unrestricted	£190.00	£78.00
	TV Stand	Unrestricted	£125.00	£57.00
	Laptop	Unrestricted	£400.00	£0.00
	Projector	Unrestricted	£230.00	£86.00
	Sound System	Unrestricted	£269.00	£0.00
	Cables	Unrestricted	£95.00	£18.98
	Projector Stand	Unrestricted	£126.00	£41.20
	Mevo Live Camera (and accessories)	Restricted	£572.00	£363.17
	Pod Cast Microphone	Restricted	£85.97	£37.39
	Wifi Router	Unrestricted	£125.00	£74.99
	Laptop	Unrestricted	£0.00	£0.00
	iPad	Unrestricted	£381.58	£381.58
	Mevo and Case	Unrestricted	£422.81	£422.81
Laptop 2	Unrestricted	£660.76	£660.76	

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	None		-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Nici Lintern-Gittens	31-Mar-25
	Rebecca Westwood	31-Mar-25

THE GATHERING - CARDIFF

England & Wales - Charity number 1168154

Accounts



The Gathering - Cardiff

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity 1168154

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Annual Report 2023

For the period between 1st January 2023 and 31st December 2023

Welcome from our Pastoral Leaders

Croeso! Welcome! We are so grateful to all the folks who have been a part of the journey of the Gathering over the last ten years, and to you now, for taking the time to read this report which celebrates all that has been achieved by the Gathering in 2023.

The Gathering began in November 2011, gathering together a small group of people who longed for the church to be accepting of all, and who were looking for a safe space to worship God regardless of our sexuality or gender identity. We met for the first time at City United Reformed Church in Cardiff and have met every Sunday evening since, growing in numbers and in influence within the LGBTQI+ community in South Wales and beyond.

As an LGBTQI+ focused and inclusive church, we are known for being a key partner in LGBTQI+ projects and have assisted other churches in their desire to become inclusive spaces of LGBTQI+ people. Our growing online presence offers YouTube™ videos and podcasts with talks on being LGBTQI+ and Christian and our website has become a resource for LGBTQI+ Christians and church leaders.

The Gathering has four volunteer Pastoral Leaders from various Christian backgrounds and denominations. They lead the weekly acts of worship and are available to the congregation and others to provide pastoral support. During 2023 we had 2 members of staff working for us, a Church Link Worker, who was responsible for making links between the wider church and the Gathering and supporting church leaders in making their churches more inclusive, and an LGBTQI+ Community Link Worker who was appointed initially on placement by the Methodist Church in September 2022 for one year but who is now employed directly by The Gathering – Cardiff.

We thank you for being a part of our journey, and for your support in reading this annual report.

Revd Delyth Liddell
Pastoral Leader and Chair of Trustees



L-R: G Tanswell, Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens, Revd. Delyth Liddell, Revd. Ruth Rowan.

Who are our trustees?

Our trustees at the beginning of the financial year (1st January 2023) were (*in order of date of appointment*):

- Revd. Delyth Liddell (*Chair, Pastoral Leader*)
- Gareth Tanswell (*Secretary, Pastoral Leader*)
- Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens (*Treasurer, Pastoral Leader*)
- Samuel Johnston (*Deputy Chair, Pastoral Leader*)
- RG* (*2019-25*)
- Geraint Owen (*2019-25*)
- Rosie Peters (*2020-23*)
- Fred Till (*2020-23*)
- Alison Lintern-Gittens (*2020-23*)
- Becky Bennett-Wilding (*2022-25*)

*RG's identity has been omitted from this report following granting of a dispensation by the Charity Commission.

Three resignations were received during 2023, all for personal reasons, these were: Fred Till (eff. 30th March 2023), Samuel Johnston (eff. 20th July 2023) and Rosie Peters (eff. 6th August 2023).

Revd. Ruth Rowan became a Pastoral Leader on 3rd September 2023, and accepted an ex-officio position as a trustee.

Following consultation during 2022, it was agreed that due to the COVID-19 outbreak, our existing elected trustees at that time hadn't had an opportunity to contribute as much as they would have liked to the growth of our organisation, and so it was agreed that all elected trustees would exceptionally be offered an additional 3-year term should they choose to take that up. The only remaining trustee in this year's cohort affected by that policy decision was Alison Lintern-Gittens, who has opted to remain in post for another term, and therefore her term of office was extended until 2026.

Following an election at our Annual Church Meeting, Rebecca Westwood was elected as a trustee from 22nd October 2023 for a 3-year term.

As at 31st December 2022 our trustees are (*in order of date of appointment*):

- Revd. Delyth Liddell (*Chair, Pastoral Leader*)
- Gareth Tanswell (*Secretary, Pastoral Leader*)
- Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens (*Treasurer, Pastoral Leader*)
- Revd. Ruth Rowan (*Pastoral Leader*)
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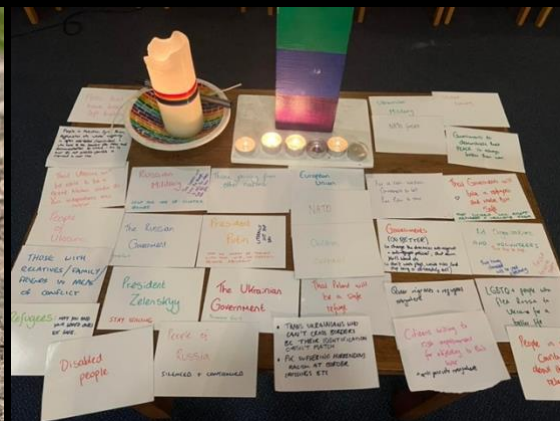


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- promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds;
- Providing a safe space to those who have previously encountered discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance
- bridging the gap between churches and the LGBT+ community by working in partnership with other churches and LGBT organisations.

(Nothing in our constitution shall authorise an application of the property of The Gathering for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with Section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.)



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- We adhere to the traditional Christian creeds i.e. The Apostle's Creed.
- We believe in Christ's message of love and acceptance for all.
- We believe that everyone has a right to worship God
- We believe we are called to create a safe space for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Questioning, Intersex and Allies to meet and worship God and learn about the Christian faith.
- We believe that Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Questioning, Intersex and Allies have a right to express their sexuality or gender identity how they see fit without being censored or being barred from worship.
- We believe that we should respect those with whom we disagree, and show the love and grace of Christ through our actions and behaviour.

Let's get some admin out of the way...

Attendance

During 2023, The Gathering – Cardiff continued to offer weekly worship in-person and with options for online attendance and interaction.

Each of our Sunday evening services was attended by an average of 19 people, a slight increase from last year, meaning that we provided the opportunity for people to worship and explore their faith for a total of 104 hours, with 1025 in-person attendances during 2023. In addition to this, as each of our Sunday evening services is also live streamed to our Facebook page, a further 508* views of our Sunday services occurred during 2023.

In addition, we held socials, Queer Theology 101 sessions, the Pride Cymru Faith Tent or our weekly online Bible Studies.

*only Facebook views of more than 1 minute are counted for this statistic

Social Media Engagement

Through our Facebook™, Twitter™, Instagram™ and YouTube™, we reached over 4,500 users per month during 2023.

Banking

During 2023, The Gathering – Cardiff opened an account with Unity Trust Bank to operate as our main bank account. Our account at Barclays Bank was subsequently closed during the same accounting year.

As of 31st December 2023, The Gathering – Cardiff held cash assets with:

- PayPal
- Unity Trust Bank

In addition to this, a sum of money representing the balance from the closure of our Barclays Bank account was held in the form of a cheque, which has since been deposited.

Organisational Accountability

As of 31st December 2023, The Gathering - Cardiff hold the following professional registrations:

Charity Commission of England and Wales: 1168154

Information Commissioners Office: ZB410053

Christian Copyright Licencing International: 651680 (Copyright Licence)

187116 (Streaming Licence)

His Majesty's Revenue and Customs: EW50100

What did we do during 2023?

Queer Theology 101

In 2023, Georgia Day created and delivered the Queer Theology 101 course where topics such as the history of sodomy, the structure and content of Genesis and the gender and sexuality of Jesus were explored. 87 people signed up to the course with a regular class size of between 10-30 people at the URC each week where these engaging sessions were delivered. These were also live streamed to Facebook and for those unable to attend, the materials were sent out.

Throughout the year, a wealth of resources has also been posted on Facebook every Wednesday each with different faith based themes.

Queer Book Club and Bible Study

In March, the Queer Book Club was started with the first book, 'Undivided', selected as the first one up for discussion. Since then, other titles such as 'Heartstopper' and 'The Journey is Home' have been read and discussed by the group.

In addition to this, one of our Pastoral Leaders Nici has been leading an online Bible study which has provided the opportunity to explore the Bible in more depth and discuss this with others.

Socials

Socials continued to take place throughout the year with games nights at Scaredy Cats, going to see one of the Iris Prize films, 'The Queen of My Dreams' and a visit to Winter Wonderland.



Podcasts

A new series of the Gathering Podcast was launched in 2023 and included conversations around the different elements of Pride along with interviews with MS Hannah Blythyn and Jayne Ozanne who amongst other things, discussed politics, faith and the fight for a ban on conversion therapy.

Pride



In 2023, the Gathering had a presence at Newport, Swansea, Merthyr and Caerphilly Pride along with the Big Queer Picnic and the Faith Tent at Pride Cymru. By asking the question "Can you be a Christian and LGBTQ+?", we had some great conversations, questions and debates with those who came to put a pom-pom in the jar! The Faith Tent provided a reflective space away from the busyness of the other Pride activities going on and the opportunity to sit and do some craft and chat. Thanks to a great collaborative effort from those who volunteered, we were able to engage with communities from across Wales and highlight the message that you can be LGBTQ+ and a Christian.



Filmed 'Fruits of the Spirit'

During a hot July weekend, filming took place for the short film 'Fruits of the Spirit' which was funded by the Iris Prize Festival. Written and directed by Georgia Day, this film focuses on the protagonists, Maddy and Carys, who get outed to their church worship band and their journey to finding acceptance amongst religious intolerance.



Worship

In a bid to move away from using worship songs in our services that are written / performed / produced by unaffirming artists, Sammy Woodward and Georgia Day began overhauling the playlists to include many new additions. New lyric videos have been created and more suggested artists are being added as our ongoing commitment to providing inclusive worship.

In December 2023, some members went carolling on Queen Street which was in addition to the Carol Service held at the Church where mince pies and mulled wine were served.

New Roles

In 2023 Samuel Johnston stepped down as Pastoral Leader; the support, time and leadership that Sam has provided over the years has been greatly valued by the Gathering.

In September we welcomed Revd. Ruth Rowan to the Pastoral Leadership team. We are excited to work with Ruth and welcome her talents and gifts to The Gathering leadership!

Looking forward to 2024

We've got a lot to look forward to in 2024! Firstly, the premiere of our short film, 'Fruits of the Spirit', has been scheduled for Jan 13th at Chapter Arts Centre. Expect glitz, glam, a brilliant film, and even a magician! We are also hoping to do other local screenings: the URC, Gower Heritage Centre, and elsewhere. We're super excited by the potential of this film to do great things.

Speaking of the film, we're currently submitting it to film festivals across the world, where it'll hopefully be seen by lots of people. Who knows, we may even win some awards! We're also developing a resource pack to use in churches as part of a training session, in order to help local churches become more inclusive and affirming.

Also in 2024 will be our upcoming music project! We're currently on the hunt for some funding, but the general idea is this: as part of our efforts to update our worship music to be from affirming artists, we thought that we could write some worship music! This project will be led by Frances Bolley and Sammy Woodward, with support from Georgia Day. We want to make 4 songs of varying genres and topics, with as much community involvement as possible throughout the process.

We will also be going to various Prides as usual – Pride Cymru on June 22nd and 23rd and Swansea Pride on May 18th have both been confirmed already.

We will also be reviving the podcast soon! We've planned a few series: one revolving around 'Fruits of the Spirit', one interview series, and one ecumenical question and answer series (e.g. Ask An Anglican).

Ways you can contribute to our work

We are always glad of any support that people can offer us, whether that be through prayer, fellowship, joining in with us on a Sunday evening, or giving financially to help to fund our work. Here are a few methods that you can contribute to our work financially.



PayPal
Giving Fund

You can make one-off or regular donations by Credit/Debit Card or Direct Debit using our MyChurchSuite platform.

We have a PayPal account which can receive payments by sending the payment to mail@thegatheringcardiff.org

Or we are partnered with PayPal Giving Fund who also claim Gift Aid through their donations. <https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3233746>



We are registered on the Facebook Donate platform, and so anyone can begin a fundraiser there to raise money for The Gathering – Cardiff.



We are registered with the Charities Aid Foundation where you can donate online or using a CAF Voucher.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name The Gathering Cardiff	No (if any) 1168154
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CC16a


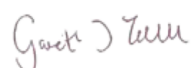
Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01.01.23	To	Period end date 31.12.23
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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 £
A1 Receipts					
Direct Giving	6,176	-	-	6,176	2,744
Donation	65	-	-	65	1,804
Clothing (Paypal)	-	-	-	-	261
Facebook	94	-	-	94	-
Gift Aid	4,069	-	-	4,069	15
Amazon Smile Donations	37	-	-	37	55
Donations (Paypal)	313	-	-	313	97
Paypal starting balance for 2022	-	-	-	-	245
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	10,754	-	-	10,754	5,221
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	10,754	-	-	10,754	5,221
A3 Payments					
Website Fees	-	-	-	-	38
PAYE Software Fees	89	-	-	89	101
Salary	5,134	-	-	5,134	856
General Gathering Expenses	35	-	-	35	35
Streaming Licences	-	-	-	-	-
LGBT+ Worker Equipment and Expenses	442	-	-	442	416
Churchsuite	414	-	-	414	198
Clothing	-	-	-	-	802
Pin Badges	-	-	-	-	317
Pride	890	-	-	890	677
Paypal Spending	220	-	-	220	21
Paypal fees	-	-	-	-	5
Donations	700	-	-	700	-
HMRC Fine	103	-	-	103	-
Fruits of the Spirit Project	700	-	-	700	-
Service Charges	37	-	-	37	-
DBS Checks	146	-	-	146	-
SMS Credits	63	-	-	63	-
Insurance	159	-	-	159	-
Case for Microphone	38	-	-	38	-
Sub total	9,169	-	-	9,169	3,467
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Wifi Router and Data SIM Card	-	-	-	-	125
Sub total	-	-	-	-	125
Total payments	9,169	-	-	9,169	3,592
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,586	-	-	1,586	1,630
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	12,073	527	-	12,600	10,970
Cash funds this year end	13,659	527	-	14,186	12,600

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 £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Balance (Barclays/Unity)	12,990	527	-
	Paypal Balance	669	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	13,659	527	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Leaflet Holders	Unrestricted	£38.00	£0.00
	Computer Monitor	Unrestricted	£20.00	£0.00
	TV	Unrestricted	£190.00	£92.00
	TV Stand	Unrestricted	£125.00	£65.49
	Laptop	Unrestricted	£400.00	£0.00
	Projector	Unrestricted	£230.00	£103.99
	Sound System	Unrestricted	£269.00	£115.70
	Cables	Unrestricted	£95.00	£28.47
	Projector Stand	Unrestricted	£126.00	£51.80
	Mevo Live Camera (and accessories)	Restricted	£572.00	£415.37
	Pod Cast Microphone	Restricted	£85.97	£53.58
	Wifi Router	Unrestricted	£125.00	£99.99
	Laptop	Unrestricted	£0.00	£0.00
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Nici Lintern-Gittens	11-Apr-24	
		Gareth Tanswell	11-Apr-24	

THE GATHERING - CARDIFF

England & Wales - Charity number 1168154

Accounts



The Gathering - Cardiff

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity 1168154

Company Number CE007824

Established as a Church Community 20th November 2011.

Registered as a Charity 11th July 2016

Annual Report 2022

For the period between 1st January 2022 and 31st December 2022

Welcome from our Pastoral Leaders

Croeso! Welcome! We are so grateful to all the folks who have been a part of the journey of the Gathering over the last ten years, and to you now, for taking the time to read this report which celebrates all that has been achieved by the Gathering in 2022.

The Gathering began in November 2011, gathering together a small group of people who longed for the church to be accepting of all, and who were looking for a safe space to worship God regardless of our sexuality or gender identity. We met for the first time at City United Reformed Church in Cardiff and have met every Sunday evening since, growing in numbers and in influence within the LGBTQI+ community in South Wales and beyond.

As an LGBTQI+ focused and inclusive church, we are known for being a key partner in LGBTQI+ projects and have assisted other churches in their desire to become inclusive spaces of LGBTQI+ people. Our growing online presence offers YouTube™ videos and podcasts with talks on being LGBTQI+ and Christian and our website has become a resource for LGBTQI+ Christians and church leaders.

The Gathering has four volunteer Pastoral Leaders from various Christian backgrounds and denominations. They lead the weekly acts of worship and are available to the congregation and others to provide pastoral support. We also have a Church Link Worker, who is responsible for making links between the wider church and the Gathering and supporting church leaders in making their churches more inclusive, as well as a further group of trustees who support the work of the gathering in many ways. An LGBTQI+ Community Link Worker was appointed in September 2022 for one year and more on their work below.

We thank you for being a part of our journey, and for your support in reading this annual report.

Revd Delyth Liddell
Pastoral Leader and Chair of Trustees



L-R: Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens, Samuel Johnston, Revd. Delyth Liddell, G Tanswell.

Who are our trustees?

Our trustees at the beginning of the financial year (1st January 2022) were *(in order of date of appointment)*:

Revd. Delyth Liddell (*Chair, Pastoral Leader*)
Gareth Tanswell (*Secretary, Pastoral Leader*)
Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens (*Treasurer, Pastoral Leader*)
Iain Scott (*Pastoral Leader*)
Samuel Johnston (*Pastoral Leader*)
RG* (*2019-22*)
Geraint Owen (*2019-22*)
Rosie Peters (*2020-23*)
Fred Till (*2020-23*)
Alison Lintern-Gittens (*2020-23*)

**RG's identity has been omitted from this report following granting of a dispensation by the Charity Commission.*

Iain Scott resigned as a Pastoral Leader and Trustee effective 1st April 2022.

Following consultation, it was agreed that due to the COVID-19 outbreak, our existing elected trustees hadn't had an opportunity to contribute as much as they would have liked to the growth of our organisation, and so it was agreed that all current elected trustees would exceptionally be offered an additional 3-year term should they choose to take that up. Of the 2 remaining trustees whose term would have ended in 2022, both opted to remain a trustee, and therefore their term of office was extended until 2025. Following an election at our Annual Church Meeting, Becky Bennett-Wilding was elected as a trustee from 16th October 2022 for a 3-year term.

Samuel Johnson was also elected to the role of Deputy Chair of the Trustees.

As at 31st December 2022 our trustees are *(in order of date of appointment)*:

Revd. Delyth Liddell (*Chair, Pastoral Leader*)
Gareth Tanswell (*Secretary, Pastoral Leader*)
Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens (*Treasurer, Pastoral Leader*)
Samuel Johnston (*Deputy Chair, Pastoral Leader*)
RG* (*2019-25*)
Geraint Owen (*2019-25*)
Rosie Peters (*2020-23*)
Fred Till (*2020-23*)
Alison Lintern-Gittens (*2020-23*)
Becky Bennett-Wilding (*2022-25*)



Our charitable objects

The objects of The Gathering - Cardiff are for the public benefit in South Wales, regardless of sexual orientation, gender, ability, age, faith or ethnicity, with a particular focus on the LGBT+ community by providing a secure and safe environment for them to advance the Christian faith in accordance with our statement of faith; and the promotion of equality and diversity by:

- the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance;
- promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds;
- Providing a safe space to those who have previously encountered discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance
- bridging the gap between churches and the LGBT+ community by working in partnership with other churches and LGBT organisations.

(Nothing in our constitution shall authorise an application of the property of The Gathering for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with Section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.)



Our Statement of Faith

- We are a church of individuals coming together as one community to explore our faith, worship, and experience fellowship.
- We adhere to the traditional Christian creeds i.e. The Apostle's Creed.
- We believe in Christ's message of love and acceptance for all.
- We believe that everyone has a right to worship God
- We believe we are called to create a safe space for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Questioning, Intersex and Allies to meet and worship God and learn about the Christian faith.
- We believe that Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Questioning, Intersex and Allies have a right to express their sexuality or gender identity how they see fit without being censored or being barred from worship.
- We believe that we should respect those with whom we disagree, and show the love and grace of Christ through our actions and behaviour.

Lets get some admin out of the way...

Attendance

During 2022, The Gathering – Cardiff continued to offer weekly worship in-person and with options for online attendance and interaction.

Each of our Sunday evening services were attended by an average of 18 people, meaning that we provided the opportunity for people to worship and explore their faith for a total of 104 hours for 965 attendees during 2022. This is excluding the work that was done in the Faith Tent or in our inclusive Bible Studies.

Social Media Engagement

Through our Facebook™, Twitter™, Instagram™ and YouTube™, we reached over 4,500 users per month during 2022.

Banking

As of 31st December 2022, The Gathering – Cardiff held cash assets with:

- Barclays Bank Plc
- PayPal

Organisational Accountability

As of 31st December 2022, The Gathering - Cardiff hold the following professional registrations:

Charity Commission of England and Wales: *1168154*

Information Commissioners Office: *ZB410053*

Christian Copyright Licencing International: *651680 (Copyright Licence)*
187116 (Streaming Licence)

His Majesty's Revenue and Customs: *EW50100*

What did we do during 2022?

We spent the year in hybrid worship, attempting to balance the needs of those who could only meet online and those who were back in person. This we did using Zoom™ and our Mevo™ cameras which showed what was happening in the room. The sound quality was not the best and we experienced many technological glitches, especially with the worship songs, but we persevered because we felt that it was important to keep the links with the online community.

Accessibility has always been at the forefront of our thinking and, when the upper room of the City URC became inaccessible due to the building's lift being out of action, we moved the worship into the church sanctuary. While this changed the location of the worship, the style and format remained the same. With an open, relaxed feel to the worship, people who attend can feel at home to engage with as little or as much of the service as they choose. They are invited to sit or stand for the worship hymns, to sing or not to sing, to listen to the discussions or to take part fully. Online, the Zoom™ breakout rooms had the same feel, with folks being welcome to take part in the discussion or simply listen. Many of those attending The Gathering will have had experiences of going to churches where they were 'made' to sing or do things that they were not necessarily comfortable with, and indeed may have caused trauma, so enabling people to engage with the worship on their terms is particularly important to us.

Our weekly services covered topics such as, *'How can we see God more clearly in our lives?'* and other topics that centred around discipleship, reflections on The Church of England's Lambeth Conference of 2022 which discussed human sexuality, and following the church year including Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas. We held a Good Friday walk, reflecting on the stations of the cross, to Llandaff Cathedral and we took part in carol singing in the city centre at Christmas. We also reflected on key events going on the world around us, including praying for Ukraine as the war broke out there in February 2022 and upon the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022. We held a service, as we do every year, for Transgender Day of Remembrance in November. One of the highlights of the worship during the year was the baptism of one of our members, who had come to a place of wanting to make a commitment to God through his attendance at The Gathering. We were also privileged to welcome Brandan Robertson as a guest speaker, online from Washington DC. Brandan is a renowned Christian LGBTQI speaker and author and a great friend of The Gathering.

The support of the members from The Gathering has always been crucial to the work that we do, and the opportunity to finally be able to claim Gift Aid on donations has meant that we have been able to use further financial resources. We invested in ChurchSuite™, an app that helps enormously with our administration, enabling us to keep in touch with our members, organise rotas for all that people offer to do (eg supporting with the technology and leading worship), note our attendance figures and channel any donations.

Early in 2022, we launched our podcast series, 'The Gathering at 10 years' reflecting on our ten years of existence and speaking to different members of The Gathering about their faith and journey as an LGBTQ+ Christian. Then, towards the end of the year, we ran another series 'Queer and Christian,' which focused on issues such as homophobia and transphobia, conversion therapy, church-based discrimination and HIV stigmatisation with a guest appearance from Rev Jide Macauley.

Pride season was on us before we knew it, and with representation at Pride Cymru in Cardiff, Pride in the Port in Newport and Barry Pride we were pleased to be able to support each of them. The Faith Tent at PrideCymru was back after the pandemic and we filled it with Messy Pride activities for children and used posters with QR codes linking to the videos of our members talking about being LGBTQI+ and Christian. The conversations that we had with Pride-goers were fantastic, as they were at both Barry Pride and Pride in the Port where we had stalls, and we were able to show people that you can indeed be LGBTQI+ and Christian, and that they are loved and valued.

In April, we said goodbye and thank you to one of our Pastoral Leaders, Iain Scott, who had been with us from the beginning, and in September, we were delighted to appoint our full-time member of staff, an LGBTQI+ Community Link Worker, Georgia Day. This position was a one year project, in partnership with, and with funding provided by, The Methodist Church. Georgia quickly got to work, organising socials for The Gathering community, reaching out to the LGBTQI+ community, and pitching an idea for a community film to Iris Prize which began a partnership with Iris to write, film and produce a film about the challenges of being LGBTQI+ and Christian. This film will be filmed and edited in 2023 and will hopefully be ready for a premiere in November 2023.

Looking forward to 2023

Georgia, our LGBTQI+ Community Link worker, is already working hard on developing a Queer Theology 101 course for those who want to delve deeper into the theology of being LGBTQI+ and Christian, and is in the process of writing the developing the script for the Iris film, due to be filmed and produced in 2023. The work of the podcasts, socials, and general worshipping life of The Gathering continues, as does our involvement with Prides in South Wales. We are excited about what we can achieve this year with a full-time member of staff and are looking forward to 2023.

Ways you can contribute to our work

We are always glad of any support that people can offer us, whether that be through prayer, fellowship, joining in with us on a Sunday evening, or giving financially to help to fund our work. Here are a few methods that you can contribute to our work financially.



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Giving Fund

You can make one-off or regular donations by Credit/Debit Card or Direct Debit using our MyChurchSuite platform.

We have a PayPal account which can receive payments by sending the payment to mail@thegatheringcardiff.org

Or we are partnered with PayPal Giving Fund who also claim Gift Aid through their donations. <https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3233746>



We are registered on the Facebook Donate platform, and so anyone can begin a fundraiser there to raise money for The Gathering – Cardiff.



We are registered with the Charities Aid Foundation where you can donate online or using a CAF Voucher.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name The Gathering Cardiff	No (if any) 1168154
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CC16a

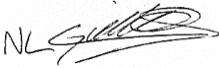
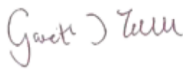
Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01.01.22	To	Period end date 31.12.22
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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 £
A1 Receipts					
Direct Giving	2,744	-	-	2,744	2,402
Donation	1,804	-	-	1,804	100
Clothing (Paypal)	261	-	-	261	-
Facebook	-	-	-	-	270
Gift Aid	15	-	-	15	-
Amazon Smile Donations	55	-	-	55	82
Grant (Arnold Clarke)	-	-	-	-	1,000
Donations (Paypal)	97	-	-	97	-
Paypal starting balance for 2022	245	-	-	245	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	5,221	-	-	5,221	3,854
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	5,221	-	-	5,221	3,854
A3 Payments					
Website Fees	38	-	-	38	-
PAYE Software Fees	101	-	-	101	101
Salary	856	-	-	856	2,470
General Gathering Expenses	35	-	-	35	50
Gathering Online Conference	-	-	-	-	2,100
Streaming Licences	-	-	-	-	117
LGBT+ Worker Equipment and Expenses	416	-	-	416	-
Churchsuite	198	-	-	198	-
Clothing	802	-	-	802	-
Pin Badges	317	-	-	317	-
Pride	677	-	-	677	-
Clothing (Paypal)	21	-	-	21	-
Paypal fees	5	-	-	5	-
Sub total	3,467	-	-	3,467	4,838
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Wifi Router and Data SIM Card	125	-	-	125	-
Pod Cast Microphone	-	-	-	-	86
Sub total	125	-	-	125	86
Total payments	3,592	-	-	3,592	4,924
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,630	-	-	1,630	- 1,070
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	10,443	527	-	10,970	11,675
Cash funds this year end	12,073	527	-	12,600	10,605

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 £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Balance (Barclays)	11,496	527	-
	Paypal Balance	577	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	12,073	527	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Leaflet Holders	Unrestricted	£38.00	£0.00
	Computer Monitor	Unrestricted	£20.00	£0.00
	TV	Unrestricted	£190.00	£106.00
	TV Stand	Unrestricted	£125.00	£73.99
	Laptop	Unrestricted	£400.00	£0.00
	Projector	Unrestricted	£230.00	£121.99
	Sound System	Unrestricted	£269.00	£137.60
	Cables	Unrestricted	£95.00	£37.96
	Projector Stand	Unrestricted	£126.00	£62.40
	Mevo Live Camera (and accessories)	Restricted	£572.00	£467.56
	Pod Cast Microphone	Restricted	£85.97	£69.78
	Wifi Router	Unrestricted	£125.00	£125.00
	Laptop	Unrestricted	£0.00	£0.00
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Nici Lintern-Gittens	29-Aug-23	
		Gareth Tanswell	29-Aug-23	

THE GATHERING - CARDIFF

England & Wales - Charity number 1168154

Accounts



The Gathering - Cardiff

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity 1168154

Company Number CE007824

Established as a Church Community 20th November 2011.

Registered as a Charity 11th July 2016

Annual Report 2021

For the period between 1st January 2021 and 31st December 2021

Welcome from our Pastoral Leaders

Croeso! Welcome! We are so grateful to all the folks who have been a part of the journey of the Gathering over the last ten years, and to you now, for taking the time to read this report which celebrates all that has been achieved by the Gathering, particularly in 2021, our tenth anniversary year.

The Gathering began in November 2011, gathering a small group of people who longed for the church to be accepting of all, and who were looking for a safe space to worship God regardless of our sexuality or gender identity. We met for the first time at City United Reformed Church in Cardiff and have met every Sunday evening since, growing in numbers and in influence within the LGBTQI+ community in South Wales and beyond.

As an LGBTQI+ focused and inclusive church, we are known for being a key partner in LGBTQI+ projects and have aided other churches in their desire to become inclusive spaces of LGBTQI+ people. Our growing online presence offers YouTube videos with talks on being LGBTQI+ and Christian and our website has become a resource for LGBTQI+ Christians and church leaders.

The Gathering has five volunteer Pastoral Leaders from various Christian backgrounds and denominations. They lead the weekly acts of worship and are available to the congregation and others to provide pastoral support. We also have a Church Link Worker who is responsible for making links between the wider church and the Gathering and supporting church leaders in making their churches more inclusive, as well as a further group of trustees who support the work of the gathering in many ways.

We thank you for being a part of our journey, and for your support in reading this annual report.

Revd Delyth Liddell
Pastoral Leader and Chair of Trustees



L-R: Revd. Delyth Liddell, Samuel Johnston, G Tanswell, Iain Scott, Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens.

Who are our trustees?

Our trustees at the beginning of the financial year (1st January 2021) were *(in order of date of appointment)*:

Revd. Delyth Liddell *(Chair, Pastoral Leader)*
Gareth Tanswell *(Secretary, Pastoral Leader)*
Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens *(Treasurer, Pastoral Leader)*
Iain Scott *(Pastoral Leader)*
Samuel Johnston *(Pastoral Leader)*
RG* *(2019-22)*
Geraint Owen *(2019-22)*
Kara Williams *(2019-22)*
Rosie Peters *(2020-23)*
Fred Till *(2020-23)*
Alison Lintern-Gittens *(2020-23)*

**RG's identity has been omitted from this report following granting of a dispensation by the Charity Commission.*

No additional trustees were appointed during 2021, but Kara Williams resigned as a trustee from 19th May 2021.

As of 31st December 2021, our trustees are *(in order of date of appointment)*:

Revd. Delyth Liddell *(Chair, Pastoral Leader)*
Gareth Tanswell *(Secretary, Pastoral Leader)*
Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens *(Treasurer, Pastoral Leader)*
Iain Scott *(Pastoral Leader)*
Samuel Johnston *(Pastoral Leader)*
RG* *(2019-22)*
Geraint Owen *(2019-22)*
Rosie Peters *(2020-23)*
Fred Till *(2020-23)*
Alison Lintern-Gittens *(2020-23)*

Our charitable objects

The objects of The Gathering (The CIO) are for the public benefit in South Wales, regardless of sexual orientation, gender, ability, age, faith or ethnicity, with a particular focus on the LGBT+ community by providing a secure and safe environment for them: -

To advance the Christian faith in accordance with our statement of faith and
The promotion of equality and diversity by:

the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance;
promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds;
Providing a safe space to those who have previously encountered discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance
bridging the gap between churches and the LGBT community by working in partnership with other churches and LGBT organisations.

Nothing in our constitution shall authorise an application of the property of The Gathering for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with Section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

What did we do during 2021?

Worship

2021 was the height of the global Covid-19 pandemic. At the beginning of 2021, our zoom congregation was growing, following the original format of the Gathering with opening worship songs and prayers, an introduction to a bible passage and a group discussion. This was working very well on zoom, with lively discussion and a growing community, including those who were exploring Christianity for the very first time and coming to faith. We had members attending now from across the UK as well as those who were more local to Cardiff.

As the year progressed and covid restrictions were lifted, the trustees faced the dilemma of how to go back to in person meetings, while keeping our weekly online meetings. We began to assess our ability to meet in person in line with the covid restrictions of the time, which still prevented singing in church. We recognised the necessity to ensure we knew who was attending each week and therefore began using Eventbrite as a ticket system, along with risk assessments, ensuring that there was sufficient social distancing within the venue, adjusting the way that we did refreshments, and that personal protective equipment like masks were available so that people could feel comfortable and safe in our gatherings.

We knew that this was a massive change to the culture of our in-person gatherings, where previously people had been able to come along anonymously and were now being asked to share their details for track and trace. The trustees felt the responsibility of ensuring that we were complying and yet also delivering an authentic Gathering experience. It was also important for us to remain hybrid because of the online community that had been built, including those who are not local to us whom we didn't want to lose. We therefore had to sort out the technological difficulties, including video links and sound, to provide a valuable experience to our community whether they joined us online or in person. We were finally able to start meeting in person again (*in a hybrid capacity*) in October 2021.

Pride in Marriage

Our Church Link Worker, Helen, had worked hard on the online Inclusive Conference of 2020 and we were keen to build on this work. Given the continued Covid restrictions, we used her videography skills to build several videos talking to LGBTQI+ people about their marriages and held a Pride in Marriage online day Conference. The couples talked about why it was important to them to get married in church at a time when some churches (e.g., The Methodist Church and the Church in Wales) were discussing allowing same-sex weddings in their churches.

PrideCymru

PrideCymru was again online this year due to the pandemic. The Gathering ran an online Faith Tent and included videos from the Pride in Marriage conference, along with a new video on being "Muslim and Marriage" as well as a panel discussion on Conversion Therapy.

Website

The website has had a refresh during this year and includes links to many of the videos that have been produced through the Inclusive Conference project and the Pride in Marriage project. It also now includes a section on 'what to expect' when you come to The Gathering and other added resources.

Ten Year Anniversary

In November 2021 we celebrated our ten-year anniversary with a service at The Gathering and a conversation with members sharing stories of how we all started and what we have done in the past ten years. This was a wonderful time of celebration. We were able to present all those present with a 10-year anniversary pin badge, which was an adaptation of our logo. This new logo is now being used in our online presence. We are thrilled to have celebrated a wonderful ten years and look forward to the future with expectation and hope.

Looking forward to 2022

We already have several projects in the pipeline for 2022. A team of the trustees are working towards launching a Podcast sharing the stories of some of the people from the Gathering and we hope that this will be available in the early part of 2022. We have also applied to The Methodist Church for funding for a LGBTQI Community Link worker as a part of their One Leadership Programme for people aged 18 – 30 years old. We hope that this means that we will have a new full-time member of staff to engage with the LGBTQI community in post for September 2022.

Ways you can contribute to our work

We are always glad of any support that people can offer us, whether that be through prayer, fellowship, joining in with us on a Sunday evening, or giving financially to help to fund our work. Here are a few methods that you can contribute to our work financially.



PayPal
Giving Fund

You can give by
Credit/Debit Card or
Standing Order using our
MyChurchSuite platform.

We have a PayPal account which
can receive payments by sending
the payment to
mail@thegatheringcardiff.org

Or we are partnered with PayPal
Giving Fund who also claim Gift
Aid through their donations.
[https://www.paypal.com/gb/
fundraiser/charity/3233746](https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3233746)



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

We are registered on the Facebook
Donate platform, and so anyone can
begin a fundraiser there to raise
money for The Gathering – Cardiff.

Or a handy way to contribute towards the work of The
Gathering without costing you a penny is to use the
Amazon Smile link when shopping with Amazon. Just go
to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> and select 'The Gathering
- Cardiff' as your chosen charity.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name The Gathering Cardiff	No (if any) 1168154
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CC16a

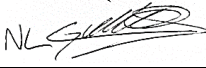
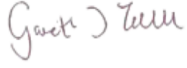
Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01.01.21	To	Period end date 31.12.21
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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 £
A1 Receipts					
Direct Giving	2,402	-	-	2,402	2,649
Donation	100	-	-	100	1,150
Clothing	-	-	-	-	25
Facebook	270	-	-	270	1,011
LGBT+ Future Intersections Fund	-	-	-	-	1,060
National Lottery Grant	-	-	-	-	7,590
Amazon Smile Donations	82	-	-	82	50
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	120
Grant (Arnold Clarke)	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	3,854	-	-	3,854	13,655
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
None	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	3,854	-	-	3,854	13,655
A3 Payments					
Website Fees	-	-	-	-	38
PAYE Software Fees	101	-	-	101	92
Salary	517	1,953	-	2,470	2,939
General Gathering Expenses	50	-	-	50	80
Gathering Online Conference	-	2,100	-	2,100	730
Donations for Aids Ribbons	-	-	-	-	32
Streaming Licences	-	117	-	117	256
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	668	4,170	-	4,838	4,168
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Mevo Live Camera & Accessories	-	-	-	-	572
Podcast Microphone	-	86	-	86	-
Sub total	-	86	-	86	-
Total payments	668	4,256	-	4,924	4,168
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,186	- 4,256	-	- 1,070	9,487
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	7,257	4,783	-	12,040	2,188
Cash funds this year end	10,443	527	-	10,970	11,675

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 £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Balance	10,443	527	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	10,443	527	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Leaflet Holders	Unrestricted	£38.00	£0.00
	Computer Monitor	Unrestricted	£20.00	£5.00
	TV	Unrestricted	£190.00	£120.00
	TV Stand	Unrestricted	£125.00	£82.49
	Laptop	Unrestricted	£400.00	£80.00
	Projector	Unrestricted	£230.00	£139.99
	Sound System	Unrestricted	£269.00	£159.50
	Cables	Unrestricted	£95.00	£47.45
	Projector Stand	Unrestricted	£126.00	£73.00
	Mevo Live Camera (and accessories)	Restricted	£572.00	£519.76
	Pod Cast Microphone	Restricted	£85.97	£85.97
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Nici Lintern-Gittens	16-Oct-22	
		Gareth Tanswell	16-Oct-22	

THE GATHERING - CARDIFF

England & Wales - Charity number 1168154

Accounts



The Gathering - Cardiff

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity 1168154

Company Number CE007824

Established as a Church Community 20th November 2011.

Registered as a Charity 11th July 2016

Annual Report 2020

For the period between 1st January 2020 and 31st December 2020

Welcome from our Pastoral Leaders

Croeso! Welcome! We are so thrilled to be here celebrating the ninth year of our existence as a growing Church community here in Cardiff, and thank you for taking the time to read this report which celebrates all that has been achieved during 2020 (even amidst the pandemic), and looks forward to what we aim to achieve together in 2021.

The Gathering started as a seed of an idea, some people with common values and principles, and a longing for the church to be accepting of all, who just wanted to be able to worship together in a safe space without fear of judgement. And that's just what we did, on 20th November 2011 we met for the first time at City United Reformed Church in Cardiff, and we enjoyed our safe little gathering so much that we decided to come back the following week, and then the following week... you get the jist!

From that seed, our little Gathering has grown into a church with strong roots which is recognised across South Wales, the UK and even beyond. As well as being an LGBTQI+ focussed and inclusive church that meets on a weekly basis, we are also known as being a key partner LGBTQI+ organisation within South Wales, as well as being recognised by leaders from multiple faiths from across the UK.

We have a growing online presence, with some of our YouTube content having some significant audiences, and are proud that our website has become a resource for LGBTQI+ Christians across South Wales and beyond.

The Gathering has 5 volunteer Pastoral Leaders from various Christian backgrounds. We lead The Gathering's weekly acts of worship, and are also available to our congregation to provide pastoral support.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with us!



L-R: Revd. Delyth Liddell, Samuel Johnston, G Tanswell, Iain Scott, Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens.

Who are our trustees?

Our trustees at the beginning of the financial year (1st January 2020) were *(in order of date of appointment)*:

Revd. Delyth Liddell *(Chair, Pastoral Leader)*
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Iain Scott *(Pastoral Leader)*
Samuel Johnston *(Pastoral Leader)*
RG* *(2019-22)*
Geraint Owen *(2019-22)*
Kara Williams *(2019-22)*

**RG's identity has been omitted from this report following granting of a dispensation by the Charity Commission.*

The following additional trustees were appointed following a consultative open vote with the congregation of The Gathering at our Annual Church Meeting/Annual General Meeting on Sunday 18th October 2020: Rosie Peters, Fred Till, Alison Lintern-Gittens

As at 31st December 2020 our trustees are *(in order of date of appointment)*:

Revd. Delyth Liddell *(Chair, Pastoral Leader)*
Gareth Tanswell *(Secretary, Pastoral Leader)*
Dr Nici Lintern-Gittens *(Treasurer, Pastoral Leader)*
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Our charitable objects

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To advance the Christian faith in accordance with our statement of faith and

The promotion of equality and diversity by:

the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance;
promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds;
Providing a safe space to those who have previously encountered discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender variance
bridging the gap between churches and the LGBT community by working in partnership with other churches and LGBT organisations.

Nothing in our constitution shall authorise an application of the property of The Gathering for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with Section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

What did we do during 2020?

The first part of 2020 was business as usual. We met weekly on a Sunday evening for worship at City United Reformed Church, Cardiff, to whom we are extremely grateful for allowing us to use the space at no cost. These acts of worship were open and accessible to all, using inclusive language, and encouraging free discussion and interpretation of Christian principles and biblical texts. With a growing congregation, we were pleased to baptise a further three of our members in a service held in _____.

The Gathering were excited to again partner with St Teilo's Church in Wales High School to deliver a week of assemblies for their 'Pride Week' which coincided with LGBT History Month in February 2020. This gave us the unique opportunity to be heard by young people and for them to understand that there is acceptance for all within the wider Church, and crucially, that it is ok to be LGBTQI+ and Christian and that safe spaces such as The Gathering do exist.



We featured in a BBC Wales News item in February 2020 about gay Christians. Members of the Gathering were interviewed about their beliefs and their experiences of being LGBTQI+ and in church. This was a great opportunity to highlight the work that we are doing within the Church.

In March 2020, the UK went into lockdown due to the Coronavirus pandemic. This necessitated a different way of working and we began to meet weekly on Zoom on a Sunday night. These gatherings on zoom remained open and accessible to all, as we invited anyone who wished to join us to contact us for the zoom code. Over the course of the year, we continued to meet and worship on zoom, following our usual format of sung worship (using streamed music videos), prayer and discussion on Christian principles and biblical texts. The benefit of meeting on zoom meant that we were now able to welcome people to join from their own homes, wherever they live, and we now have attendants of the Gathering who live across the UK, and Europe.

We realised the need to support the Gathering community pastorally during this time, and were able to organise weekly zoom quizzes as well as pastoral conversations with individuals over zoom at the height of the first lockdown.

The poster is for 'The Gathering Cardiff's INCLUSIVE CONFERENCE ONLINE'. It features a large rainbow diagonal stripe on the left side. The text 'Let's talk inclusivity!' is written in a smaller font. Below this, there are five circular portraits of speakers: Luke Dowding, Sarah Jones, Augustine Ihm, Sam McBratney, and Roy Jenkins. At the bottom, it says '18th - 24th OCTOBER' and 'To find out more, visit: www.TheGatheringCardiff.org'. There is also a small icon of a house with a heart inside.

We had big plans for 2020, including organising an Inclusive Conference which was due to take place in person, in Cardiff, in July 2020. We had secured Lottery Funding and other grants for this Inclusive Conference, which was designed to help churches and other faith communities to make their organisations more accessible and inclusive to the LGBTQI+ community. In June 2020, we made the decision to postpone the Inclusive Conference due to the continued pandemic lockdown, and to arrange an online Inclusive Conference on the 24th October 2020. The Conference featured speakers from our partner organisations including One Body One Faith and Dignity and Worth, workshops on how to become an inclusive church and a panel discussion featuring members of The Gathering talking about what it means to be LGBTQI+ and Christian. The sessions, including live Q&A's, were posted onto our Facebook page and had thousands of views. We were very excited about this conference which falls within our aims to bridge the gap between churches and the LGBTQI+ community.



Our Church Link Worker, Helen Capelin, was responsible for organising the Inclusive Conference as a part of her role in bridging the gap between the LGBTQI+ community and the wider church. Helen's role is part-time; she was appointed in 2019 and continues to be funded by the Lottery Grant and donations to the Gathering. We are very grateful for Helen and her talents in film-making and graphic design skills, particularly given the move from an in-person conference to an online conference.

As a community working across intersectionality, we made a statement in June 2020, in the light of the murder of George Floyd. As a leadership, we posted a video on our Facebook page, that highlighted the need to confront racism wherever we see it and committed us to exploring issues of black identity within our own community, including celebrating Black History Month in October.

We partnered with LGBTQymru to provide a Wales wide virtual Pride in July 2020 and took part in panel discussions. With Pride Cymru moving to a Big Online Weekend in August, The Gathering again partnered with Pride Cymru and the Diocese of Llandaff to provide online material for the event. This included a short film about the Gathering and an act of worship.

Looking forward to 2021

With the success of our Inclusive Conference, we are working towards holding more online conferences, focussing on different aspects of inclusion. We hope to hold a "Pride in Marriage" conference, with films about our members' experiences of being LGBTQI+, married and Christian. We hope that these films will become a resource for those churches and faith organisations considering the marriage of same-sex couples. This venture falls within our aims to bridge the gap between churches and the LGBTQI+ community.

Ways you can contribute to our work

We are always glad of any support that people can offer us, whether that be through prayer, fellowship, joining in with us on a Sunday evening, or giving financially to help to fund our work. Here are a few methods that you can contribute to our work financially.



You can give by Standing Order or bank transfer to our bank account.
Sort Code: **20-18-15**
Account: **70801062**
The Gathering - Cardiff



We have a PayPal account which can receive payments by sending the payment to
mail@thegatheringcardiff.org



Or we are partnered with PayPal Giving Fund who also claim Gift Aid through their donations.
<https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3233746>



We are registered on the Facebook Donate platform, and so anyone can begin a fundraiser there to raise money for The Gathering – Cardiff.



Or a handy way to contribute towards the work of The Gathering without costing you a penny is to use the Amazon Smile link when shopping with Amazon. Just go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> and select 'The Gathering - Cardiff' as your chosen charity.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
The Gathering Cardiff

No (if any)
1168154

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01.01.20	To	Period end date 31.12.20
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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 £
A1 Receipts					
Direct Giving	2,649	-	-	2,649	838
Donation	1,150	-	-	1,150	1,610
Clothing	25	-	-	25	168
Facebook	1,011	-	-	1,011	329
LGBT+ Future Intersections Fund	-	1,060	-	1,060	-
National Lottery Grant	-	7,590	-	7,590	-
Amazon Smile Donations	50	-	-	50	-
Miscellaneous	120	-	-	120	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	5,005	8,650	-	13,655	2,945
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
None	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	5,005	8,650	-	13,655	2,945
A3 Payments					
Faith Tent	-	-	-	-	401
Website Fees	38	-	-	38	84
Gathering Clothing	-	-	-	-	655
Barry Pride	-	-	-	-	20
PAYE Software Fees	92	-	-	92	14
Salary	630	2,309	-	2,939	1,100
General Gathering Expenses	80	-	-	80	455
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	60
Gathering Online Conference	-	730	-	730	-
Donations for Aids Ribbons	32	-	-	32	-
Streaming Licences	-	256	-	256	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	872	3,295	-	4,168	2,789
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Mevo Live Camera & Accessories	-	572	-	572	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	572	-	572	-
Total payments	872	3,867	-	4,740	2,789
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,133	4,783	-	8,915	156
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	3,124	-	-	3,124	2,032
Cash funds this year end	7,257	4,783	-	12,039	2,188

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
CCXX R1 accounts (SS)				31/10/2021

	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds			
Bank Balance	7,257	4,783	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Total cash funds	7,257	4,783	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
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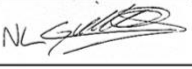
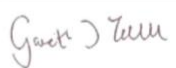
B2 Other monetary assets	Details		
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Leaflet Holders	Unrestricted	£38.00	£7.63
Computer Monitor	Unrestricted	£20.00	£8.00
TV	Unrestricted	£190.00	£134.00
TV Stand	Unrestricted	£125.00	£91.00
Laptop	Unrestricted	£400.00	£144.00
Projector	Unrestricted	£230.00	£158.00
Sound System	Unrestricted	£269.00	£181.00
Cables	Unrestricted	£95.00	£57.00
Projector Stand	Unrestricted	£126.00	£84.00
Mevo Live Camera (and accessories)	Restricted	£572.00	£572.00

B5 Liabilities	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Nici Lintern-Gittens	31-Oct-21
	Gareth Tanswell	31-Oct-21