



AGM & Special Meeting Minutes

1:00pm 18 September 2022

1. Attendance & Apologies

1.1. **Attendance** - Glennys Williams, Mark Learmont, Eliz Cook, Ian Cook, John Sampson, Jenny Davis, Sylvia Sandeman, Nathan Nettleton (Chair), Robert Davis, Di Shearer, Suzanne Peart, Dennis Fisher, John Fowler, Shelley Taylor, Samara Pitt (Minute-taker) Dom Filippi (from 1:23pm)

1.1.1. **Apologies** - Liesl Filippi, Gilbert & Yvonne Joyce, Audrey Kateena, Paul Gahan, Merryl Gahan, Acacia Nettleton

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

2.1. **Motion:** *That we now approve as an accurate record the minutes of the congregational AGM held on 19 September 2021.*

Discussion: *None*

Outcome: *Approved*

2.2. **Motion:** *That we now approve as an accurate record the minutes of the congregational vote held on 6 April 2022 (voting on acceptance of 4 new members).*

Discussion: *None*

Outcome: *Approved*

2.3. **Motion:** *That we now approve as an accurate record the minutes of the congregational vote held on 17 June 2022 (voting to affirm the covenants and host group).*

Discussion: *None*

Outcome: *Approved*

3. Reports

3.1. Host Group Report (pages 4-5)

Motion: That the congregation accept the Host Group report as tabled and thank the Hosts for their ministry among us.

Discussion: *None*

Outcome: *Approved*

3.2. Pastor's Report (pages 6-8)

Motion: That the congregation accept the Pastor's report as tabled and thank Nathan for his ministry among us.

Discussion: *None*

Outcome: *Approved*

3.3. Membership Report (page 9)

Motion: That the congregation accept the Membership report as presented with the changes noted, and thank Shelley for maintaining these records for us.

Discussion: *Note that the distinction between covenanting and reserve membership roll is purely about the decision to covenant and can be changed by the member at any time.*

Outcome: *Approved*

4. Financial Reports

4.1. Financial Report for the 2021-2022 financial year (page 10)

Motion: That the Church accept the financial reports for the past year as presented.

Discussion: *We also thank Ian for his work!*

Outcome: *Approved*

4.2. Budget for the 2022-2023 financial year (page 11)

Motion: That the church endorse the budget for the 2022-2023 financial year as presented.

Discussion: *We also thank Ian for his work!*

Outcome: *Approved*

4.3. Treasurer

Motion: That the congregation approve the reappointment of Ian Cook as its treasurer for the two years until the 2024 AGM or until a replacement can take over.

Discussion: *We also thank Ian for his work!*

Outcome: *Approved*

5. Matters for Voting

5.1. Recipients of our Annual Giving

Background: Each year, the church gives away 10% of its facility hire income to ministries elsewhere. This is split between four recipients: one local, one elsewhere in Australia, one overseas, and one related to asylum seekers. We have not had any discussion about new recipients, so the proposal is to support the same four as last year.

Motion: That we give away 10% of our facility hire income for the past year and split it between the following four recipients:

- *Partners Relief & Development* who are working with children and families fleeing from Burma, and who are recommended to us by YarZar;
- *the Indigenous Hospitality House*;
- *Sanctuary* at Warrnambool;
- *RISE* (Refugees, Survivors and Ex-detainees), the first refugee and asylum seeker organisation in Australia to be run and governed by refugees, asylum seekers and ex-detainees.

Discussion: *None*

Outcome: *Approved*

5.2. Electing BUV Delegates

Motion: That the congregation endorse John Fowler and Ian Cook as our delegates to the BUV Assembly Gatherings, and Shelley Taylor as a back-up delegate.

Discussion: *None*

Outcome: *Approved*

6. Necessary Tasks

Explanation: There are numerous people who contribute their time and labour to carry out the various tasks necessary to the ongoing operation of our common life, prayer and ministry. Many of these tasks are largely invisible, and are barely noticed unless they are not done. There are always some that are overlooked when we make up the list, so we add to the list in the meeting. These are not elected positions, and the fact that people are named as doing them does not mean that no one else can express interest in taking on the tasks. In most cases, the people doing them would welcome help, and in some cases they would love to hand the tasks over completely. There are some people who are doing too many of these

tasks, and we would love to see them shared around more equally. So if this list prompts you to think, “I could do that one day,” don’t be afraid to communicate that thought to the Hosts or the person presently in the role.

Treasurer: Ian Cook

Bank Account Signatories: Nathan Nettleton, Shelley Taylor, Samara Pitt

Correspondence secretary: Shelley Taylor

Bill payments: Shelley Taylor

Hall Hire Bookings and Invoicing: Eliz Cook

Host Group Agenda Preparation: Eliz Cook

Minute Taker for Meetings: Samara Pitt

Music Copyright reporting: Samara Pitt

Building maintenance: Ian Cook

Grounds, Lawns and Garden Maintenance: John Fowler, Jenny Davis, Rob Davis

Camp Coordinator: Eliz Cook

Hosting Daily Prayer Liturgies: Nathan Nettleton, Samara Pitt, Acacia Nettleton, Ian Cook, Eliz Cook, Shelley Taylor, Jeff Wild, Marion Green, Merryl Gahan (more welcome)

Singers for Recordings: Liesl Filippi, Shelley Taylor, Samara Pitt, Acacia Nettleton, Nathan Nettleton, Margie Welsford, Ian Cook, Merryl Gahan, Jen Davis, Jeff Wild (more welcome)

Weekly update of the slides for the daily prayer services: Jeff Wild & Nathan Nettleton

Any of the following tasks could be taken on by others

Sourcing and collating the readings for Compline: Nathan Nettleton

Compiling the weekly notice sheet: Nathan Nettleton

Editing the recordings of sermons and services and uploading them to our websites: Nathan Nettleton

Updating the allocation of parts for the Sunday liturgy and emailing it out to the congregation during the day on Sunday: Nathan Nettleton

Preparing, coordinating and mixing of the sung response recordings for our worship services: Nathan Nettleton

Motion: That the congregation endorse all those who do the necessary tasks for our Church and thank them for their service during the past year.

Discussion: *None*

Outcome: *Approved*

7. Special Business - Approving the lease of our church building to the VEC for 2 months

Explanation: Following the Australian Electoral Commission’s use of our church building as a pre-polling centre for the recent federal election, we received an enquiry from the Victorian Electoral Commission about using it for the upcoming state election. After much consideration, they asked if they could have it for two months to use as their regional administration centre for the election. Eliz has successfully negotiated an agreement with them to enable this. In return for exclusive use for two months, they will pay us \$36,600 (incl. GST). Eliz has notified our regular hall hire tenants who will need to make other arrangements for this period. The VEC want a formal lease for this arrangement, and a formal lease has to be approved and signed by the BUV Union Council (as trustees of our property), and they require that it first be approved by a special congregational meeting.

Motion: That the congregation approve the lease of our church building to the Victorian Electoral Commission for a period commencing on the 10th October 2022 and ending on the 9th December 2022 under the terms and conditions laid out in the lease document.

Discussion: *None*

Outcome: *Approved*

8. Listening Circle - Listening to the Uluru Statement from the Heart

We will listen to a reading of the Statement from the Heart, and then listen to one another as we share our responses to it – feelings, questions, ideas, hopes, action proposals, whatever.

The Statement

"We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart:

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from 'time immemorial', and according to science more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is a spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or 'mother nature', and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty. It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown.

How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years?

With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood.

Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future.

These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is the torment of our powerlessness.

We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: the coming together after a struggle. It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination.

We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history.

In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future."

9. Next AGM: 17 September 2023

Host group report for AGM 2022

The **Host Group in 2021 – 2022** has consisted of Eliz Cook, Ian Cook, Liesl Filippi, Uncle Dennis Fisher, Samara Pitt and Shelley Taylor, with Nathan Nettleton as pastor and chair.

The past 12 months for us have taken place in the context of Covid-19 vaccine mandates, the invasion of Ukraine and increasing reports of climate crisis events. It is amongst these and other forces and movements in the world that our little congregation seeks to live our prayer and pray our lives.

Our **online liturgies** continue to be adjusted and improved as we settle more into this practice from a technical competency perspective and becoming more familiar with the shape of this form of communal gathering. Several congregation members can now run the Sunday liturgy enabling Nathan to take leave that includes Sundays. We have continued to welcome a range of preachers and attendees joining us from overseas and interstate.

Daily prayers have become a steady rhythm underpinning the week for a segment of the congregation, and we become familiar with each other's armchairs and bookshelves and artwork and pets, as well as our daily routines and activities and conversations about what birds are keeping us company from the garden!

The Advent and Lenten retreat days were run as hybrid events which seems to have worked well for this particular activity. This year has seen the gradual demise of **South Yarra ecumenical services** as attendee numbers and our congregation's engagement with the neighbourhood has decreased.

We have started to see more regular **activities organised by congregation members**. We have grappled with challenges around vaccine mandates and differing levels of comfort with the risks of in-person gatherings. The range of activities included the Indigenous Hospitality House fundraiser trivia night, a CS Lewis arvo tea, non-alcoholic beerfest, river walk, art gallery excursion, visit to Gembrook Retreat, lunches, and the workshop on the Uluru Statement from the Heart. Liesl hosted two online activities - prayers of lament for the climate during Lent and the Lenten book discussions.

Church camp was reinstated as a physically gathered event in August with a couple of families from Sanctuary Baptist joining a small group from South Yarra to play and discuss and hang out together. This will be our last camp at the Araluen Lutheran campsite in Anglesea as they are no longer catering for small weekend bookings like ours.

In **building matters**, the manse was leased to asylum seekers through the Baptcare 'Houses of Hope' asylum seeker housing project with the tenants moving in in March. While congregation members are welcome to connect with the tenants, in practice this has been a stand-alone project aside from John Fowler's work with Sami on a few gardening and caretaker tasks. Hall hire has resumed with a heavy and complex work load for Eliz as Covid requirements have shifted and changed, and our hall was booked as a pre-polling venue for the Federal election. We gratefully acknowledge her faithful work in this area, and also to John Fowler for his work in the garden, and Ian and Nathan for occasional maintenance tasks.

The hosts have encouraged discussion about the future use of the building and our congregation's connection with the South Yarra neighbourhood. These continue to be important and as-yet-unresolved issues that relate to our identity and structure going forward. A small group of churches who are concerned about recent changes to the BUV

constitution plus some churches from ACT/NSW who are being evicted from their membership of their state Union have formed the '**Open Baptists Association**', and we will decide in the coming months whether our congregation wants to join, in addition to our BUV membership.

Each month when the host group meets, we follow a pattern of prayer interspersed between discussion of agenda items. In this we hope to listen for voice of the Spirit of Christ in each other, in our experiences, in silence and the words of our liturgy and in the contributions of the congregation, and then act on what we hear. As Uncle Den often says, we all just need to work together, and we do. May God's will be done, and God's love be shown.

Samara Pitt, on behalf of the Host Group
September 2022

Nathan's Pastoral Report - AGM 18 September 2022

The past year has felt to me like a year of consolidation. The previous couple of years saw some enormous changes for us, especially the forced change to worshipping online and then the voluntary decision to keep it that way. That decision was made 15 months ago now, and we've been worshipping online for two and half years, and it feels to me like we are perhaps now crossing the line that divides a feeling of novelty and experiment from a feeling of having settled in and made this home. In my experience over the years, it normally takes at least two years for big changes to bed down and begin to feel like they are truly us, and once we get past that point, we begin to see new people arriving and staying again. We have had a couple of new people join up with us in the past month or so, so perhaps it is happening again.

Speaking of new people, it is illuminating to look at the make-up of our congregation and the changes in that make-up since we first went online. There are now 41 people who we would normally expect to see at one or more of our liturgies most weeks. Look at this break down of their age groups and home locations:

	People	Age Group			Home Location		
		Over 50	18-49	U18	Melbourne	Already elsewhere	Now elsewhere
Those already with us in March 2020	26	19	5	2	21	0	5
Reconnected with us since March 2020	8	7	1	0	6	2	0
Newly joined since March 2020	7	4	2	1	3	4	0
Totals	41	30	8	3	30	6	5

More than one third of us have joined or rejoined the congregation since the beginning of the pandemic, and while the influx has not changed the age mix of the congregation, it has changed the mix of where we live and call home. Already just over one quarter of the congregation lives outside of Melbourne (that includes 5 of our longer term members who have now moved elsewhere).

These facts feed into some questions I'd like to highlight, things I think we will need to give some thought to as our future unfolds.

Activities other than worship

When we made the decision to continue worshipping online into the future, we also said that doing other things together would be all the more important, especially physically gathered activities. In the past few months, it has been very good to see us picking up the pace on this, with a growing number of people realising how easy it is to just put out an invitation for others to join them in some social activity or event they want to attend. But with a significant chunk of the congregation living far from Melbourne, as well as some locals still wary of going out where people gather, we will also need to think about activities that can be accessible from elsewhere. We successfully did our last few retreat days in a hybrid format, but perhaps we need to give some more thought to some of the online activities that worked well during lockdown. We may not need them for the same reason now, but we may need them if we are to properly welcome and include the out-of-town quarter of our congregation. We had some success with online conversations about books, movies, and concerts. We had online games sessions, and online kids' story sessions. And there was a range of easily repeatable activities that we did in our online "camp" weekend.

Local identity

There is a broader question involved here too. Are we a church that is still going to be identified with a particular locality? Some people have expressed the hope that we will retain our historical connection with the South Yarra community, but we had very little connection before the pandemic, and after two years of asking the question, no one has come up with any solid ideas for what it could look like now. Only one of us lives in South Yarra/Prahran, and only 4 even live in adjacent suburbs. The reality is that we, as a congregation, have left the neighbourhood. Our only present connection is owning a property there, but most of us seldom even visit it. In our decision 15 months ago, we said that “our geographical identity as a Melbourne-centred congregation will shape our imagery”, but there are already people questioning the relevance of that too. If there are several people joining morning prayer from rural locations, what does it mean to them when we pray lines like “as the rising sun baptises the city in light”? Perhaps we need to rethink the concept of geographical identity? Or, alternatively, is it perhaps still important to all of us to retain the sense that we are worshipping with a community that has roots in a particular place?

Our Church Name

These questions of identity also raise the question of the name of our church. If we no longer have, nor anticipate having, a meaningful connection with the South Yarra community, is continuing to name ourselves after it anything more than an expression of nostalgia or even denial? There are bigger implications of the name question too. Several people have noted that continuing to use the South Yarra name is probably now a liability to our capacity to attract new people to our community. If someone is searching for a new church to belong to, a name that points to a location that is nowhere near them risks deterring them from giving it a second thought. For both identity and missional reasons, I think it is time to start giving serious thought to a change of name.

Outreach & growth

Of course, the biggest factor in attracting new people is not what we call ourselves, but what we do. A conversation about this was begun at our recent church camp, and will continue. Over the last couple of years, we have identified several groups of people who are positively advantaged by our present online style of gathering. The question now is what we are going to do to let any of those groups know what we have to offer. The most obvious of these group is older people who are facing declining mobility. There is a myth that churches need to have lots of young families if they are to have a future, but it is not actually true. The only adults in our present congregation who were here as children are Paul and Acacia. A church consisting exclusively of over 80's could have a growing future so long as they are continuing to attract more over 80's faster than they lose them. The major thing that leads to decline is when a congregation just complacently enjoys what it has without ever thinking about how to share that with others, how to attract, welcome and integrate others.

Property

The question about what we do with the substantial property asset we own in South Yarra is still not urgent, but it will have to be addressed sooner or later. We no longer use it for our own activities; we simply manage it as a hall for hire for the use of others. Normal hall hire has only partially recovered after the lockdowns, and who knows whether it ever will? We have had two unexpected windfalls from property hire this year, making it our best hall hire income year ever, but even if they repeat in the future, federal and state elections only come every three and four years. The building is spending a lot of time idle. The question is whether the maintenance and management of the property, which mostly fall to two or three people, are going to increasingly become an irrelevant drain on our energies and vision.

Association

Alongside the strong connections we maintain with the *Baptist Union of Victoria*, we are also now

involved in some preliminary conversations with the fledgling *Open Baptists Association*. Historically Baptists have often maintained links with more than one association, and there is certainly no intention of severing ties with one in favour of the other. The *Open Baptists Association* intends to be open to Baptist churches across Australia and New Zealand, and it has emerged from concerns that traditional Baptist practices such as freedom of conscience, local church autonomy, and collective grassroots participation in discernment and decision making are being slowly dismantled, and that churches who value them are facing threats to their acceptance in existing Baptist associations, especially if their freedom of conscience leads them to support things like same-sex marriage which are still rejected by many Baptists. I have been quite involved in the conversations around this new association, and at some point we will want to vote on joining it as a member church. While there is no imminent threat to the membership of churches like us in the *Baptist Union of Victoria*, there are a group of churches in NSW/ACT who now look almost certain to be expelled from the Baptist Union there in November, and so one of the main reasons for us to join the *Open Baptists Association* will be as an expression of solidarity and support for them.

My work load

Finally, as is my usual practice, I am providing a breakdown of my hours for the year to date. As always it comes with some necessary explanations and disclaimers. For example, it shows an

2022 Church Hours

	Total	Average
Sermon Preparation	120h 43m	3h 55m
Visiting Preacher Correspondence	10h 19m	0h 20m
Liturgy planning/design/writing	107h 39m	3h 30m
Liturgy routine preparation	217h 2m	7h 3m
Liturgy music preparation	206h 10m	6h 41m
Group pastoral contact	84h 3m	2h 44m
1-on-1 pastoral contact	79h 4m	2h 34m
Pastoral Emails & Letters	17h 56m	0h 35m
Communications & Correspondence	11h 58m	0h 23m
Website Maintenance	58h 59m	1h 55m
Administration Tasks	71h 38m	2h 19m
Meetings (Internal)	29h 43m	0h 58m
Meetings (representative)	1h 16m	0h 2m
Baptist Associations	126h 52m	4h 7m
SWERNI work	1h 34m	0h 3m
Professional Development	13h 6m	0h 26m
Strategic Planning & Design	5h 13m	0h 10m
Reading & Research	4h 0m	0h 8m
Writing Projects	0h 46m	0h 1m
Practical Tasks	23h 17m	0h 45m
Work Travel Time	21h 46m	0h 42m
Providing Training	8h 46m	0h 17m
Other	0h 59m	0h 2m
Average Total Hours (30h 24m paid)		39h 41m
Unpaid attendance at Worship, Prayer, etc	334h 39m	10h 52m
Related Work Paid by Others	4h 55m	0h 10m

average of just under 4 hours per week on sermon preparation. Writing a new sermon usually takes me around 10-12 hours, but I don't preach every week, and when I do, I sometimes preach an updated revision of a previous sermon, so the 4 hour figure is the average of these significant variations.

The figures for Liturgy & Music Preparation are quite high figure, but are significantly lower than last year and are gradually tailing off. The first time a song, psalm refrain, or set of prayers is used in our online worship there is quite a lot of work in preparing guide tracks for our singers, mixing their recordings, and preparing the slides. The next time that piece is used, there is almost no work at all. Theoretically, in 6 months time when we've done the whole 3 year cycle online, those figures should drop radically, but in practice, it will take a bit longer than that because early on I thought all the online stuff I was preparing was for a single use, and so it was either discarded or is in a makeshift format that will need to be redone.

The good news is that after a couple of years where my weekly average hours were closer to 50, the

average is now back closer to 2019 levels. With several other people now able to facilitate Sunday services in my absence, I have been able to take proper leave again this year too. I've actually managed to take 5 weeks of annual leave so far this year, but still have nearly 6 more owing.

I remain grateful to be pastoring such a wonderful group of people. I am proud of what we have achieved together over recent years, and I thank you for your continued support of me. God's richest blessings to you all.

Nathan Nettleton

MEMBERSHIP REPORT – South Yarra Community Baptist Church **- As at AGM on 18 September 2022**

Over the last 12 months, our overall membership has increased by four. Rob Davis, Jen Davis, Margie Dahl and Mark Learmonth joined us as Members at the Easter Vigil on 16 April 2022.

2021 Statistics (AGM)
 28 Members Total

2022 Statistics (AGM)
 32 Members Total

These changes leave the following as the Membership Roll proposed for approval by the meeting:

Members Covenanted for the Current Year - 25

Eliz Cook	John Fowler	John Sampson
Ian Cook	Merryl Gahan	Sylvia Sandeman
Margie Dahl	Paul Gahan	Di Shearer
Jen Davis	Gilbert Joyce	Shelley Taylor
Rob Davis	Yvonne Joyce	Rita Wang
Jill Edwards	Mark Learmonth	Margaret Welsford
Dom Filippi	Acacia Nettleton	Glennys Williams
Liesl Filippi	Nathan Nettleton	
Dennis Fisher	Samara Pitt	

Members on the Reserve Roll - 7

Cameron Cutts	Suzanne Peart	Robert Toseland
Paul Holdway	Alison Sampson	
Mark Moroney	John Stanshall	

We currently have three Junior Catechumens:

Junior Catechumens - 3

Lior Filippi	Tara Filippi	Ethan Wong
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Shelley Taylor,
 Membership Secretary
 15 September 2022

Financial Report for year to 30 June 2022

July 2021 To June 2022

ABN: 15 739 517 700

	This Year	Last Year
Income		
Offerings	\$71,670	\$45,899
Car Park Rental	\$23,817	\$28,166
Hall Hire	\$22,850	\$4,601
Manse Rental (Nett)	\$5,435	\$12,189
Laughingbird Gifts	\$2,159	\$1,856
Easter Sunday Cruise	\$465	-\$779
Interest Received	\$263	\$303
Workshop	\$110	\$0
Jobkeeper & Other Subsidies	\$0	\$35,368
Fund Income		
Other Gifts	\$8,425	\$2,000
Total Income	\$135,194	\$129,604
Gross Profit	\$135,194	\$129,604
Expenses		
Employment Expenses		
Wages & Salaries	\$69,652	\$67,671
Superannuation	\$8,417	\$8,157
Long Service Leave	\$1,143	\$1,140
Workers' Compensation	\$545	\$470
Insurance	\$4,455	\$3,707
Gifts	\$11,421	\$4,600
Dues & Subscriptions	\$328	\$307
Signs & Marketing	\$110	\$100
Maintenance Church	\$572	\$170
Computers	\$0	\$315
Maintenance Manse	\$9,760	\$4,994
BUV Contributions	\$3,955	\$3,508
National Abuse Redress Scheme	\$579	\$575
Cleaning	\$2,880	\$2,009
Utilities Manse	\$416	\$431
Utilities Church	\$1,379	\$1,411
Worship Resources	\$1,921	\$2,678
Office Expense	\$26	\$156
Pastoral supervision	\$1,200	\$1,047
BUV Dinners & functions	\$255	\$100
Website Expenses	\$0	\$243
Property Taxes	\$1,134	\$1,084
Total Expenses	\$120,148	\$104,874
Operating Profit	\$15,045	\$24,729
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$15,045	\$24,729

The attached Accounts for the year to 30 June 2022 include all known income and expenses relevant to the year.

The reports are presented with comparison to Last Year.

To give the clearest picture of the year, some expenses incurred during the year but paid after the end of the year have been included, and some income is similarly treated.

A surplus of \$15,000 has been achieved - when we anticipated a deficit of \$10,000

The increase in offerings is the most notable feature of the accounts and the principal reason we have a surplus.

Compared to previous years, offerings represent a broader spread of giving across the whole community, from the smallest of offerings to the most generous. From Offerings alone we could almost have funded our Pastor's salary – for the first time in my memory.

Hall hire was supplemented by the incidence of a Federal election to the tune of \$13,000

Gifts received for Yazar and his wife of over \$8,000 added to our usual budgeted giving of \$3,200

The manse sat empty for more than half of the year and the lower income reflects this. Monthly income should now be around \$1,100 per month

The most noteworthy expense is Manse Maintenance which includes major plumbing expenses relating to new stormwater drains, sewer line blockage clearing and repairs, removal of trees that were affecting the sewer line, slate roofing repairs and finally a new electrical switchboard.

Total of bank funds at 30 June was \$96,228

Particular thanks go to Shelley and Nathan who directly attended to all necessary financial payments through the year. Thank you Shelley and Nathan!

Ian Cook

Treasurer

Draft Budget for the 2022-2023 year

July 2022 To June 2023

ABN: 15 739 517 700

	Budgeted
Income	
Offerings	\$71,670
Car Park Rental	\$24,600
Hall Hire	\$10,376
Manse Rental (Nett)	\$13,044
Laughingbird Gifts	\$2,159
Interest Received	\$1,200
Total Income	\$123,048
Gross Profit	\$123,048
Expenses	
Employment Expenses	
Wages & Salaries	\$69,816
Superannuation	\$8,766
Long Service Leave	\$1,170
Workers' Compensation	\$560
Pastoral supervision	\$1,200
Conference Expense- Travel	\$2,100
Insurance	\$4,600
Gifts	\$4,666
Dues & Subscriptions	\$328
Signs & Marketing	\$110
Legal & Accounting	\$3,000
Maintenance Church	\$2,400
Maintenance Manse	\$2,400
BUV Contributions	\$4,100
National Abuse Redress Scheme	\$579
Cleaning	\$3,000
Utilities Manse	\$416
Utilities Church	\$1,379
Worship Resources	\$2,400
Office Expense	\$240
BUV Dinners & functions	\$300
Kitchen Supplies	\$120
Website Expenses	\$300
Property Taxes	\$1,200
Total Expenses	\$115,150
Operating Profit	\$7,898
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$7,898

Notes relating to Budget 2022-2023

Offerings are as last year actual

Hall Hire does not include expected contract with Victorian Electoral Commission which will added \$33,000 to income if approved by church and VEC.

Gifts represent 10% of last years Hall hire and Car Park income.

Legal and Accounting is contribution towards the legal cost of advice received prior to and during the setting up of the Open Baptist Association.

Worship Resources is principally Preaching Fees of visiting speakers.