



The Gathering Network

// thegatheringnetwork.co.uk

// The Gathering Network is a Registered Scottish Charity:
// OSCR: SC047556

Trustees Annual Report

1st September 2023 - 31st August 2024

The trustees of The Gathering Network have the pleasure of presenting the annual report along with the financial statement and the independent examiner's report for the year 1/9/23 - 31/8/24.

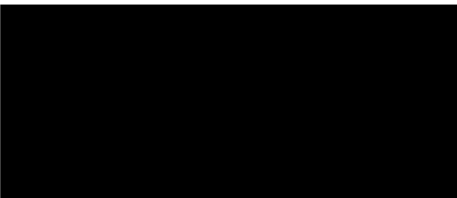
Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: The Gathering Network

Charity Number: SC047556

Registered Address:

Current Trustees:



Structure and Governance:

The Gathering Church is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It is governed by its constitution which was adopted on the 5th June 2017.

Appointment of Trustees:

The trustees meet on a 2 monthly basis. Application to become a trustee is open to anyone with an interest in furthering the cause of The Gathering Network. New trustees are elected by the current trustees at the annual general meeting which is normally held in November, or at any other trustees meeting if an application to become a trustee has been received. Under the constitution there must be a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of six. There are currently 4 active trustees of The Gathering Network.

Management

The trustees are responsible for the financial oversight and the strategic direction of The Gathering Network, along with the collaboration and support of the Core Leaders from within the network. The Trustee Chair, [REDACTED], co-leads the operational day-to-day activities of the organisation along with [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] lead a team of volunteers and vocational part-time staff that form the operational core leadership team of The Gathering. Adam attends all trustee meetings and reports on the operational activity of the organisation.

Objects and Activities

Objects: Advancement of religion.

In furtherance thereof the organisation shall seek to:

- 4.1 Start a new networked Christian church initially based in the Glasgow area
- 4.2 Start multiple mid-sized communities of Christian believers around Glasgow with the intention of enriching the local communities through practical service and demonstrating the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ in love, action, deed and word.

Activities:

Our long-standing vision is to empower and equip God's people to be his church and to reach out and show the love of Jesus to the people and communities around them. We prioritised and trained our people to do this through a number of strategic initiatives;

Activating Prayer:

Activating prayer is a specific type of prayer that is movemental in nature. It operates comfortably in the supernatural, expecting signs and wonders, dealing with the demonic, and knowing how to appropriate the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit. It includes spiritual mapping, prayer walking and strategic prayer, and harnesses the spiritual authority God has delegated to us and exercises the power of blessing. Such prayer changes the spiritual atmosphere within people, groups, cultures and lands. It creates the necessary conditions for the expansion of God's kingdom in our ministry contexts.

We believe that this type of prayer is powerful and brings tangible results of transformation, change and healing to the people and places that our Microchurches exist in and are called to.

To that end, all of our Microchurches practice regular rhythms of activating prayer on a weekly basis together.

And as a wider network we also prioritise this through early morning prayer, monthly worship together and in our monthly corporate gatherings.

Engaging Culture:

Engaging culture means wisely undertaking an array of cultivating activities and actions—all of intrinsic Kingdom value in and of themselves—which serve as powerful

“bridges of God” into the cultural context for the good news of Jesus, to take root and spread. Such engagement means meeting the *felt* needs of people in the name and power of Jesus. It may include redemptive initiatives to bring transformational impact to areas of brokenness and need, discerning where the Spirit of God is uniquely active, and partnering with Him in response. For movements to occur, cultural engagement (the gospel in deed) must be fully integrated with the gospel in power through activating prayer, and must lead to and connect with the gospel in word as people become fully committed and obedient disciples of Jesus. In cultural engagement the gospel of the Kingdom is both embodied and proclaimed.

All of our Microchurches look for ways for them to uniquely engage the people they feel drawn towards and create spaces and activities to enrich, bless and connect those people and cultures in Glasgow.

Making Disciples:

As dedicated followers of Jesus, it is incumbent upon us to create spaces for those that don't yet know about God to come and discover more about him, in loving, safe spaces free from condemnation where people are allowed to voice their own thoughts and opinions. To that end we are building effective tools and processes to help people far from God become committed followers of Jesus and then make disciples of others. Such multiplication is at the heart of our understanding of discipleship and spiritual growth. While the history of the Church contains many evangelism and discipleship models, we favour a highly effective “discovery process” which does not rely on experts, is organic, and is easily reproduced regardless of setting or culture.

Growing & Training Leaders:

We believe in the importance of identifying, equipping and releasing every-day believers to lead the Microchurches in our growing network; people who have normal jobs, but carry the anointing of the kingdom of heaven as followers of Jesus. Such movement leaders will exhibit a wide array of gifting, all of which are necessary to guide and build ministry momentum that will go far beyond themselves. It is imperative that these leaders know how to identify new leaders and how to appropriately coach, mentor and launch them into ministry.

We put lots of our time into connecting, resourcing and developing the leaders in our network, and identifying new potential leaders who will be able to lead future Microchurches too.

Forming New Churches:

We believe that the church, in its truest form, exists as a spiritual family centred around a commonality of belonging to Jesus, living our lives in worship of Him, and engaging in mission together. The Church is the people of God, and not a building. And to be most effective in spreading the good news of Jesus and impacting Glasgow (and Scotland) positively means multiplying new expressions of churches, therefore extending our reach and impact in a diverse and densely populated city.

Achievements and Performance:

As ever, we value many 'infinite' and intangible factors to mark our performance and achievement, such as the amount of activating prayer completed by each of our Microchurches, and engaging culture initiatives started or trialled in our network. However, we count it a big success that we have seen around 15 expressions of small missional churches across the city and region of Glasgow, all led by every-day followers of Jesus who are a part of our leadership core and training collective in The Gathering Network.

We have continued to develop intentional peer-to-peer connections, over zoom, to equip, coach and encourage teams translocally, and form a fledgling network of leaders to that end. So far we have established intentional coaching relationships with teams in Anstruther, St. Andrews, Edinburgh, Bicester, Oxford, London, Helsingborg Sweden, Belgium, Hungary, Germany, Spain, France and Toowoomba Australia, with other potential new leaders in other locations across Scotland, England and Europe. We are hopeful for each one of these connections to grow and thereby multiply the work that we feel called to establish by God beyond just the scope of Glasgow.

In The Gathering Network, a marker of the kingdom and infinite success and alignment is the hours spent both in prayer and on mission to intentionally share life and build relationships with those that don't yet know Jesus.

We have continued to develop invitational community spaces that are sharing the good news of Jesus, of his truth and power, to those around us. We have further developed our capacity to reach out to our communities, neighbours, friends, co-workers and families and show them hospitality in the form of service and also inviting them into our times as a community, both online and in-person, which is integral to how we display the love Jesus has for them.

We received a funding grant of £3515 to film some of our training on the above principles, in order to better equip even more people across the UK - we expect this to be filmed and edited this coming financial year.

One particular area of note to mention is our first rental of a physical space for our operations as a charity at 12 Douglas Street, in Milngavie town precinct. After hours of prayer walking and seeking the Lord, our team felt that the Lord was inviting us to rent this shop space. It is at the heart of Milngavie Town Centre, and at the beginning of the West Highland Way walk making it a very strategic and public place for us to maintain a presence from.

Our plans are to use the space to expand the work of our local teams in the North of Glasgow, as well as providing a space for some kingdom creativity to interest and engage other people.

We have been successful in securing an initial £17,978 to cover our rental, utility and operational costs of opening and maintaining the space. Our plan is to continue to fundraise to cover rent for 16 months, as agreed by the commercial property agents who are renting the space to us.

We got the keys to the space on 16th January 2024, and were given 1 month free of charge in order to renovate and repurpose the shop space for our use. We opened the space to the public on 24th February 2024 and then held our first gathering for our people to worship, pray and bless the place on Sunday 31st March 2024.

We plan on offering a full report of our activities from this space in our next annual report, given that our planned time of occupancy is from January 16th 2024 - March 24th 2025.

Currently the employed staff for The Gathering Network consist of [REDACTED] as Co-Leader responsible for the big-picture oversight and pioneering of the network, [REDACTED] as Co-Leader responsible for organisational rhythms, the children, and the pastoral care of the leaders, and [REDACTED] who is employed for 8 hours per-week as financial administrator.

Financial Review:

Regular and one-off donations, from individuals and other organisations, and charitable grants were our only source of income for the year.

Receipts on the unrestricted funds were £106,999 and total payments were £100,799 leaving a surplus of £6,200 (Discrepancy due to rounding).

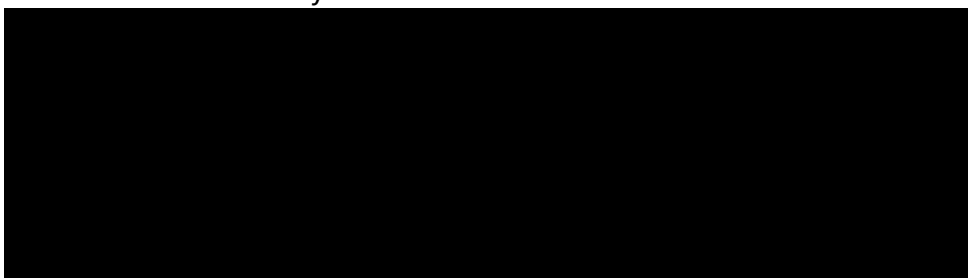
The closing balance in our bank account is £15,322.

Plans for Future Periods:

The trustees are investing responsibility for the continued development and running of The Gathering Network to the core leadership team which is co-led by Adam Penketh and Charlotte Penketh

It will soon be nearly 8 years since we first officially formed as a charity. In light of this, the trustees along with operational staff and key volunteers in the organisation, we plan to have a time of official reflection and review of the efforts, work, focus and future plans of the charity and to make any shifts or changes depending on the outcome of these meetings.

We also intend to increase our fundraising efforts to allow for us to keep paying our staff in-line with inflation (as a minimum), and to allow us to expand our missional efforts and eventually our staff team too.



Receipts and Payments Accounts

Financial Year 01/09/2023 to 31/08/2024

Section A Statements of Receipts and Payments

Finance Report	01/09/23 - 31/08/24	Previous 01/09/22 - 31/08/23
----------------	---------------------	------------------------------

Receipts

Donations (and Gift Aid)	106,999	67,017
Bank Interest	0	0
Total Received	106,999*	67,017*

Payments

Directly to charitable activities	98,988	72,847*
Donations out	1,811	2,359
Total Payments	100,799*	75,206*

Surplus / Deficit	6,200*	(8,189)*
-------------------	---------------	-----------------

Section B Statement Of Balances

Opening Bank balance	9,132	17,321
Surplus / Deficit	6,200	(8,189)
Closing Bank Balance	15,222 (Santander) 110 (Wise) <u>15,332*</u>	7,633 (Santander) 1,499 (Wise) <u>9,132*</u>

Section C Notes to the Accounts

1. Trustee Remuneration Details

Gross Salary for 2 trustees employed as per Section 39 of The Gathering Network SCIO constitution.	57,240	50,940
Payments for conference travel and expense costs incurred whilst travelling	4,473	1,614

2. Receipts related directly to charitable activity

Donations	69,448*	55,951
Novo Fuel for Fire Starters Grant	15,978*	0
The Cinnamon Network Grant	2,000	
Novo Training Grant	3,515	
Gift Aid	16,059*	11,067
Total Receipts	106,999*	67,017*

3. Payments related directly to charitable activity

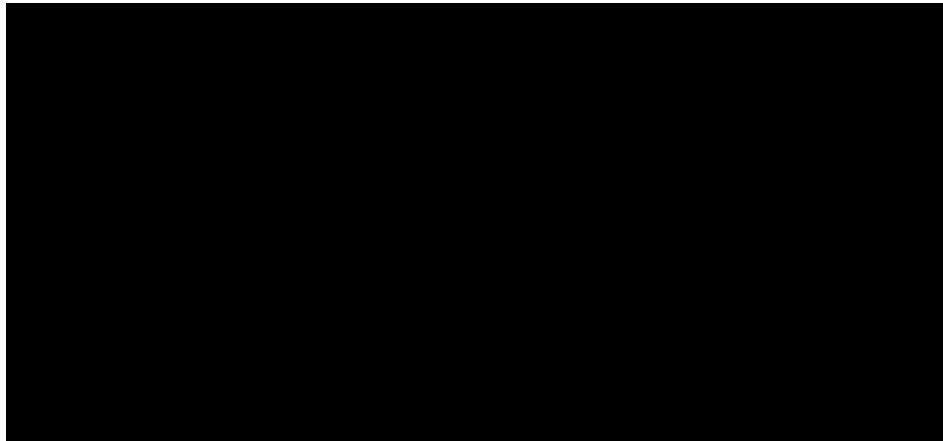
Adam & Charlotte Expenses	6,705	3,404
---------------------------	-------	-------

All-Together Meetings	359	438
All-Together Parties/Feasts	404	264
Apostolic Network Connections	442	426
Children's Microchurch	998	1,019
Finance Administration	1,204	956
Generosity Giving	38	586
HMRC Deductions	10,460	10,392
Ministry Partner Development	448	86 (Retreat Expenses)
Miscellaneous Expenses	21	75
Mobile Office Expenses	199	716
Novo Conference Expenses	255	
Novo Expenses	6,151	
Movement Pathway Training	3,515	
Open Space Shop Council Costs	4,870	
Open Space Shop Rent	7,340	
Open Space Start-up Costs	3,409	
Open Space Shop Sundries	681	
Open Space Shop Utilities	747	
Open Space Shop Sales	58	
Resources and Training	126	162
Second Home Microchurch	77	5
Tech	878	586
The Garden Microchurch	145	64
Training Leaders & Trustees	315	218
Visiting Missionaries	188	513
Wages (Less Liabilities)	49,707	52,658

Web Development & Hosting	260	269
Wise Conversion Charges	-7	9
Total	100.799*	72,847*

01/09/23 - 31/08/24 taken from the General Ledger Summary
rounding

*Discrepancies due to



APPENDIX 3



		Independent examiner's report on the accounts v2						
Report to the trustees/members of	Charity name	THE GATHERING NETWORK						
Registered charity number	SC	047556						
On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date	Day	Month	Year	to	Day	Month	Year
		01	09	2023		31	08	2024
Set out on pages		4						
		(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)						
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	<p>The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.</p>							
Basis of independent examiner's statement	<p>My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.</p>							
Independent examiner's statement	<p>In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page*]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations <p>have not been met, or</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached 							
Signed:								29/05/2025
Name:								
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):								
Address:								

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

APPENDIX 3

Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose

N. A.

