



**THE STREET**  
• CHURCH •

# *Annual Report*

— 2022 —



# Introduction

The apostle Paul was a man who knew what it was like to be pushed and pulled by different circumstances and yet it was this movement that led him to a profound conclusion:

“But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ’s triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere” (2 Corinthians 2:14).

Paul knew that while he was being pushed around by circumstances, God was at work spreading the message of Jesus through his ministry. As we emerged from the most significant Covid restrictions in the early part of this year, there is a sense in which we have been pushed around. And yet our confidence is in how God has worked through the very circumstances we would never have chosen and has done so for his own purposes and glory.

It was therefore important for us to learn everything we could about the church from what we had been through. Times of trouble often lead people to turn in or shrink back and we were determined to do neither. We were concerned at how much Covid revealed a lack of depth in discipleship and in connection with one another. Rather than try to bring back everything we did pre-Covid, we felt that the future needed to be focused on the main things like a simple devotion to Jesus, a commitment to discipleship, a determination to share the Gospel more broadly, and a deepening of our service of the poor and marginalised in our city.

Covid also brought about an opportunity to progress our multi-site strategy more quickly than we could have previously imagined. The local gatherings that began as a response to vaccine passes gained traction and afforded deeper connection among people and greater accessibility to people in the local community. By the end of the year, there was a determination to keep these going alongside a great need to develop and establish strong and sustainable local leadership.

2022 was a year that we would not have designed for ourselves and it did not pass without significant challenges. Yet there is a sense that it was a year we needed because it enabled God to bring about a direction that we would not have thought possible. As he continues to build his church and use us to spread the aroma of him everywhere, may he grant us the faith to keep trusting him in the midst of uncertainty and change.

Much love,  
**Simon & Jenny Gill**  
*Senior Pastors*

# 2022

	TOTAL	CITY	NIGHT	EAST
Locations	3	1	1	1
Services	6	4 <sup>1</sup>	1	1
Average Weekly	494 <sup>2</sup>	358	156	58
Database members	2133	1365	596	172
Missionaries <sup>3</sup>	10	5	4	1
Life Groups	63	42 <sup>4</sup>	20	10
Life Group Members	771			
Baptisms	11	3	8	0
People Serving <sup>5</sup>	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Mt Vic, West, Hutt and Porirua

<sup>2</sup> Numbers are not 100% accurate due to our hubs not taking attendance data in their early establishment.

<sup>3</sup> For more information about the missionaries we support, please email [missions@thestreet.org.nz](mailto:missions@thestreet.org.nz)

<sup>4</sup> Includes Mosaic (6 groups)

<sup>5</sup> Due to our hubs and locations not using our database to roster teams through most of 2022 it has not been possible to accurately capture serving data



# City

It's hard to put 2022 into words. It was a year that was incredibly full, with a lot to celebrate and thank God for, but it was also filled with challenges that stretched Team City, the local leaders and our congregations as a whole.

When the vaccine passes came into effect at the end of 2021 and we adapted our 9am and 11am to meet in up to nine places around the region, it began to feel a little overwhelming. I remember lying in bed one evening saying to God, "I didn't sign up for this, I signed up to lead the 9am and 11am, not multiple gatherings through a pandemic", and in one of the more rare moments where I felt God minister to me straight away, he said, "I didn't ask you to follow a method, I asked you to follow a person". It was a gentle but swift rebuke, but filled me with confidence to press on with our local gatherings, in helping people grow as followers of Jesus in this new season.

Choosing to multiply our 9am and 11am services from Mt Victoria into four gatherings across the Wellington region was a huge task and it took a lot of sacrifices from so many people. I really want to honour Bryce and Olivia Williams for stepping up to lead the Hutt gathering, and Martin and Susan Sheldon for leading the Porirua gathering too. Taking the leadership responsibilities for making these services fly and shepherding people through the change was a big ask but they led with courage and humility and both services are thriving because of their leadership in 2022.

There was a team of people who stepped up to serve and lead the West gathering - a big thank you to them (and for the West community continuing to cram into the tiny Beauchamp St Chapel week after week!). The most impacted service by far was the Mt Victoria community; those who remained at Hania St had a very different Sunday experience to what they were used to and 2022 was a year of rebuilding, seeking to reset culture, and develop more leaders across all ministries. I'm thankful for all the people who took ownership of the Mt Vic gathering and committed to strengthening it through a massive season of change.

My team (Floyd, Emma, Matt and Jamie) continued to lead their ministries so well throughout the year and adapted quickly to focus on raising up leaders across four gatherings, to equip them to lead their own teams, and develop their local ministries. We covered a lot of ground in a short period of time.

While my heart longs to be celebrating hundreds of salvations and baptisms (we did celebrate two special baptisms on a freezing August morning in Porirua!), that wasn't the year God had for us. 2022 was about adapting and rebuilding, shifting our paradigms of how we see the Sunday gathering, how we worship (yes, we can still worship God with pre-recorded music on a screen), being able to dive into the Scriptures together on a Sunday even when the sermon video fails, and how every single one of us is responsible for developing our church culture.

I will always look back on 2022 as being a watershed for the City congregation as we adapted in multiple ways to advance the kingdom of God in our context post-COVID.

**Jerram Watts**

*Lead Pastor - City*



# East

Well, 2022 has been another year disrupted by COVID in so many ways but we marvel at the way the Lord continues to move even in the struggle of these strange times. We are celebrating the incredible people who have put in extra time and effort to enable East to continue to gather through the various restrictions that vaccine passes brought. We are also celebrating the authentic, intergenerational relationships that come from gathering locally on Sundays.

This is the first full year that Simon and Jenny have also been in the Senior Pastor role at The Street. We have been prayerfully working towards a new leadership solution for East in order to fully release Simon and Jenny to focus on their new roles.

Over the last year we've had a growing conviction that prayer really needs to be the foundation of all we do as a church. We have worked to provide more opportunities for corporate prayer including gathering with other churches in the eastern suburbs for quarterly worship and prayer nights, while also working with Life Group leaders and Kids Zone leaders to ensure that we are all growing in prayer, whatever age and stage we are.

We've had a successful year of training and investing in our Life Group leaders - we gathered them together for five training sessions over the course of the year which has really helped bring some focus and intentionality to Life Groups in the areas of reading the Word, prayer and outreach. We've made great progress in re-embedding Organic Outreach into our rhythms both in Life Groups and services and we look forward to seeing the fruit of that begin to emerge.

We have continued to feed a core group of people that attend Strathmore Community dinners each Wednesday. Our venue, Strathmore Community Centre, closed for a big renovation but we were so blessed to continue at Kahurangi School in the interim. We are grateful to the faithful team that even through all of the restrictions, meant we were able to consistently serve dinner and spend time with people on a weekly basis.

Praise God for His faithfulness to us as we continue to pursue the mission of The Street Church.

**Simon & Jenny Gill**  
*Lead Pastors - East*

# Night

We are so grateful to God for all that has happened in 2022! Two words that describe Night's year in 2022 are depth and surrender. These have been two continuing themes through the year and it has been a privilege seeing the spiritual growth in the people of Night.

Coming out of an unexpected 2021, we knew our gatherings needed to change to adapt to the learnings we had from Covid. We realised that our Sunday gathering had some flaws to it, where it was highly dependent on a core team, there was a general feeling of disconnectedness amongst the community of Night after 2020 & 2021 and we felt there may be a better way to have intimacy in our fellowship with one another. We began the year with fortnightly Large Gatherings at Hania St for live teaching and corporate worship; and fortnightly Small Gatherings in homes across Wellington, around food and utilising the Online Service content. There were also lots of unexpected bonuses such as people inviting friends into their homes for a church gathering, increased hospitality and generosity, being able to be flexible and adjust with Covid vaccine passes, and a larger number of people operating in the gifts God has given them each Sunday. There were also things that didn't work in this rhythm such as the challenge for new people to connect on a Sunday, the lack of training for small gathering leaders, and a diversity of success between groups. We learnt a lot and are grateful for how it helped people grow in maturity and take ownership of their own faith.

Night had its first camp in August and it was so fun! It was a wonderful time of getting away from the city and our day-to-day lives. There was a vulnerability at camp where many made recommitments in their faith or surrendered areas of their lives to Jesus. We are super grateful to Dave Hockly who came up from Queenstown to encourage us with how to live every moment of our lives WITH God.

Another highlight of the year was the leadership and involvement of Tyler Scott in our Night Team. She joined our team as an intern looking after the four Uni Life Groups, Uni community nights and Uni Small Gatherings. She was such an asset and brought a wonderful humility and love of learning to everything she did. We loved having her on our team.

We experimented with lots of other things in 2022 such as Serve Weeks, Te Pā Pori Lunches, Wellington City Mission Social Supermarket, Organic Outreach studies in Life Groups, a Sexuality Q&A night, and much more! Some were effective and some needed significant revision. We are excited to take these learnings in 2023 and beyond!

**Tom & Anna Field**  
*Lead Pastors - Night*



# Finances

The Street Church currently operates two legal entities:

## 1. E.Street Association Incorporated

The Association owns the Worship Centre (9 & 9a Hania Street) and the Life Centre (21 Hania Street), and also owns The Street Properties Management Ltd. The Association is the main operational legal entity of The Street Church. It receives donations, employs staff, operates facilities and runs the ministries and missions activities of The Street Church.

## 2. The Street Properties Management Limited

TSPML manages both properties on behalf of the Association (developments, maintenance, running costs and tenancies).

## Financial Position 2022

The financials on this page incorporate all entities of The Street Church. Transparency is important to us so please ask for a copy of the audited accounts from the office or download them from the Charities Register where they will be a matter of public record.

'Rental' income is rent received from our tenants at 21 Hania Street (the Life Centre).

'Other' income mainly includes interest received and income from event registration fees etc.

## INCOME 2022

General Giving	\$1,643,696
Rental	\$496,526
Property Giving	\$111,575
Other	\$24,344
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$2,276,141</b>

## EXPENDITURE 2022

Staff	\$1,101,280
Interest	\$109,216
Facilities	\$252,380
Outreach	\$160,354
Administration	\$72,067
Ministries	\$196,714
Depreciation	\$94,363
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$1,986,368</b>
Surplus*	\$289,774

\* Surplus was put towards asset purchase and reducing loan principal. This puts us into a better financial position, enabling us to further invest in the vision that God has given us.

# Chairman's Message

2022 has been a year of more change for us as a church, as we have continued to pray about and plan for how best to be one church in multiple locations. It has been a blessing to have Simon and Jenny as our Senior Pastors, and to see the effort put in by all of our staff and our large team of committed volunteers as we look to fulfil the Great Commission in Wellington.

In the midst of our decisions about how we are to “be the church”, I have found it helpful this year to reflect on some of the exhortations we receive in the New Testament:

- We are all God’s children, and we are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:26-29).
- Through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. What counts is faith expressing itself through love (Galatians 5:5-6).
- Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:5-10).

There is much to be said for taking our lead from Jesus, who came to seek and save the lost. We are all one in him, and we want to live out our faith in a way that expresses itself through love.

Please continue to pray for our eldership, staff team and volunteers as we step into what God has for us next. And continue to seek God’s leading for the part you have to play both in service in our church community, and in how to share God’s love with those around you.

**Matt Conway**  
*Chair of the Elders*