

# WWJD?



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**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**

*17<sup>th</sup> November 2024*