



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>



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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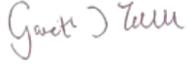
Receipts and payments accounts

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	