

TRANSFORM.CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1199160

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-05-31

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 82 Nene Parade
March
PE15 8TA

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Email info@transform.church

Website www.transform.church

Activities

Objects: THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH ARE:3.1.1 THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION. 3.1.2 THE CHURCH MAY ALSO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND CARRY OUT OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND/OR OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Activities: Transform.Church is an online expression of Baptist mission and ministry. It seeks to offer a digital trellis that inspires and equips missional disciples across the UK who are committed to seeing God's kingdom come in four dimensions (with God, with people, with the planet and with themselves) and in two directions (inwardly by application in their own life and outwardly by sharing with others).

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£3,063	£655	-	-
2023-12-31	£1,712	£89	-	-
2022-12-31	£0	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alice Emily Cheeseman		2023-09-07
Eleanor Kelsey		2023-09-07
Hannah Ruth Fleming-Hill		2023-09-07
Rev Nathan Paul Toseland		2026-04-13
Rev Simon Leigh Goddard		2022-05-31

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transform.church
Annual Report 2024

Overview

transform.church is a pioneering digital church affiliated with the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB). It was established to explore how to express Christian community and discipleship in a fully online environment. There was a formative focus throughout 2024, as we refined our identity, discerned our calling, and sought to lay firm foundations in governance, safeguarding, community life, and ministry.

Vision and Objectives

transform.church exists to be a vibrant digital community rooted in discipleship, hospitality, and innovation. Our gatherings and activities are designed to cultivate authentic Christian connection online and empower people to be missional disciples wherever they are.

In 2024, the leadership team spent a significant period of time in discernment and strategic reflection. As the year concluded we reached an agreed vision and missional strategy which is shaped around an online platform, a training hub and missional communities.

Activities and Achievements

1. Gatherings and Discipleship

- We experimented during the year with different ways of gathering, as a group of trustees, and with a few others who have been keen to journey with us.
- Alongside our strategic gatherings, we settled on a pattern of low-preparation relational gatherings focused on reflection, accountability, and mutual encouragement.
- A 'Coffee Bar' space was launched on a Sunday, and during the year these were incorporated into our midweek pattern of meetings to enable informal connection and deepen community.

2. Governance and Structure

- Monthly trustee meetings were held to ensure good governance.
- Efforts to ensure data protection compliance were ongoing throughout the year and we transitioned to using Google Workspace which offers a more digital secure ecosystem.
- A proposal to appoint a part-time Facilitating Minister was discussed in a meeting facilitated by the EBA regional minister. It was decided that more clarity around the vision was required before any ministers were appointed.

3. Safeguarding

- The safeguarding policy, incorporating digital safety considerations, was reviewed and updated under the oversight of the trustees. Conversations with the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB) were ongoing for best practice alignment.

4. Research and Innovation

- Eleanor Kelsey, one of the trustees, engaged in some research entitled "*Pioneering the First Digital BUGB Church: An Ethnographic Study of the Launch of Transform.Church*". Ethical concerns around observation of gatherings were carefully handled, and it is anticipated that this research will be a helpful contribution to our own journey, and to others exploring digital mission.

5. Membership and Leadership Development

- Membership remained small as we continued to clarify our vision
- One trustee, Jonathan Vaughan-Davis, stepped down due to capacity.
- One of the leaders, Alice Cheeseman, is exploring Baptist Ministerial Recognition.
- Trustees undertook an APEST assessment to help understand the gifts with the team.

6. Financial Activity

- Income during the year was just over £3,000, with modest expenditure of just under £400. The closing balance was £4,286.86.
- The church committed to passing 10% of offerings (5% each) to BMS World Mission and Home Mission.

- Approval was given for the Treasurer to attend a relevant training course (EBA Treasurer Training - November 2024).
- No staff were employed during this financial year.

Public Benefit

transform.church contributes to public benefit by:

- Providing accessible online spaces for Christian discipleship, fellowship, and spiritual exploration.
- Creating welcoming communities for people who may be housebound, neurodivergent, or unable to access traditional church environments.
- Equipping Christians to live missionally in their everyday contexts.
- Innovating new forms of mission and leadership in the digital age, contributing to broader learning across the BUGB and ecumenical networks.

Plans for 2025

Looking forward, transform.church aims to:

- Finalise and then enact its revised vision and strategy.
- Launch and review its first online “missional communities”.
- Recruit additional trustees and leaders to support growth.
- Move towards formalising ministry roles and clarity around time, responsibility, and remuneration.
- Continue to strengthen relationships and community..

Structure, Governance and Management

transform.church is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation governed by an approved governing document. The trustees meet monthly to review progress, manage risks, and oversee strategy. Community discernment and accountability of leaders take place in quarterly church members’ meetings.

Trustees (2024)

- Nathan McGuire (Chair)
 - Simon Goddard
 - Alice Cheeseman
 - Eleanor Kelsey
 - Hannah Fleming-Hill
- (Resigned: Jonathan Vaughan-Davis – July 2024)

INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2024

Income	
Donations	<u>£3,063.08</u>
Expenditure	
Travel Expenses (net)	-£30.44
Giving	-£256.10
Other	<u>-£368.96</u>
	<u>-£655.50</u>
Income over Expenditure	<u>£2,407.58</u>
Reconciled by:	
Bank Balance 31/12/2023	£1,623.18
Bank Balance 31/12/2024	<u>£4,030.76</u>
Increase in Funds	<u>£2,407.58</u>

To Whom It May Concern

I have reviewed the information presented to me including bank statements and I am satisfied that the income and expenditure statement represents an fair view of the transactions undertaken.

David Walker ACMA GCMA

Date:


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17 July 2025

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Annual Report 2023

After registering transform.church as a charity towards the end of 2022, we were able to open a bank account early in 2023. It was clear though that we needed a larger trustee body in order to have the capacity to move the church forwards. To this end, and for the additional purpose of raising the awareness and engagement of Baptist churches with the digital sphere, we hosted three online conversations under the banner of #DigitalPentecost. These generated an encouraging amount of participation and a number of people who were interested in exploring getting involved with transform.church.

At our AGM in the autumn we were pleased to expand the trustee body with four new people. Whilst identifying roles and responsibilities for each of these new leaders, we also needed to say goodbye to one of our founding trustees, David Judkins, who was thanked for his contribution in the setting up of the charity. In November we held a hybrid Away Day to further explore the vision of transform.church. This was helpful as a starting point for building relationships amongst the new trustees and to discuss what the current and future shape of the church could be. We're excited about the year ahead, and are pleased that transform.church has catalyzed discussions about the setting up of a Digital Round Table within Baptists Together.

Rev. Simon Goddard
Approved at the AGM, 12/9/2024

Balance £ 1,623.18

Item	Category	Sub Category	Amount	Transaction Date	Running Balance
	2022 Carried Forward		2023 £ -		
Stewardship	Donations	Donations	£ 1,200.00	7-Sep	£ 1,200.00
Stewardship	Donations	Donations	£ 261.09	3-Nov	£ 1,461.09
Hubb.Church	Expenses	Hubb.Church	£ (69.50)	7-Nov	£ 1,391.59
Stewardship	Donations	Donations	£ (19.50)	7-Dec	£ 1,372.09
Hubb.Church	Expenses	Hubb.Church	£ 251.09	7-Dec	£ 1,623.18

	2023	Sept	Nov	Dec	Total			
Donations	£	1,200.00	£	261.09	£	251.09	£	1,712.18
Stewardship	£	1,200.00	£	261.09	£	251.09	£	1,712.18
Expenses	£	-	£	69.50	£	19.50	£	89.00
Hubb.Church			£	69.50	£	19.50	£	89.00
Month Total	£	1,200.00	£	191.59	£	231.59	£	1,623.18
YTD	£	1,200.00	£	1,391.59	£	1,623.18		

Income & Expenditure

Income	£1,712.18
Expenses	-£89.00

Income > Expenditure	<u>£1,623.18</u>
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Reconciled by:	
Bank Balance as at 31/12/2023	<u>£1,623.18</u>

I have reviewed the information presented to me including bank statements and I am satisfied that this Income and Expenditure statement represents a fair view of the transactions undertaken.

David Walker ACMA GCMA

Date: 17 July 2024

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Trustees' Annual Report 2022
For the date of registration (31st May 2022) until the end of the financial year (31st December 2022)

Section A: Reference and administration details

Charity name: transform.church
Registered charity number: 1199160
Charity's principal address: 82 Nene Parade, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 8TA.

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:

1. Nathan McGuire
2. Simon Goddard
3. David Judkins

Section B: Structure, governance and management

transform.church was constituted on 31st May 2022 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Association model).
It used an approved governing document provided by the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB).
Trustees are selected by the members of the charity.
It is a member of the Eastern Baptist Association (24th September 2022) and BUGB (12th October 2022)

Section C: Objectives and activities

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

The principal purposes of transform.church are:-

- The advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination.
- The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

As a member of the Baptist Union transform.church subscribes to the Baptist Union's Declaration of Principle:

- "That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.
- That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who 'died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again on the third day'.
- That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world."

In fulfilling the purpose transform.church will engage in a range of activities either on its own or with others that will vary from time to time with activities being initiated, expanded, or closed, as appropriate.

The activities may include but are not restricted to:

- Equipping individuals in their commitment to kingdom transformation in the four dimensions of discipleship:
 1. With God – knowing and following Jesus, doing the will of the Father, living in the power of the Spirit;
 2. With people – loving our neighbours, pursuing justice, embodying grace and mercy;
 3. With the planet – through a generous gratitude for, and good stewardship of, the natural world;
 4. With ourselves – developing our character, discerning our calling, making our unique contribution.
- Inspiring and encouraging individuals in their commitment to kingdom growth in the two directions of discipleship:
 1. Inwardly – personal transformation in each of the four dimensions of following Jesus;
 2. Outwardly – offering transformation to others through opportunities to encounter and follow Jesus.

Section D: Achievements and performance

2022 is the year that transform.church was founded, registered with the Charity Commission, and welcomed into membership of the Eastern Baptist Association and the Baptist Union of Great Britain. As a digital Baptist community this is a novel expression of church, and the process of having our membership approved at both the national body as well as a regional Association, required us to spend the months following registration working on an appropriate Safeguarding Policy. It was important for us to have this policy in place before we began the core activities of the church, and we were pleased to work with the relevant safeguarding advisors to identify processes appropriate to our online context. In addition, we were impacted by the change in circumstances for one of the trustees, which highlighted the need for us to expand the number of trustees before launching the church and offering any form of public worship. As the activities of the church during this year required no financial outlay, we did not open a bank account, nor make any cash transactions. Expanding the trustee body, opening a bank account, and beginning our online gatherings are priorities for the coming year.

Section E: Financial review

As mentioned above, there are no funds or transactions to report here. For this reason, the trustees have not yet adopted a reserves policy, but is committed to doing this before it begins to make regular spending commitments. It is anticipated that transform.church will seek to bank with an ethical provider of financial services.

Section F: Other optional information

The charity is pleased to have been pledged a donation of £1,200 with which to open the bank account and launch its core activities during 2023

Section G: Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:



Full name: Rev. Nathan McGuire

Position: Chair

Date: 10th October 2023