

“...building a church of resilient disciples of Jesus
committed to bringing God's Kingdom

...wherever

we

are.”

Our Annual Report *for* 2021

dear
Gateway
Whaanau,

It is our pleasure to be able to share with you the Gateway 2021 Annual report. We wanted to take some time to share a snapshot of happenings, some facts and figures and some things you can join with us in prayer for as together we seek to bring Gods kingdom to Hamilton City.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Leadership team and our Senior Leaders who have guided us in the midst of a most unusual and challenging season.

Of course, none of this is possible without our wonderful staff who have had to navigate some interesting times without the benefit of an instruction manual, our amazing volunteers who serve our community so well and our wider Gateway family who support, encourage and pray.

Finally, we thank God for his faithfulness, provision and peace and for being the rock on which we all stand.

Mike Frew
Executive Pastor

*from
the*
Leader-
ship
Teams

from our Leadership Team

Don't say it, don't say it, don't say it....the last year really has been some unprecedented times!

But we do need to acknowledge that we have had challenges in trying to navigate the pandemic and church life. We have wrestled with our decisions in terms of trying to find a way forward for how to gather together. It probably didn't matter where we landed, there was always going to be someone that would feel some dissatisfaction with our decisions.

To provide some context, although we haven't been able to please everyone with our responses, as a Leadership Team we have tried to consider truth, humility and justice as the Psalmist in Psalm 45:4 suggests.

What we mean here is:

Truth: We are really privileged to have some amazing people who call Gateway home. These are good people that can be trusted and want the best for both our Gateway whaanau and our wider community. We are so thankful for them and their voices of truth and wisdom through this time and are incredibly proud of the mostly unseen Kingdom work they are stewarding in their spheres of influence.

Humility: We realised that we are only human so we never wanted to assume that we were always going to get things right. We wanted to be adaptable and make sure we listened to others. It seems that when the pandemic caused division, humility was how we could make a way forward. So we tried to apply humility.

Justice: The other thing that was front of mind as we have navigated this season is the reality that the vulnerable and marginalised would be most impacted by the pandemic. We wanted to make sure this was something that was paramount in our decision making processes.

But one of the things that we have realised is that although the virtual experience has provided some new ways of doing things, the beating heart of church life is in the face-to-face interactions - together in homes, workplaces, schools, parks, and when we can - in church buildings.

from our
**Leadership
Team (cont.)**

Hence we are really looking forward to getting into an environment that enables us to be more embodied together. In a world that looks increasingly chaotic and complex, truly Christ is our anchor and hope.

Finally I wanted to make a quick note on some of the recent media attention the Church has received in recent months in NZ and the world. Although I'm personally in no place to comment on the particulars of other church situations - what I do want to say is that I have had the privilege of observing the leadership and staff over a number of years, and although no one is perfect, in my experience the decisions and actions have always been made with the idea that people are the end...they are not the means to the end. I am very grateful to be a part of such a faith community.

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata, It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.

Jono Peart
On behalf of the Leadership Team

from our Senior Leaders

To say that this season has been a challenge would be the understatement of the decade. Karen and I have been in fulltime ministry since 1977 and we were bi-vocational for a couple of years before that. In all that time this Covid season would have to be the most difficult one that we have had to pastor through.

Of course we have had other seasons of incredible challenge; the difference however has been that in those other seasons we mostly knew what was the right thing to do, we just needed the courage to do it and see it through. This season has been different. There is, as far as I am aware, no play book for a global pandemic. Knowing what to do, with so many competing voices ringing in our ears has created levels of confusion and doubt that are unmatched in our experience.

Right from the outset we determined to treat Covid as a public health matter rather than cloud the issue with politics and theology. Following the advice of health professionals both from within and outside our community we have to the best of our ability followed Public Health guidelines.

We are aware other churches have followed different tracks and we have taken our share of flack for our position.

We don't feel defensive or angry with those who disagree with our position. We respect the right for people to feel differently about matters than we do.

We can say with a clear conscience that our actions have been motivated by a deep desire to care for the people of Gateway – for their health and wellbeing, for their families, for their businesses and their employment. We are certainly looking forward to coming out of the 'fog' of this season and to see what the landscape now looks like. Please pray for us as we continue to respond to the season's challenges.

Don Barry
On behalf of the Senior Leaders

team focus: Generations

team leader: ANNABELLE RUSSELL

serving: 0 - 25 YEARS OF GATEWAY

Our Generations Team aims to **create a safe and healthy environment where our children and young adults can grow in their relationship with Jesus**, build healthy relationships with one another and be equipped for all seasons of life in order to develop their God-given gifts and potential.

During Level 2 and the subsequent orange setting, we have had some great times together, God moments, lots of learning more about who God is (appropriate for each age level). Particularly for our primary, intermediate & high school areas these 'in person' gatherings are important times of meeting with others who are Christians and this a real encouragement for their faith journeys as this is not always what they experience at school each day.

We have had an average of **270 young people** across the Generations areas attending weekly, with **140 volunteers** serving in different capacities – weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

Prayer focus:

- *That there would be growth and learning for each child or young person as they continue to find out more about the way of Jesus and how that relates to their everyday life.*
- *That we would see the Holy Spirit move on Sunday mornings, in weekly meetings and in everyday lives and situations of our 0-25 year olds.*
- *Volunteers and rebuilding of teams.*
- *Rebuilding of friendships for our children and young people as they get to see each other weekly again.*
- *For reconnection with families and for families to continue to navigate this season well as they lead their children and young people in faith. Wisdom for how we resource parents to be the main leaders of their child's faith journey.*
- *A leader for Crave.*
- *For Lisa, Sarah, Hannah and Stephen that they would have wisdom and discernment as they lead their areas.*

generations: Young Adults

leader: STEPHEN JAMES HART

servicing: 18 - 25 YRS (TERTIARY & YOUNG PRO.)

- 5 connect groups.
- 10 volunteers – serving weekly on Tuesday nights
- ‘All ins’ once a month – average of 40 YAs

Year highlights: Great times of community, learning together at ‘All Ins’ as well as connect groups having some memorable nights of praying together and chatting through being together as God’s people.

Prayer focus: For Stephen as he takes on the leadership and for our YAs that there would be a fresh understanding of the way of Jesus. That they would be captured by the notion that living a powerful, passionate, and pure life is possible and desirable. And that God would be speaking to each person and growing them one-on-one.

generations: Crave

leader: TBD

servicing: 13 - 18 YRS (HIGH SCHOOL)

- Average of 75 youth attending
- 10 connect groups.
- 20 volunteers – serving weekly on Wednesday nights

Year Highlights: Building relationships, great conversation in connect groups, worship nights including a couple of nights led by the Crave band.

Key focus: The story of Jesus, who He was, what He’s done and why that’s important as a highschooler. Building community in connect groups.

Prayer focus: That we find the right person to lead Crave, that this person would be passionate about young people and leading them in the way of Jesus and that they would commit for 3-5 years to leading this area. That out of the disruption of the past 2 years our youth would find their identity in Jesus, and the abundant life that comes from that. That the community of young people within Gateway would continue to grow together in good friendships and encouragement of each other’s faith journey.

generations: Emerge

leader: HANNAH FLETCHER

servicing: 11-12 YRS (INTERMEDIATE)

- Average of 30 kids per Sunday
- 7 volunteers – serving weekly

Highlights: Emerge camp, seeing the youth eager to engage with God and worship. We have experienced some powerful moves of the Holy Spirit during our Sunday gatherings which we are incredibly grateful for - we want to see more.

Key focus for the year: Intermediates growing deeper in their faith and developing their foundational knowledge of the Christian faith. To have the opportunity to go deeper in worship and to experience the Holy Spirit in new and powerful ways.

Prayer focus: That they would grow deeper in their faith and a continued development of foundational knowledge. That they'd go deeper in their worship of God and to experience the Holy Spirit in new and powerful ways. For volunteers to help lead this important age group.

generations: Tribe

leader: SARAH SINGLETON

servicing: 5 - 10 YRS (PRIMARY)

- Average of 85 kids per Sunday
- 40 volunteers – two teams, serving fortnightly

Highlights: Kids Summer Fun event at Narrows Park, 5k walk/run at Claudelands, Zion Skate afternoon and being able to give out Year 6 Graduation certificates and gifts. We've had some fantastic interactive teaching times with volunteers having a go at different roles and gaining confidence. Kids having fun with their friends.

Key areas of focus: More volunteers, we will need to rebuild teams once we regather. To help equip families to share their Christian faith at home. Opportunities for kids to learn what it means to be a follower of Jesus and who the Holy Spirit is to them.

Prayer focus: For the focus areas above alongside reconnecting with families well.

generations: Kingdom

leader: LISA CLARKE

servicing: 0 - 5 YRS (PRE-SCHOOL & BABIES)

- Average of 40 kids per Sunday
- 66 volunteers – 4 teams serving monthly

Highlights: Gateway Kids Family Picnic at Narrows Park, Gateway Kids Easter Egg Hunt and Family Picnic at Taitua Arboretum, and our Gateway Kids Advent Drive thru.

Kingdom Volunteers training afternoon, Kingdom Kids Zoom calls over lockdown, Making changes to the 'Tots' programme so that it is more relatable for them.

Key focus for the year: To reach out to families with children who have special needs, and provide appropriate environments and support. Build closer relationship with volunteers and maybe find mentors for our younger leaders.

Prayer focus: An increase in volunteer numbers. A blessing over every Kingdom volunteer leading in Juniors, Tots, Crawlers and Babies room. That the curriculum for the year will remain in the children's minds and hearts and they can leave Kingdom knowing our three powerful but simple truths: that God loves me, God made me and Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Thank you for your continued support and trust as we teach, look after and help grow your young people into resilient disciples of Jesus.

Annabelle Russell
Generations Team Leader

team focus: Connections

team leader: MEGAN MACDONALD

serving: GATEWAY COMMUNITY AT LARGE

Connect Groups make a difference that is felt across the life of our church. It is through the generosity and willingness to serve week in and week out that the church is effective in helping people find a home here at Gateway. We are always **encouraged by the community that is built within our connect groups** whereby people can express themselves and where they can find meaning, purpose and connection with others by doing life with other people outside of a Sunday gathering.

2021 was another challenging year as we faced the continuing challenges of a global pandemic. With ongoing restrictions in place, lockdowns and closed borders, gathering together in person or seeing loved ones was once again put on hold.

Yet despite this our connect groups have been at the coalface, assisting many who have been affected by the challenges of this season. It has been humbling to see our community excel in being caring, faithful and generous throughout this difficult time. It's here that people encounter real and authentic community, further grow in faith with one another, and ultimately meet life-long friends to walk out life together. **It's the place where our large church becomes small** and where wins/losses, praise/prayer, laughter/tears are shared in living rooms.

Connect groups vary in size, meet weekly/fortnightly across our city and are led by 2-4 leaders who help organize meetings, facilitate group discussions and connect those in need of additional support to our Pastoral Team. With each containing the same essential group elements, each group looks slightly different and enables an individual to choose what they want to be a part of in their particular season of life.

This coming year we hope to place great emphasis on **leadership development, care and accountability** as these are vital ingredients in building a healthy church. I firmly believe that Connect Groups, now more than ever, are one of the best ways to pastorally care for our community.

- **19 connect groups meeting across the city**
- **285 people on average in connect groups**

Prayer focus: Our heart is to continue to grow our ability to place people in connect groups, and we can't do this without leaders! Pray that God would stir the hearts of those who would like to lead and grow a connect group! Pray that we would DOUBLE the amount of connect groups we have in the next 12 months.

Megan Macdonald
Connections Team Leader

team focus: Missions

team leader: CHRIS JONES

servicing: GATEWAY MISSIONARIES

Missions both local and international, continues to be integral to and at the heart of who we are as Gateway. This can be measured through indicators such as financial giving - the missionaries and non profits organisation we serve and support, pastoral care, training etc. Along with the important, but hard to measure assistance we give such as serving on Boards, helping in crisis situations, encouragement, prayer and much more.

We continue to give 10% of our offerings received to Missions.

Whilst these past 2 years have significantly impacted traditional missions, particularly overseas, we are already seeing that it is allowing us, along with other churches and mission agencies, the opportunity to appraise and re evaluate what we have been doing up to this point in time. Thus allowing us to dream and plan for a preferred future.

Prayer focus: Please continue to pray for our missionaries. Some of the areas to pray for are protection, wisdom, strength, boldness and resilience. Pray too for God's favour and grace to be upon them in all they do and say. Remember also the children of our missionaries, that they will see the impact and difference their parents are making on the people they live amongst. That for them, this will be time they will always remember with fondness and not regret.

As you pray for our missionaries can I encourage you that your prayers make a difference.

Thank you for your continued support both financially and prayerfully as we support our missionaries internationally.

Chris Jones
Missions Team Leader

team focus: Pastoral Care

team leader: JAN CARR

serving: GATEWAY COMMUNITY AT LARGE

Many of our staff play a pastoral role at Gateway, but it is our privilege as a Pastoral Team to specifically 'care' for and respond to our Gateway family members on a daily basis.

That care and response may be during times of crisis, in times of celebration, or simply day to day life. We are privileged to participate in and facilitate many family celebrations. In 2021, we were celebrants for **15 weddings, at least 30 baby dedications, the baptism of 15 individuals, and sadly, officiated 8 funerals.**

Much of our time is also spent with families and individuals in crisis. Such crises include ill health, mental health issues, marital difficulties, family rifts, relationship difficulties, financial strains, and many other aspects of loss and grief.

We have been able to provide at least **600 hours of counselling**, as well as referred **50 people to other professionals such as counsellors, psychologists and other medical professionals.**

Also, in response to these needs, we have been privileged to provide **300 prayer Ministry sessions, referred 250 situations to our crisis prayer team volunteers, and seen countless people receive prayer at the end of our Sunday gatherings.**

At times the response is practical and has involved facilitating the provision of at least **1,000 meals, and monetary support via our Barnabas Fund.** For those unaware of the background, in 2014 the Barnabas Fund was established by members of our Gateway community, specifically for the purpose of giving a financial helping hand when needed to those who call Gateway home. Over the **past 12 months** we have had the privilege of financially assisting **37 families in need** to the tune of **\$11,825.** Thanks to all who have contributed to this particular fund.

Should you wish to contribute to this fund, details can be found on our website <https://www.gatewaychurch.org.nz/give> please simply include 'Barnabas' as a reference on your deposit.

Hospitality is an important part of our role. Catching up with people for a coffee is an integral part of pastoral care. These coffee catch-ups often include a mentoring or discipling component.

Strengthening marriages has been a key focus for us. A team of volunteers facilitate Prepare Enrich for our couples considering marriage, and 2021 saw us running **two Marriage Alpha Courses for 20 couples.**

There were several weekday coffee mornings arranged for first time mums, and our retirees have also enjoyed coffee mornings and other times of fellowship and connecting.

We are grateful to be able to serve, encourage and walk alongside our Gateway family in times of both celebration and difficulty. Thank you for allowing us this privilege.

Prayer focus: That we would have wisdom and insight as to how to pastor and guide the people of our Gateway Community.

Jan Carr
Pastoral Care Lead

team focus: Worship

team leader: NICK KRAENZLIN

serving: GATEWAY COMMUNITY AT LARGE

Early in the year we journeyed as a community towards our Easter Theme which centred around story and the song “Blessed Assurance”. Over the last three years **as a team we have prioritised ‘story’ at our gathered team nights** which happen every fortnight, and we continued this in 2021. Our habit is to have two or three people from the team share their testimony/story, and then spend time praying over these individuals as a team and ministering prophetically to them.

We took a **team of six people to minister at ‘Chapter Two’ in Taranaki in February** and led a memorable time of worship with the crew there. This was an event organized by Donald Goodhall where a number of worship teams, creatives, and speakers gathered for a time of reflection, worship, prayer, teaching, and refreshing in a stunning bush setting well off the beaten track.

We continued the **development of the Crave Worship team**, helping them facilitate a number of worship nights for the Crave and Young Adults community. We also did a **teaching session with our Tribe and Emerge crew** on worship.

We led our community through a focussed journey around Pentecost with the song “God of Revival”. This was a memorable season that culminated in a ministry evening where a significant number of people were impacted by the touch of the Holy Spirit. **This event was a catalyst for an ongoing focus that we will be continuing this year.**

We continued work on our **song writing project**, which saw us develop a team of seven songwriters as they presented **24 songs** for consideration for this project. After much refining and a shortlisting process, we are now ready to proceed to the recording phase with **eight of these songs** which will then be incorporated into our gatherings later in the year.

In conjunction with our Creative team we supported the **worship and creative conference “Two or More”**, networking with Activate, Te Rautini, and the Village Church and others to help upskill their musicians, worship together, and build connections.

We explored various ways of expressing worship through Church Online during lockdown. This included a “**Hymns A-Z**” session where we led the community through a hymn for each letter of the alphabet, “**Jukebox Worship**” where we sang some of the well-known and classic oldies from the 90s era. We also took the opportunity to **film worship in various locations, backdrops and settings** with different teams which we wouldn’t ordinarily be able to do!

Once again in conjunction with the Creative team our musicians and vocalists ended the year with the **Church Online finale “Gloria”** and then had the privilege of gathering in person on Christmas Eve where we were able to join our voices with the choir to celebrate the birth of our Saviour.

We have started 2022 with a renewed focus on what it means to **facilitate worship led by the Spirit**. We have given time to worship as a team that is spontaneous and have been encouraged by the ways the Spirit has been leading us already.

In the absence of our physical gatherings we have had a lot of fun exploring **alternate way to serve our communities**, such as gardening and yard work. This has been a wonderful opportunity for our teams to step out of our usual rhythm and serve in new ways.

Prayer focus: A renewed sensitivity to the Holy Spirit as we seek to follow His leading and give Him more room in our gatherings when we are back in the building together. For wisdom, inspiration, and momentum as we enter the final stages of our song writing project and launch into the recording phase. Continued health and protection over our teams, and new depths of intimacy and moments of encounter in both the secret and the public place.

On behalf of our worship whaanau, we're so grateful for the privilege of leading you in worship and helping to facilitate our larger spaces of gathered, musical worship on Sundays. Here's to another wonderful year!

Nick Kraenzlin
Worship Team Lead

team focus: Creative

team leader: STEPHEN JAMES HART

serving: GATEWAY COMMUNITY AT LARGE

2021 was a year of taking new creative ground. Both out of necessity and passion we pushed ourselves to take on new challenges throughout the year. Video and digital was the main “name of the game” for 2021 due in part to Covid lockdowns and restrictions.

Prior to these lockdowns we produced **two physical print-editions of our “Nine Fifty” zine.** The first was a supplement to Vision Sunday and included a re-cap and reminder of Gateway’s core values and beliefs. The second was a creative, holy week liturgy in the lead up to Easter. These accompanied a social media video-devotional campaign presented by various members of the Gateway staff.

Leading up to Pentecost our creative team filmed interviews with people in our community, and **produced a 40 minute documentary, “In Step: Stories of Spirit-led Lives”** to show what God has done and is doing in our midst. The heart behind “**In Step**” was to help raise the faith of our people to seek God for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday. The documentary premiered as the opening to our Encounter Night in May and was subsequently **viewed 2,400 times on Facebook and YouTube.**

We held a one-day creative and worship conference in July called “**Two or More**” with around 100 people attending from across Waikato, Auckland and Bay of Plenty. This was an incredible day of unity and growth for the local churches in these areas. Between Gateway, The Village, Activate, and Te Rautini we ran workshops and masterclasses on everything from photography to songwriting and worship leading.

Almost immediately after the conference, NZ went into Level 4 lockdown. This forced us to **rethink our creative strategy for digital content** and what a creative online church offering could and should look like during this time...from this, “**Gateway Church Online**” was born. Each week we set about to improve upon the previous Sunday’s offering and were constantly exploring new concepts, technologies and techniques, and practically upscaling our physical resources.

Over the six months of “Gateway Church Online”, we saw an average of **1,000 weekly viewers from all around the world**. Hosted directly on our YouTube channel, these weekly videos featured pre-recorded worship with our teams, announcements and encouragement from hosts and a message from our senior leaders.

Leading up to Christmas, we embarked on a Gateway first in the form of **“Gloria!” - a Christmas video presentation**. Filmed on location at Gails of Tamahere, we took the worship team and captured beautiful renditions of Christmas standards, alongside an interwoven re-telling of the Christmas story by Don Barry. **“Gloria!” was viewed 2,500 times across Facebook and YouTube**.

Leading on and further expanding from this “digital Sunday” format, we **developed “Church At Your Place” (CAYP)**. This has been a well-received at-home liturgy to help our people engage with and put into practice what’s being talked about on Sunday. CAYP features a weekly video sermon from Don or Chris, a liturgy document with pointed questions for small groups, prayer points, a worship set on Spotify and resources for kids.

Prayer focus: We're really looking to build a solid team of volunteer creatives in 2022. Pray that people's hearts are awakened (maybe for the first time) to what creative expression might look like in their life - and how to connect and use that gift in our community and gatherings.

Continue to pray that we stayed "Holy Ghost inspired creatives"; individuals and a team that hears the whispers of Heaven and finds creative solutions and ways to bring those ideas to life here on Earth.

It's been an honour and our privilege to bring you "Gateway Church Online" over the lockdowns and months thereafter! Thanks for your attention, engagement and feedback. We've loved helping to bring Gateway to your living rooms, cars, and devices in 2021. We're looking forward to another year of Holy Spirit infused creativity, worship and community together!

Stephen James Hart
Creative Team Leader

team focus: Operations

team leader: KEZZ PAWLEY

serving: GATEWAY COMMUNITY AT LARGE

Some ask what is Operations?

Well, as a wider team we do the following: We help co-ordinate events, ensuring all the health and safety requirements are taken care of. We organise stationery orders, and communion cups ready for a Sunday.

We ensure bills are paid and assigned to the correct department. We lease out carpark spaces to create additional revenue, and look after the church calendar, with booking of rooms. We ensure donation certificates are ready in April for those who give to Gateway, and help facilitate the finance audit each year.

We answer the office phone and look after the office emails. We create rosters for the Admin and Library teams. This last year we have taken on the project of moving to Planning Center for event registrations etc.

- We lease out and manage 41 car parks during the week.
- We created a centralised database for 2,086 people connected with Gateway.
- Our annual Audit highlighted no areas of deficiencies.

Prayer focus and key focus area for the next year: As we continue transition out of Covid-19 as an Operations Team we want to support the upcoming events, ensuring the operations run smoothly, so people can encounter God in a deeper way.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you in the admin and operation of our Monday - Saturday church rhythms, as well as our Sunday gatherings!

Kezz Pawley
Head of Operations

team focus: Gateway Builds

team leader: MIKE FREW

serving: GATEWAY COMMUNITY AT LARGE

Gateway remains committed to the development of a building that represents who we are as a community and one that endures throughout multiple generations.

We have considered several versions of concept designs over the past few months, we have sought feedback and as a result continue to refine our thinking. While we acknowledge that this may have taken longer than anticipated, we would prefer to take time at this phase of the project as opposed to substantially amending design at a later stage.

This design will incorporate a Gathering space, a connection space, room for kids, a Chapel or sacred space and outdoor areas. All the while trying to be respectful of the residential area nearby.

We are grateful and well served by those guiding the project. We have experienced developers, designers, strategists and financiers on the team and we are excited about being able to show something soon and discuss how we might start to turn this vision into reality.

Stay tuned for more information and our full "Gateway Builds" project launch in 2022. We're looking forward to this exciting new chapter of our physical story here at Gateway.

Mike Frew
Gateway Builds Team Leader

our
2021
Finance
Report

from the Finance Team

team leader: MIKE FREW

serving: GATEWAY COMMUNITY AT LARGE

We feel humbled by the ongoing commitment, discipleship and faithfulness shown by our Gateway community over the past year.

It was difficult to know exactly what would happen to tithing and donation levels during 2021 as the significant interruption to gatherings, the impact to businesses, employment and of course the health and well-being of our Gateway families was considered.

Despite these interruptions we have been incredibly blessed through provision of **\$2,158,101** in annual tithing income. This represents a year-on-year increase to tithing of **\$146,000**.

Throughout 2021 an average of 300 giving numbers are used each month with 53 new giving numbers activated over the course of the year. It is important to note however that while overall giving has increased, we are seeing a year on year decrease in giving numbers used.

As you may be aware, Gateway has a finance team who meet regularly throughout the year to oversee key elements of budgeting and allocation of funding. The guiding principles that were established in the 2019 financial year have continued to serve us well and we remain committed to investment into 5 key areas:

Missions	10%
Operations	10%-15%
Land and Buildings	20-30%
People	50%-60%

Over the past few years, you will note that a portion of our annual tithing income has been set aside as savings towards the upcoming Gateway builds project. As we look to the future, redevelopment of our facilities is a key intergenerational investment to support the ongoing ministry of Gateway in the heart of our city.

The financial approach to enabling Gateway Builds requires Gateway to develop a savings fund for use as our contribution to the project alongside additional funding avenues. Should the redevelopment of our facilities involve a degree of bank lending, this lending will require demonstration of sufficient income over and above expenses which we are currently doing through operating within the target investment ranges above.

\$2,158,101

...total giving

Represents our financial year Jan 2021 – Dec 2021

OTHER INCOME

\$115,876

...Car park lease

Interest received

Designated Giving

Barnabas Fund Income

Other

-\$336,458

...Missions

Our investment into mission continues to be a mix of overseas missionaries and missions, local initiatives and community projects. As an example, in this financial year, we have supported:

Gateway Missionaries
Women's Refuge
Hamilton Combined Food bank
Pastor LB – Nepal
ELAM
Canon Andrew White
Te Whaanau Putahi
Vine Design Trust

Of consequence was the contribution of \$100,000 toward the construction of a church in Slovenia. Slovenia Church (Binkoštna Cerkev Center Ljubljana) These funds were designated some years ago and we had the privilege of releasing this amount in December 2021.

-\$1,123,954

...People Investment

Gateway continues to be blessed by a committed and talented staff. In line with policy, staff salaries at the end of the 2021 financial year equated to 52.1% of our annual tithe. This investment included salary increases that were implemented in June 2021 following an annual review process.

Moving forward our investment in the Gateway team is a strategic priority. As employers we are considering not only the impact of the increase to 'Cost of Living' which is anticipated to be circa 6%, but also how our salary levels compare to the open market. While it is accepted that there is a calling element to ministry that supersedes the desire for high levels of remuneration, we seek to reach a position whereby staff feel financially valued as they serve the people and outreaches of Gateway.

-\$247,850

...Operations Investment

The operations budget largely involves fixed expenditure covering items such as electricity, insurance etc. We believe this area to be well controlled and resourced and we see no pressing expenditure that would impact the other areas of budgeted allocation.

-\$32,312

...Equipment Investment

As a result of our need to provide a greater online presence, we have invested in various cameras, lighting and supporting accessories. It would be easy to invest heavily in this area however we have taken a measured approach under the guidance of our Creative Lead.

As part of our equipment investment, we continue to look at replacement of assets across all areas to ensure our staff have the tools to effectively support their various ministries.

-\$195,265

...Land and Buildings

We have for the past 12 months been considering the requirements of Gateway's home. As communicated, we are exploring options to fulfil the vision set for the Gateway Builds Project. Gateway builds a home, Gateway builds a presence, Gateway builds a future. The

concept design was always going to be the most important aspect of the process and we have considered various options for the layout of the future property. The opportunity to provide a future proof design has been enhanced with the recent purchase of 21 Clifton Road and we are now currently revising the design to accommodate the additional space available. We continue to work with our architects and consultants.

\$338,138

...Surplus set aside and added to cash reserves earmarked for Gateway Builds project:

Please note that while the surplus amounts that we have managed to set aside over recent years appear to be generous, it is important to take into consideration that we have needed to take a financial approach that enables Gateway to obtain and service external borrowing in the future. E.g., a \$5m bank loan over a 15-year term at 6% would require annual payments of Principle and Interest of \$506,316. Our present surplus is therefore insufficient to cover this funding example.

...Audit Review

Our annual Independent Audit Review took place in February. We were delighted with the result, there were no items of concern highlighted. The auditor made particular reference to the outstanding work of Kezz Pawley (Gateway - Head of Operations), while these audits involve many hours of work, it does provide us with confidence that our processes and management information systems are in great shape.

...Summary

We again wish to express our gratitude for your continued generosity. While economic cycles come and go and disruptions become relatively normal, it is encouraging to see a faithfulness from those who call Gateway home in the area of finance. We have once again ended the year in a good financial position.

You can access our latest audited accounts at: <https://www.register.charities.govt.nz/Charity/CC22632>

Mike Frew
On behalf of the Finance Team