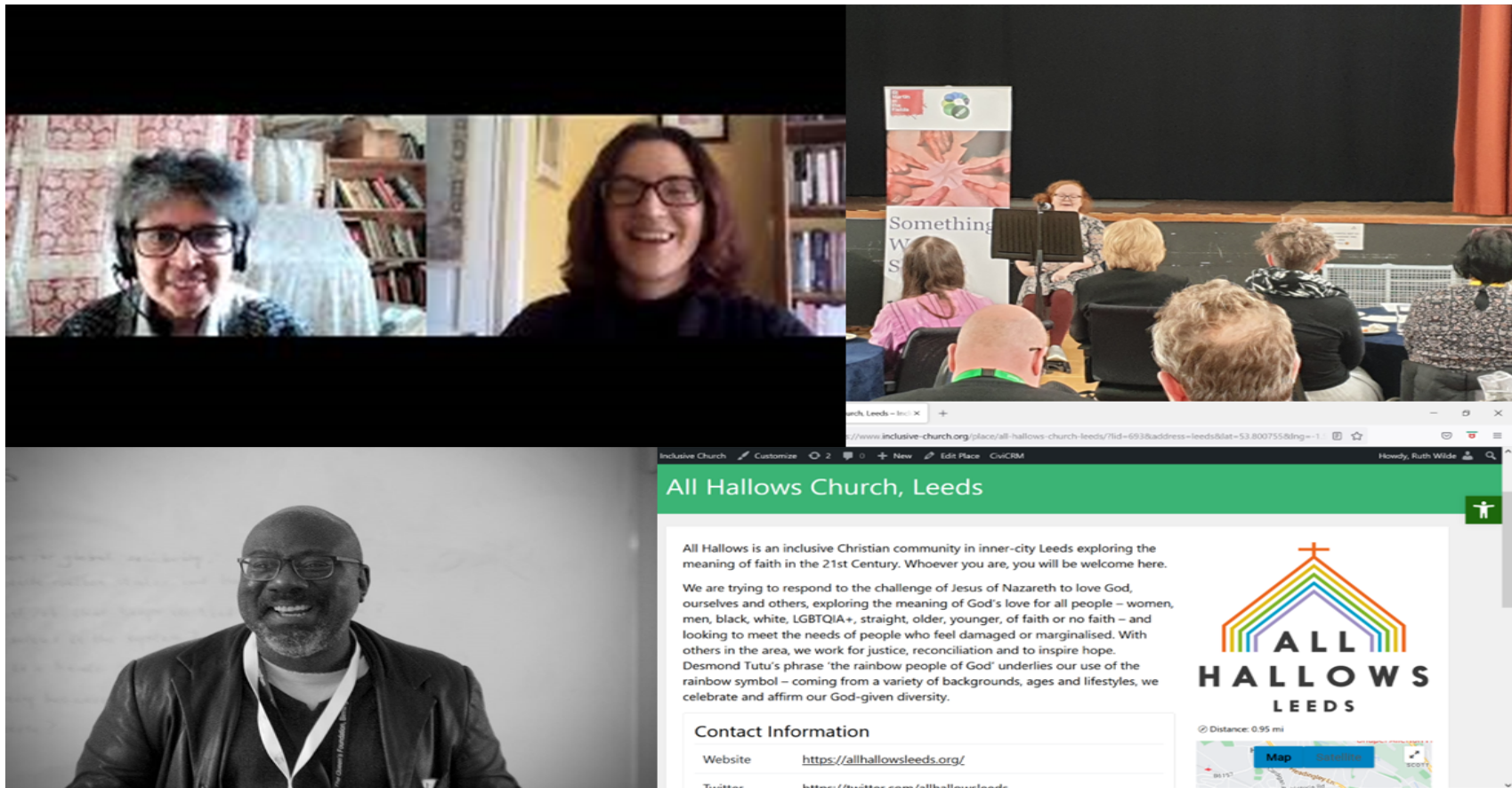




Inclusive Church

Annual Review 2022



National Coordinator's report



This year began with an announcement to our members at the 2021 AGM that we would be launching a new directory, which would mean our churches could better connect with the public by editing their own page to include photos, a short summary section about the church, and important information on accessibility and same-sex weddings. The usual links and map would of course remain. The directory would also help us to exist sustainably into the future as a charity, because churches would be asked to give an annual donation of between £5 and £500 (depending on what they can afford). It's taken us a while to bring the project to completion, but just before the 2022 AGM, we launched the new directory to all the churches in our network! The bottom right photo on the front page of this annual review shows what a new church page looks like. Isn't it great?

In 2021 – 2022, Synod Coordinator, Nic Tall, led the campaign for Inclusive Church and partners to get more inclusive members elected onto General Synod. It was a very successful campaign and Nic did an incredible job, with a rate of return for our candidates of 56%! We improved the representation of women on Synod (only 40% of the whole Synod are women, but of the inclusive candidates elected, 60% are women). We also supported younger members, disabled members and UKME members. We made a huge contribution to making the Synod a more inclusive and representative place. The picture top right is of one of our Disability Conference planning team members, Emily Richardson, speaking at the official launch of the booklet from the conference - 'Something Worth Sharing' - which was held as a Synod fringe event for our new inclusive members.

In early 2022, we ran a second Black Theology series, this time expanding to encompass the intersectional theme of 'Black and Asian Queen Black Identities'. We had Savi Hensman (pictured top left) to kick off the series, followed by Augustine Tanner-Ihm, Jide Macaulay and Ruby Almeida. All the interviews are well worth checking out on our YouTube channel.

In July 2022, the annual lecture was given by Professor Anthony Reddie, one of the most influential Black Theologians in the UK, if not the world. It was a privilege to hear Anthony speak, and his challenging talk was entitled 'Unmasking the two Deadly Ds: Dismantling Whiteness and Deconstructing Mission Christianity'. Anthony is pictured bottom left.

It's been a brilliant year, all in all. Have a great 2022-23, everyone, and go well.

Ruth Wilde
National Coordinator

Highlights of 2021/22

700

Churches signed up as inclusive churches

Inclusive Church directory

We now have over 700 churches signed up as inclusive churches. The number of churches who want to work on being inclusive to all continues to grow.

43

Regional ambassadors

Regional ambassadors

There are 43 regional ambassadors working across 12 regions (and countries), from Scotland to the South-West. To find out more, see the website: www.inclusive-church.org/regional-ambassadors

100+

Disability Conference attendees

Disability Conference

In 2021, over 100 people attended the Disability Conference held online. An estimated half of those were new people who had never attended before, and many people were able to attend because an online event was more accessible for them.

97

Churches joined IC this year

New inclusive churches

Over the past year, 97 churches have signed up to Inclusive Church. That's a full 40 more than the year before!

The Inclusive Church Lecture

The Inclusive Church Annual Lecture provides an opportunity for a leading theologian or commentator to reflect on the nature of inclusion.

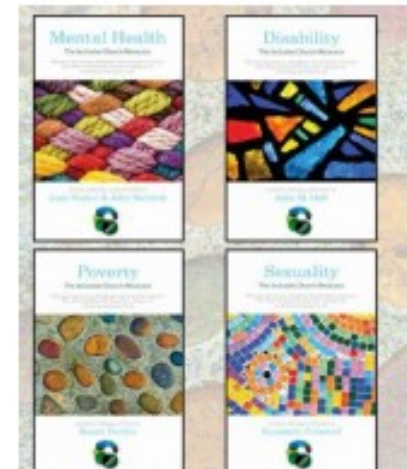
Previous lectures were given by Martyn Percy, Linda Woodhead, David Ison, Michael Jagessar, Ruth Hunt and Sam Wells, among others.



The 2022 Annual Lecture took place at Manchester Cathedral and online, and the lecturer was Prof Anthony Reddie. His talk was entitled 'Unmasking the two Deadly Ds: Dismantling Whiteness and Deconstructing Mission Christianity'. The talk will be available to watch on our YouTube channel from August 2022.

Books and Group Resources

Small Group Study Resources and IC Books



Inclusive Church has published 6 books on inclusion and small group resources to complement the book series. The home group study guides exploring core themes of inclusion.

The Disability Conferences



Since 2012 Inclusive Church has hosted an annual conference on disability and church, in partnership with St Martin in the Fields.

In 2020 we moved online, hosted by HeartEdge. This opened up the conference to those unable to attend due to health or geography. We have been holding the conference online ever since.

These events are uniquely run *for* and *by* disabled people rather than being simply *about* disability. Disabled people are the majority of the conference planning team, speakers and delegates. It has become a space to gather to resource each other and the church.

The date for 2022's conference is **15th October**. To sign up for updates or to listen to and read talks from previous conferences, go to the disability page of the website: <https://www.inclusive-church.org/topics/disability>

Inclusive Church and partnership work

Regional Ambassadors

Our ambassadors' training took the shape of an online retreat in 2021 and was led by Helen Warwick from Holyrood House. Ambassadors who attended (about half of all regional ambassadors) said that they found the reflective, meditative style very helpful.

Partnership Work

In 2021, our partners working on LGBT inclusion decided to forego having any other church directories in order to point their supporters to our online directory of inclusive churches. Below is the statement they put on our directory search page:

[Affirm: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion](#), [Dignity & Worth](#), [OneBodyOneFaith](#), [Open Table Network](#), and [Quest](#) endorse the Inclusive Church charter for churches from across a breadth of traditions to use as a signpost for their aspirations to become more inclusive places of worship for LGBTQIA+ people. The aims of these organisations are specific to sexuality and gender identity; however, they are committed to Inclusive Church's broader goals, and encourage churches to view inclusion broadly, not only through the lens of LGBTQIA+ affirmation.

Summary of Financial Activities for year ending 31 December 2021

| Incoming Resources | Total 2021 (£) | Total 2020 (£) |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Donations and grants | 37,122 | 34,632 |
| Charitable activities | 387 | 475 |
| Fundraising and other income | 475 | 248 |
| Total Incoming Resources | 37,984 | 35,355 |

| Resources Used | Total 2021 (£) | Total 2020 (£) |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Cost of fundraising | 416 | 216 |
| Charitable activities | 30,588 | 32,376 |
| Governance costs | 550 | 1,299 |
| <i>Net operating surplus (deficit)</i> | <i>6,430</i> | <i>1,534</i> |
| Balance carried forward | 23,415 | 21,880 |

Certified statements of financial activity presented to our AGM are available on our website and the Charity Commissions website. For financial matters contact our Treasurer: office@inclusive-church.org - please quote FINANCE as the subject.

Vision statement and contact information



The Inclusive Church vision is as follows:

"We believe in inclusive Church - a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate. We will continue to challenge the church where it continues to

discriminate against people on grounds of disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality. We believe in a Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."

How to get in touch

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