



ARENACHURCH



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

*Our mission is to go and grow  
and love and serve our world.*



*Dear Church*

*It's wonderful to belong!*

*We are one church in many locations and our reach continues to extend across all the different age ranges, demographics and cultures.*

*This year our family have been part of Arena Church for 25 years and we have so much to remember and celebrate. I look on and stand in awe of what has happened over the decades and more importantly what is happening in the life of our church now.*

*It's so amazing to see our numbers increase across the the campus locations.*

*It's a joy to welcome so many families, couples and individuals into our church family and to see so many new people find hope in Jesus Christ. All the Campus Pastors do a great job. Patrick and Lucile our Pastors in France continue to build a life giving church in the spiritual hardness of this nation and they continue to see people gather and find faith in Jesus*

*Praise Jesus!*

*Kristian Thorpe  
Arena Church Senior Pastor*

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*Dear church,*

*I am delighted on behalf of the Arena Church Board to extend our thanks to you for your generosity over the past financial year and also to thank God for His unending faithfulness.*

*God encourages us through his word to take moments to reflect and rejoice on his goodness, it is great fuel as we look with faith to what God has for us in the years to come.*

*This past year has not been without challenges as we have continually seen further rises in the cost of living. Despite this, many have faithfully given financially to Arena which is reflected in this year's report, we thank God that both our general giving and our Legacy giving have risen over this last year. Not only does this affect our immediate church family but also impacts the wider community as we are able to reach out further and impact many more families, homes and communities.*

*It is true that we really cannot do all that we do without financial provision, your giving has enabled us to 'Go and Grow and Love and Serve Our World'.*

*We have seen attendances rise, ministries develop, people empowered,*

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*communities impacted and many more, all as a result of our giving. You can rest assured that we have the proper processes in place to monitor our finances.*

*The Arena Church Board and Arena Community Board meet regularly to review many aspects to ensure that we are running purposefully and effectively as charities, this includes monitoring our finances. We take the call very seriously to steward well and look after what God has given us whilst believing for the more that God is calling us into.*

*Whilst you will find some great information and highlights in this report, if you need any further information then please don't hesitate to get in contact with our Executive Pastor Julie Turner.*

*We are fully transparent and are happy to help further. As we enter into the next financial year, we enter with anticipation believing for 'GROWTH' in every area.*

*Thank you again for your faithful giving, we really do appreciate every person that gives of their time, effort and finance. Let us pray and believe that there is more to come and step wholeheartedly into the next season whatever God is calling us to.*

*Nathan Butcher  
Arena Church Board Member*

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# **LEADERSHIP ACCOUNTABILITY**

***Arena Church has a Triangular Leadership Foundation  
made up principally of 3 groups:-***

***Directed by the Senior Pastor's Office***

*This team led by the Senior Pastor brings Directional, Spiritual,  
Vision and Strategy to the whole of Arena Church.*

***Guided by Campus Pastors***

*The Campus Pastors and their localised teams bring a “grass roots”  
pastoral and outreach lead to each location. This team cares for and  
shepherds the individual campuses and reaches out and serves their  
geographical location.*

***Protected by Trustees***

*The board of trustees bring their considerable marketplace wisdom,  
skills and expertise to appropriate legal and financial  
governance to Arena Church.*

*The last part of our leadership foundation is found in external  
ministries and ministers.*

***We are strengthened by Apostles -***

*The Senior Pastor's Office, Campus Pastors and Board of Trustee  
teams of Arena Church recognise the need for proven Apostolic gifts  
input into the church.*

*These relationships add weight, security, wisdom and strength to  
Arena Church as a whole.*



# *Arena Church Update*

*Our vision for every person who  
connects with Arena Church is to*

***KNOW GOD***

***FIND FREEDOM***

***DISCOVER PURPOSE***

***MAKE A DIFFERENCE***



*2024 word for the year:*

**GROWTH**

*Get Ready  
Opportunity Waits  
Take Hold*

**6 CAMPUSES**

***Belper  
Ilkeston  
Ilkeston Hub  
Mansfield  
Nottingham  
Toulouse, France***

*“Increase is coming, so enlarge your tent and add extensions to your dwelling. Hold nothing back! Make the tent ropes longer and the pegs stronger. You will increase and spread out in every direction. Your sons and daughters will conquer nations and revitalise desolate cities.”*

*Isaiah 54:2-3 (TPT)*



AVERAGE CAMPUS  
ATTENDANCE

***BELPER // 22***

***ILKESTON // 192***

***ILKESTON HUB // 24***

***MANSFIELD // 163***

***NOTTINGHAM // 36***

***TOULOUSE // 22***

TOTAL AVERAGE  
WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

***459***

*700 people on the Arena Church database*

GENERATIONAL MINISTRIES

***Average Attendance  
across all campuses***

***Kids***

**66**

***Students***

**38**

***Seniors***

**100**

***We are passionate about seeing a generation changed as we  
empower people, young and old, to live a life committed to Jesus.***

TOTAL RESPONSES  
TO FOLLOW JESUS

440

## ***Our prayer for you:***

*“I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.”*

*Ephesians 1:17-18 (NIV)*



# TOTAL BAPTISMS IN 2024

# 30

## *Story from Janice*

*My journey of faith began as my family lost 3 members within a few months. As you can imagine being devastated, I started to really research the fact that I would be reunited again.*

*So, my journey began. I attended Arena for a year and then decided to go to Growth Track. It was so informative and a gentlemen there inspired me by saying that getting baptised would be a positive thing.*

*I now feel whole. Baptism was the best experience of my life. I am excited to continue learning in my journey of faith and life.*

*God Bless.*





I AM FREE

I AM FREE

I AM FREE

I AM FREE

I AM FREE

**I AM FREE**

I AM FREE



TOTAL SMALL GROUPS

23

*We believe that real life change happens in the context of authentic relationships, which is why we are a church made up of small groups.*

## ***Story from Irene***

*Being part of a small group has helped me to open up again. To be brave to speak up. It's one thing to have these small groups to heal, and another to feel the love from God through others.*

TOTAL DREAM TEAMS  
(VOLUNTEER TEAMS)

**40**

*OVER 150 DREAM TEAM MEMBERS  
AND GROWING*



ARENA MINISTRY SCHOOL

22

*Completed the  
school in 2024*

# ***Story from Ruth***

***A previous Arena Ministry School attendee***

***I was part of the 2023 Arena Ministry School (AMS). Having attended Arena for just over a year, I felt God was calling me to attend.***

***It's always good to be in the presence of the Lord and to study His word. I enjoyed meeting and getting to know people better, including those from other campuses and churches. All with the desire to come closer to God and gain a deeper understanding of His word.***

***I used to attend several conferences and weekends away each year. However, family needs meant that this hadn't been possible for some time. Attending AMS, I found, was a time of refreshing and soaking in the Lord.***

***It was a great encouragement and joy to hear others' testimonies and to witness them grow in confidence as they shared. It was amazing seeing their growing understanding of scripture as the weeks went by.***

***Lastly, a quick thank you to Phil for all the preparation, organising and teaching; and to Nathan and all the 'guest' speakers who shared God's word with passion and enthusiasm.***



## MISSIONS

***Albania***  
***Greece (Thessalonika)***  
***India***  
***Kenya***  
***Namibia***  
***Romania***  
***Slovakia***

***Not forgetting our heroic  
church planters in  
Toulouse, France.***

***We sponsor children through the ministry of Compassion  
International in the Mugumo Village in Kenya.***

***We must also never forget those persecuted for their faith  
in Christ. At Arena we do this through the great work of  
Open Doors.***



MISSIONS GIVING

**TOTAL**  
**£34,692**

LOCAL £13,326

NATIONAL £3,050

INTERNATIONAL £18,316

*'We must be global Christians with a global vision  
because God is a global God.'*





# *Financial Update*

ARENA COMMUNITY

## OUR COMMUNITY INFLUENCE

***1000's of people  
per month***

*reached through our community buildings,  
charity shops and businesses*

***Impacting our  
communities***

*through Serve Day and giveaways*

***5 supported  
living houses***

*serving up to 10 tenants*

***Operating from  
14 buildings***

*including 2 high street shops/cafes*

## COMMUNITY IMPACT

***1242 food parcels***

*given away. 700 people on our Foodbank database*

***Ilkeston***

*hundreds impacted through Foodbank, giveaways  
and supported living*

***Mansfield***

*Hundreds impacted through Care for a Coffee  
and Food Club*

***Nottingham***

*Increased outreach through shower unit with  
laundry facilities to reach the homeless*

***Belper***

*Events to serve the community*

***Toulouse***

*Reaching and helping immigrants*

ARENA COMMUNITY

*Income*  
*£366,265*

*Expenses*  
*£413,911*

***“The world of the  
generous get’s  
larger and larger;  
the world of the  
stingy gets smaller  
and smaller.”***

***Proverbs 11:24  
(MSG)***

# *Financial Update*

ARENA CHURCH

## ARENA CHURCH INCOME

***Tithes & Offerings***  
***£303,408***

***Legacy***  
***£83,502***

***Room Hire***  
***£63,813***

***Gift Aid***  
***£38,145***

***Special Offerings***  
***£24,470***

***Other Income***  
***£20,452***

***Total Income***  
***£533,789***



## ARENA CHURCH EXPENDITURE

***General Ministry***

***£3,397***

***Youth & Pastoral***

***£23,608***

***Tithes***

***£28,692***

***Salaries***

***£219,607***

***Mortgage & Rent***

***£117,447***

***Building, utilities***

***& repairs***

***£95,795***

***Administration***

***£33,033***

***Events***

***£5,257***

***Other Expenses***

***£14,837***

***Total Expenses***

***£541,673***

## LEGACY FUND

***Total Income***  
**£83,502**

*A further £10,000 was given through Legacy for a specific need which is not included in this figure*

***Total Expense***  
**£83,502**

*Into the 4 below areas:*

***Community Van***  
**£2,000**

***Campus Development***  
**£25,000**

***Buildings***  
**£56,502**

***Supported Living***  
**£0**

***“The one who  
blesses others is  
abundantly blessed;  
those who help  
others are helped.”***

***Proverbs 11:24  
(MSG)***



## *In conclusion*

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*To all at Arena Church and Arena Community*

*As we started this report with a thanks; I also conclude with a heartfelt 'Thank You'. For another year of loving and serving our world, our communities and our campuses. This report only tells a fraction of the many stories of changed lives and the many praise reports we have received.*

*As I meet with Violet, our Finance Manager, to regularly plan and budget, we also pray and thank God for all He is doing through us. When we look back at this report, what a testimony to the faithfulness of God. We will often use a phrase in our meeting 'Look at what God has done'. I am in awe of what God has done in the last 20 years that I have had the privilege of serving at Arena; from one campus to now six campuses, from one building to now fourteen buildings and all used for Kingdom purpose. And yet we know that God still has more people, more campuses and more ministries to reach our communities with the Good News of the gospel.*

*We look forward with great anticipation to what is ahead for our church. It is an honour to serve under the exceptional visionary leadership of our Senior Pastor, Kristian and the wider leadership team of Arena.*

*We are thankful for a vision to continue to reach the hurting, the broken and the many who have yet to come into a loving relationship with our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

*On behalf of the leadership and pastors of Arena Church we thank you for your giving and support to make this report possible. Only heaven will tell the full impact of this story which continues to be written...*

*Looking forward to all that God will do through Arena Church and Community in the year to come and as we continue to believe for the immeasurably more, to leave a legacy in others.*

*Julie Turner  
Executive Pastor*

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ARENACHURCH

*If you have any questions about anything in this report  
please email [finance@arenachurch.co.uk](mailto:finance@arenachurch.co.uk)*