

How to join

Summary

1. Discuss & Decide:

- The church's trustee body (PCC or equivalent) must pass a resolution supporting the **Inclusive Church Statement of Belief** - see website for more info.
- This should be done after a deliberate process of consultation and discussion with the whole congregation, allowing time to reflect, discern and discuss inclusivity.

2. Eligibility:

- The church must **regularly** meet for **public worship**.
- Appropriate **safeguarding** policies for children and vulnerable adults must be in place and publicly available.

3. Application:

- Submit an application, which will be reviewed for approval by the Inclusive Church board of trustees during their bi-monthly meetings. (It may take longer at busy times of year). The board will let you know once approved. We also ask that applying churches make a financial donation.

4. After Registration:

- Tell people! Get your church(es) added to the **IC directory** and update publicity to include the IC logo.
- Receive regular updates and newsletters.
- **Engage** with the network through events, resources, and promoting Inclusive Church within your community.
- Regularly reflect and **review** your response to issues of inclusivity and accessibility, ensuring it remains a live topic.

For further details or assistance with the registration process, contact Inclusive Church on office@inclusive-church.org or visit www.inclusive-church.org



**Inclusive
Church**

Why join IC

We are stronger together



Inclusive Church is a network of churches, groups, and individuals united by a shared vision. We believe in building and being a church that celebrates and affirms every person, without discrimination.



Founded in 2003, Inclusive Church is an **ecumenical** network that embraces a diverse range of worship styles and Christian traditions. We recognise that **inclusion is a journey** and an attitude, not a fixed destination; which involves listening, learning, and evolving along the way.



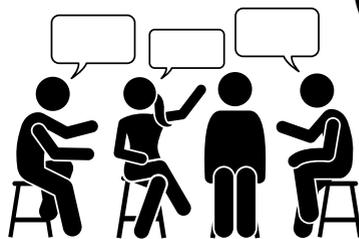
Joining the Inclusive Church Network is a statement of intent and commitment to this journey. We strive to unite rather than divide. We work towards a more positive, inclusive, and welcoming church where all are truly welcome. Our website offers **resources** and **guides** for individuals, church leaders, and communities to support and equip them on this path. Recognising it can be hard and lonely work we also collaborate with partner organisations focused on specific issues, engaging theologically, prayerfully, and creatively with the topic of inclusion, signposting advice and celebrating achievements.



We invite you to join in the conversation + journey with us.



Inclusive Church



Inclusion is a Journey, not a Destination



“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.”

A network of individuals, churches and groups, working towards a shared vision



Inclusive Church

Why don't you get involved
and join as an individual too?



Are you in?



About Inclusive Church

Founded in 2003, the Inclusive Church Network are a network of churches, groups and individuals committed to working towards a shared vision of building and being an Inclusive Church.

An **educational charity** seeking to empower and equip local churches to broaden the equity of their welcome and identify ways they can be more accessible to a diverse community.

We work with a broad range of partners to achieve this, seeking to support and complement each other's work. This includes an annual **Conference on Disability and Church** each year, usually in October, in partnership with **St-Martin-in-the-Fields**, London. **Greenbelt** festival in August is a highlight of the year for us and many of our members meet up there.

We have a range of books, video resources and small group courses available, more info is on our **website**. We also host an online **inclusive church directory** to help people find an inclusive church in their area. You can **donate** towards our work, which is reliant on the generosity of donors.

We are a growing network and the voice calling for more equitable attitudes towards inclusion, accessibility and diversity is getting louder. We are proud to be part of that and are excited to see the changes this will bring.

All members of Inclusive Church are invited to our **AGM** (usually in June or July) and are able to vote for trustees elected to the board and have a say in the direction we take.

We'd love you to join in.



Registered charity number 1102676



You're invited

Why

Assuming everyone 'knows' they are welcome isn't enough. We work to ensure churches and communities actively offer a welcome that is inclusive, accessible, and without barriers. Inclusion isn't just about intention, it's about action.

Too many have faced rejection or exclusion from churches. Repairing that harm matters. Being clear about our values matters. Joining Inclusive Church connects you to a wider network, offering credibility, accountability, and support.

What

Challenging assumptions and shifting narratives can be exhausting and lonely. We're here to support each other. Our website offers resources for individuals, church leaders, and communities. We collaborate with partners on key issues, engaging theologically, prayerfully, and creatively with the topic of inclusion. We also offer a monthly eNewsletter and help you connect locally.

Who

Anyone can join, individuals, churches, and organisations, so long as you align with our vision and commit to making them a reality.

How

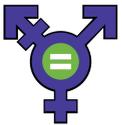
Think, pray, and discuss. Then visit our website for details of how to join. It's that simple

When

Why not now?

as you are

www.inclusive-church.org



**Inclusive
Church**

whatever your **sexuality, neurodivergence, learning disability, mental health, disability, sex & gender, ethnicity or economic power**

You're included



You're not **The Problem.**
You're part of **The Solution.**



Head to the **Inclusive Church website** to learn more about who we are and what we do, you can also donate to our work there.



We are committed to working #WithNotFor those who have been marginalised and excluded, this is **our** story, **your** story and **God's** story of **love**, **affirmation** and **worth**.



include
invite
involve
invest in
everyone



**Inclusive
Church**

as you are

Whatever your [dis]abilities, wealth, class, ethnicity, colour, size or shape, age

knowledge or experience, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality

Inclusive Church

FAQs



What Makes Inclusive Church Different?

We're not a single-issue charity. While some topics may be in focus at different times, we work with partner organisations to address specific issues and our aim is to maintain a broad, inclusive perspective and provide resources that support this.

Inclusive Church or Inclusive Church Network?

Our official name is The Inclusive Church Network, but most people call us Inclusive Church. We're developing our work to reflect both names more fully.

What Resources Do You Offer?

Our website hosts recommended reading and resources across many areas of inclusion. Including courses, lectures, podcasts.

- 'How to build the church of the future: 20 years of Inclusive Church' (2023) is available to buy.
- **Make Room at the Inn (2024)** is a free series of short videos and infographics to encourage the conversation.

We also have trustees, regional ambassadors and advocate members who can share specialist knowledge and support.

What is Inclusive Church's denomination?

We're an **ecumenical** network, though the majority of our members are currently UK-based Anglicans.

How can I find an Inclusive Church?

Search our online directory. Contact your regional ambassador for local knowledge or the IC office if you've any questions.



**Inclusive
Church**

www.inclusive-church.org

How do I join?

To register a **church**, read the '*How + Why*' flyer to familiarise yourself with the process, which is also outlined on the IC website. The key thing is to ensure it is a decision owned and supported by the majority of a church community not just the leadership.

Individuals can also join independently, via our website.

What if I didn't receive a response previously?

We're a very small team, so it does sometimes take longer for us to get back to people than we would like. On occasion we miss things too so please do contact us again!

Is there a cost to join?

We do ask our members to donate financially to support our work, but it is up to you to decide how much is appropriate and practical. We are a registered charity and you can also donate to us without joining, if you wish. All donations, are gratefully received.

Why Doesn't Inclusive Church Do More of A, B, or C?

Like local churches, we're shaped by our members, with part-time staff and volunteer trustees. Where good work is already being done by others, we shine a light on it. We can't do everything, all of the time, but together we can do more; we are committed to seeking to affect the change we want to see. We work with a range of partner groups holding events and conferences, including the annual disability conference with St-Martin-in-the-Fields.

Get involved:

In 2024 we ran a major survey 'Are You In' to help shape and inform our future. The resulting strategy was launched at the 2025 AGM and you can read more about it on the website. Now we need you, as your involvement will help make it a reality. There are a number of ways you can get directly involved

Follow us for more info.



Invest



Money matters

If you'd like to **donate financially** towards the work of **Inclusive Church**, you can!

Nothing is too small, or indeed too large.

Our bank details are below so you can set-up a standing order or similar, you can also donate through www.inclusive-church.org. **Please** let us know if we can **GiftAid** your donation.

If you're not in a position to contribute in this way, please still **pray** for and be a **visible and vocal advocate** for an Inclusive Church where all are welcomed and valued. Perhaps you have time or skills you could contribute? Our website offers examples of ways you can get involved.

Bank details: The Inclusive Church Network
40.52.40 0001-3299



**Inclusive
Church**

Registered Charity: 1102676



**THANK
YOU**

Inclusive Church

Bank Details

Help us build a
sustainable
inclusive future!



Account Name

The Inclusive Church Network

Sort Code 40.52.40

Account: 0001.3299



Or visit our **JustGiving** page

Please include a **reference** to categorise the payment,
eg. **Join, Renew, Clothing, Books, Donation**



**Inclusive
Church**

Email problems or questions to
office@inclusive-church.org



Inclusive Church

Who's in? **Everyone!** Read our vision statement and explore our work areas. Use our **Online Directory** to find an IC near you. Use our **resources**. Enjoy our eNewsletter, celebrate progress, share stories.

Include Everyone

We affirm every person's God-given dignity and worth, valuing diversity, challenging discrimination and practising equitable compassion.



Invite Reimagining

We embody joyful, just and inclusive ways to welcome and worship; rooted in scripture and shaped by careful theological discernment.



Intersectional Thinking

We recognise how overlapping experiences shape our lives and faith, listening, learning and evolving together.



Inform & Inspire

We equip people through stories, research and resources, with conversation starters, films, books and lectures to deepen understanding.



Involve Others

We connect churches and individuals to share wisdom, celebrate progress and support one another in developing inclusive practice.



Interact Collaboratively

We work with organisations that share our values to strengthen our impact and effectiveness.



Invest in the Future

We support and equip inclusive voices in church structures and welcome contributions to sustain long-term Spirit-led change.



Are you in?

Join in!



Even if your church haven't joined Inclusive Church, you are still very welcome to be in the conversation and hear from others on the journey.

You can join as an individual member and/or be added to our newsletter **mailing list** via the website. For more info on ways to get involved please get in touch!

If you have any problems or questions, please email: **office@inclusive-church.org**

Newsletters *usually* come out in the first week of the month.



Inclusion is a Journey, not a Destination



**Inclusive
Church**

www.inclusive-church.org

WWJD?



**Inclusive Church affirms
trans and non-binary identities**

Inclusive Church statement

While we recognise that there will always be differences of opinion and priorities in addressing issues of equality, diversity, and inclusion, Inclusive Church remains unwavering in our **commitment to inclusivity in its broadest sense**.

We recognise that, when individuals feel or fear their own rights are being threatened by increased inclusion of minority groups, they may seek solace in creating barriers and segregating spaces for more exclusive use. We firmly resist this approach. Instead, we are guided by our conviction that we rise by **lifting others**.

We believe that true inclusion requires **openness to growth, adaptation, and a willingness to learn** from both our experiences and contexts. There is a profound moral, scriptural, theological, and ethical imperative to be guided by Jesus' commandment to love our neighbours as ourselves. This principle forms the core of our mission.

We wish to reaffirm our position that sexuality and gender identity cannot, and should not, be reduced to binary issues. We **categorically reject** any rhetoric that fosters fear of the LGBTQIA+ community or is used to justify persecution, abuse or bullying of another group. We will not work with any group which actively campaigns for the exclusion of others.

More specifically, we stand by our trans siblings, who are integral members of the body of Christ, and strongly reject the harmful narratives that portray them as a threat. We are all children of God, made in God's image, and it is our embrace of this diverse spectrum of identities that enriches the body of Christ and reflects the abundant love and life God desires for us all.

The Inclusive Church trustees acknowledge that we may not always get everything right, but we **remain committed** to broadening our **welcome** and widening our **mercy**, guided by love and grace.

We sincerely hope and pray that, in time, all may come to a deeper appreciation of the full inclusion of trans and non-binary people within Christ's church and our communities, and their value. While we are open to ongoing dialogue with those with whom we strongly disagree, it is important to clarify that such conversations do not constitute partnership.

We'll continue to consider proactive ways we can facilitate, and educate, on matters of inclusion and genuine welcome, for all.



**Inclusive
Church**

**Father Dan Barnes-Davies SCP, Chair &
The Venerable Allie Kerr, Vice-Chair**

17th November 2024