

# Annual Report

\_\_\_\_\_ 2021 \_\_\_\_\_



## Introduction

It is a privilege to write for the first time as Seniors Pastors. The Street is a church with a rich history and our heart's desire is to honour the generations of faithful men and women who have gone before. We stand on the shoulders of giants.

This year has been particularly important for The Street having farewelled Nick and Sarah Field as Senior Pastors. It is hard to express just how grateful our church is for their devotion, care, and leadership over the last 24 years. Their legacy continues in the many leaders they worked so hard to raise up around them.

This year we also farewelled Andy Smith who retired after 12 years on the staff team, most recently serving as Executive Pastor. Andy will be less familiar to many people than Nick and Sarah and yet his contribution should not be underestimated. We are so grateful for his humble nature, sharp insight and quick wit! The strong financial position of The Street Church owes much to Andy's diligence over many years.

The strong financial position is demonstrated in the net surplus that enabled us to reduce our borrowings significantly this year. This opens up opportunities as we begin to gather in more local areas and find innovative ways to reach out with the message of Jesus.

2021 was another year affected by Covid where success is measured by our ability to adapt to the circumstances. We are grateful for everyone who has played a part in this and to God for his enabling and guidance at every turn.

We commissioned and supported Nick and Sarah Field in pioneering The Way, a house church planting movement. We made a significant contribution to an advertising campaign to raise the profile of Alpha which helped many churches around the region run courses in the year. We also expanded our online operations. This began as something to support people at home but it grew to become an innovative way to pursue our multi-site strategy by enabling the church to gather in local communities.

These are glimpses of things we see being more prominent in future. Pressing into planting more church locations, serving in local communities, being generous in missions, and deepening in prayer. We see these things as the best ways of honouring those who have gone before and pressing into what is ahead.

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

### 2021

	TOTAL	CITY	NIGHT	EAST
Locations	3	1	1	1
Services*	-	-	-	-
Average Weekly*	-	-	-	-
Database members	1789	1163	436	190
Missionaries**	10	4	5	1
Life Groups	72	42***	20	10
Life Group Members	870	509	259	102
Baptisms	15	3	5	7
People Serving*	-	-	-	-

\*2021 looked a little different, so we do not have the statistics we would usually record about services, attendance and serving. We held Hubs, gatherings and services all over the city, experimenting with different ways of meeting together. Some people registered for these gatherings, others hosted their own informal gatherings and many watched our services online. We saw a number of people step up to get involved and make these things happen, but their names would not necessarily have been recorded in any official way. Likewise many people who are recorded as part of a serving team in our database have been unable to serve in the way they usually would due to changes in the way we are functioning. For these reasons we have chosen not to record these numbers for 2021 because we did not think the statistics would accurately reflect reality.

<sup>\*\*</sup> For more information about the missionaries we support, please email missions@thestreet.org.nz

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>includes Mosaic (6 groups)



I look back on my first year as a pastor with great thankfulness to God for his mercy and grace through all that 2021 brought. I never could have imagined the year would turn out like it did, but I always take courage and confidence that the providence of God means He is never surprised and can work all things together for good.

While 2021 was quite the rollercoaster, in and out of lockdowns, being able to meet and then not, I've been humbled by the willingness of so many to open their homes, offer their time, and give their energy towards our mission of helping people become total followers of Jesus Christ.

I'm celebrating dozens of people going through the Alpha course; 24 men meeting every Thursday morning at 6:30am for Systematic Theology; our two weeks of 24/7 prayer; three baptisms; our dozens of Life Group leaders who open their homes and pour into their people every week; those who shared powerful testimonies in our James series; everyone who said 'yes' to helping City Hubs get off the ground; Floyd adapting Kids Zone to go online; Matt and Ang Swank pouring their hearts and lives in our Squad and Massive youth; Mel Lienert investing into marriages, pre-schoolers and families; Jamie Rodwell developing more worship leaders and running Encounter evenings; Emma Roche joining Team City and providing much-needed support across all ministries; and my wonderful wife Gabrielle helping lead the Mosaic ministry and being an incredible support and wise voice through it all.

2021 wasn't the year we expected, but it was the year God gave us. It forced us to our knees, it made us continually rest and trust that God is at work in the chaos, that Jesus is the one building His church, and that it's a privilege that He chooses to work through us - His children - to accomplish His purposes on earth.

Here's to 2022 and all that the Lord has prepared for us.

**Jerram Watts** Lead Pastor - City





### East

We are grateful for another year of God's faithfulness at East. We started the year in our new venue, the old Miramar Uniting Church building, and it has been such a blessing to have a permanent space to gather, with kids and adults all under one roof! It's amazing how many people just come in to check out church when you meet in a recognisable church building. We've also celebrated more baptisms this year than all of the previous years of East put together - praise God that He is at work in people's lives!

Our Life Groups have been a huge point of celebration for us this year. We are so grateful for every one of our Life Group leaders and all that they pour into the people under their care. As we've navigated the continued challenges of COVID, our Life Groups have been really significant in providing consistent care and community.

The free dinner we run each Wednesday at Strathmore Park Community Centre has continued successfully right through 2021, maintaining a steady core of people who attend. We're celebrating the partnership with Shelly Bay Bakery as they provide free bread for us each week. We've also had a pharmacist dropping in from Strathmore Park Pharmacy, and a wonderful hairdresser who attends East called Sean Rhee does free haircuts once a month which is very popular! Through the relationship with the community centre we've also provided packed lunches for the school holiday programme they run, hampers for families in need at Christmas, and we've been running a parent and bubs group which has been a great way to connect with more people from the community.

We ended 2021 in the new COVID traffic light system and are trusting God for 2022 as we continue to adapt and change, and allow God to lead us to effectively make disciples in the eastern suburbs.

Simon & Jenny Gill Lead Pastors - East





# Night

There is so much to be grateful to God for in 2021. With another year of big changes and a disrupted "normal rhythm" that we have been used to in previous years, God has still been leading us and working in the lives of people in our Night community.

A big highlight of 2021 has been Life Groups. Not being able to gather every Sunday definitely has its downsides but one big positive is that we have seen a huge majority of our community commit to being part of a Life Group. We value this highly because we have seen that relationships with others and more importantly, Jesus, go so much deeper when people are invested in Life Groups and commit to seeing one another grow as disciples.

But 2021 wasn't just about Life Groups. A couple of other highlights were:

Alpha courses running in homes, 24/7 prayer (the night community loaded up on red bull and carried the early hour graveyard shifts!), some lads taking part in the year-long systematic theology course and a group of girls doing a 10 week systematic theology course.

Reflecting on what God did in 2021 gives us so much excitement and faith for the year ahead. We want to continue to make our Life Groups the backbone of our community and a place where people grow in their faith in Jesus and relationships with one another. We are so looking forward to having Tyler Scott, our new intern with us for the year, who will do an amazing job leading the Uni students of The Street Night and growing in her pastoral giftings. We begin 2022 unsure of what the year will look like, but on the edge of our seats seeing the vision of one cruise ship turned into multiple fishing vessels being accelerated into action. Lord have your way!

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 2021**

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 2021**

Total Income	\$2,473,398
Other	\$16,849
Property Giving	\$118,846
Rental	\$493,230
General Giving	\$1,844,471

#### **EXPENDITURE 2021**

Staff	\$1,165,058
Interest	\$107,738
Facilities	\$251,912
Outreach	\$162,890
Administration	\$94,604
Ministries	\$147,514
Depreciation	\$113,178
Total Expenditure	\$2,042,895
Surplus*	\$430,502

<sup>\*</sup> 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

We worship a mighty God. As we reflect on another year where our own plans have had to adjust to fit around a pandemic, it is good to remember that God has not been constrained by our circumstances or our ability to meet in "a church".

When Stephen was before the Sanhedrin in Acts 7, he pointed out:

"However, the Most High does not live in houses made by human hands. As the prophet says: 'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me? says the Lord. Or where will my resting place be? Has not my hand made all these things?'"

Whether we were able to meet in large groups or not through 2021, God has remained on the throne and he has still been at work: in our hearts, in our neighbourhoods, and in our world.

It was a joy and a significant step to commission Simon and Jenny Gill as our new Senior Pastors in 2021, and we are blessed to have them in this role, pointing us towards Jesus, and encouraging us to say yes to him. Continue to pray for them and for the rest of the leadership team and the elders as we labour together in service of our God.

My prayer remains that we would walk in step with Jesus as we move forward into 2022 and beyond. That we would not rely on our own strength but would seek his leading for us as individuals and as a church. That we would be guided by Jesus in how and where we invest our time and resources. And that we would listen to his promptings to reach out to others in love and with the message of hope that only Jesus can bring.

**Matt Conway**Chair of the Elders