

# ANNUAL REPORT

Annual General Meeting  
5 February 2023



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<sup>3</sup> *I thank my God every time I remember you.*  
<sup>4</sup> *In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy<sup>5</sup> because of your  
partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,<sup>6</sup> being confident of this,  
that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion  
until the day of Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 1:3-6*

# Welcome

The Annual General Meeting of our church is a time for us to reflect on the year that has been, and turn our hearts and minds to the year ahead.

This Annual Report presents a snapshot of some of the aspects of church life over the past 12 months. You will find brief updates to various ministry areas, as well as statistics in how we are tracking in certain measures. Of course, not everything that can be measured is of the same importance—and not everything that is important can be measured—but this data can be helpful in getting a feel for where things are at, and what needs attention.

I hope this report will encourage you in what God is doing in the life of our church, as we pursue the mission of Jesus in the city of Blacktown. And may we give thanks to God in our prayers for the significant things he is doing among us, represented by the pages ahead.

# Our Mission & Vision

In September 2019, we launched a Mission and Vision for our church. This was a way for us to place a marker on the map, and clearly define where we are going and what we are seeking to do. We defined it this way:

*Our Mission is to grow people who Know Jesus, Treasure Jesus, Depend on Jesus and Represent Jesus.*

This is our way of expressing what Jesus meant when he told us to make disciples in Matthew 28. This is the way we describe what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Our Vision, then, is an expression of what we believe could happen if we pursue that mission.

*Our Vision is to see our city flourish in God's good design through a Jesus shaped community.*

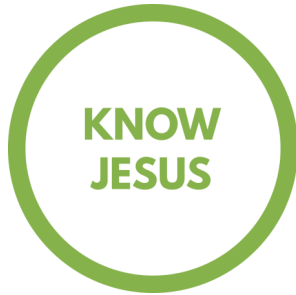
Under God, this is a picture of what success in our Mission will look like.

Importantly, our expression of our Mission and Vision isn't tied to one particular method. We pursue this Mission and Vision in our ever-changing context, navigating around opportunities that arise, as well as the challenges that confront us.

Our goal is always clear: Jesus. To grow in our depth and breadth, as individuals and as a community, in all that he has designed and called us—and all people—into.

On the following pages, you will see some of the ways our Mission and Vision has landed in practice and some of the plans we have for the future as we continue to pursue this together. In bringing all things together under our Mission and Vision, our hope is to be as effective as possible in faithfully serving God in this city with the resources God has provided us.

# Our Mission & Vision



## **For Salvation**

Knowing Jesus as your king and saviour

## **For Life**

In relationship, theology, wisdom and ethics



## **In worship**

Through praise and obedience

## **In community**

Through Jesus centred unity and Jesus shaped relationships



## **Prayerful**

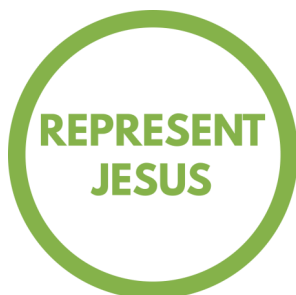
Growing in devotion, depth and breadth

## **Generous**

Trusting God's sufficiency and provision

## **Courageous**

Trusting God's ability to do more than we could ask or imagine



## **Proclamation**

Telling the good news of Jesus

## **Presence**

Reflecting the character of Jesus through Jesus shaped living

## **Practice**

Providing advocacy and aid to support human flourishing

# Rector's Reflections

Reflections on the past 12 months

The past 12 months have been deeply encouraging as I reflect on the ways our church community has grown in depth of maturity, in strengthening of Jesus shaped relationships among one another, and for those who have come to put their trust in Jesus for the first time.

After a few challenging years through covid, there is much to be thankful about what God is doing to renew and strengthen our church.

Pauls prayer in Philippians 1:9-11 has been a constant prayer for both myself, and for our church family:

*<sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, <sup>10</sup>so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.*

This annual report highlights many aspects of our church life and how we are continuing to develop and pursue our Mission and Vision in the life of our church. A few key items are worth bringing to your attention.

## **Sudanese Congregation**

In 2022, Robbie and I have spent significant time with Sudanese leaders to think, plan and pray about the future of the congregation. I have spent considerable time working with the Sudanese congregation over the past few years, as together we have identified some areas of critical need to grow the congregation in its spiritual health and missional edge.

One of the common challenges that every cultural- or language-based congregation experiences in time is the shift from being a congregation of migrants toward an increasing number who have been born and raised in Australia. Typically, this can create significant divides between generations, and this is one of a number of challenges we are seeing in our Sudanese



congregation, and among Sudanese congregations in Australia more broadly.

After many years of faithful service, Eiliya resigned from his position in 2022. In my time working with him, I have seen Eiliya serve with great humility and patience, and I admire him greatly for those qualities. I am thankful to God for his service and commitment to the congregation. While Eiliya is stepping down from the role, he will remain a member of this church, and I am glad to see that continue.

### **Staff**

I am incredibly thankful to God for our staff team. Robbie, Renee and Laurice each bring a unique set of gifts and skills to their roles, and it continues to give me great joy to partner alongside them. The blessings and benefits of serving together for several years now continues to strengthen of the team, and has felt very much like the sum of us is greater than the individual parts. I thank each of them for their valued leadership in our church, their servant-hearted nature, and their deep desire to see our church grow and flourish in our Mission and Vision.

It is wonderful to welcome Larissa and Lual onto our staff team for 2023. I have great anticipation that they will both be wonderful additions that support the growth of both our staff team and our church.

In response to our pledging in October, we have been able to appoint Larissa as our part-time Local Mission Pastor. Larissa brings a unique experience and perspective that will be an excellent addition to our team. She will be particular involved in helping us shape some of our existing ministries to be resourced and equipped to grow in capacity for serving both the practical and spiritual needs of our city. Larissa will also be helping us develop further our ministry to youth and young adults, including through the local university and our planning for an evening congregation.

Lual joins as our new Sudanese Pastor, and brings significant ministry experience in Sydney as an ordained minister. As mentioned earlier, there are some significant challenges in this space that should not be understated. But I am confident that under God, with Lual join our team, we are well placed to take some key steps in addressing the future health of the congregation.

### **Moore College Mission**

Toward the end of March this year, we will be welcoming a team of students from Moore Theological College to join us for a week. We are partnering with the local Anglican churches (Doonside, Lalor Park, Seven Hills, Rooty Hill, Minchinbury, Mt Druitt and Oakhurst) as together we build connections with the major training college of the Diocese. The intention for this week is two-fold. Firstly, to encourage students to see the many gospel opportunities in western Sydney. Secondly, it is an opportunity for us to be encouraged as we meet and hear the stories of those training to serve in a variety of future ministry endeavours. I pray this week will inspire and encourage us in what God is doing both in our city and beyond.

### **Evening Service Planning Team**

In October, we announced our desire to begin working towards planting an evening congregation. This year, we are gathering a team of people to think, plan and pray for the future possibility of starting a service in 2024.

A new congregation will open up a variety of opportunities for us in our church life.

- It will open up new avenues to connect people to church who are otherwise unable to connect to a morning service;
- It will allow people to increase their involvement in serving in Kids Church, while still attending a service of their own;
- It will provide an opportunity to grow and develop a new generation of leaders.

Planning to start a new congregation is no small task. There is much excitement and enthusiasm as we work on this. But none of our desires or plans will amount to anything without God's hand in it all.

Please be praying for God's wisdom and guidance over all these matters, as we strive to grow people who Know Jesus, Treasure Jesus, Depend on Jesus and Represent Jesus, for the glory of Jesus and for our joy.

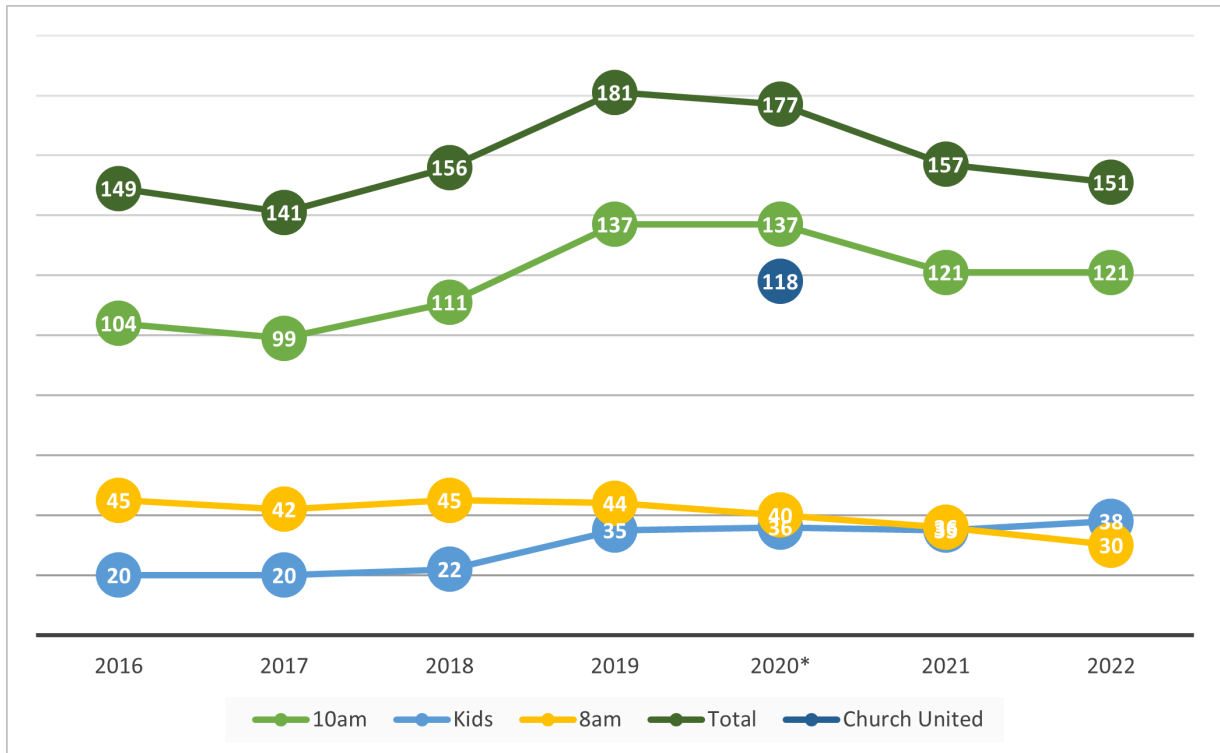


Luke Thomson  
Senior Minister

# Church Life

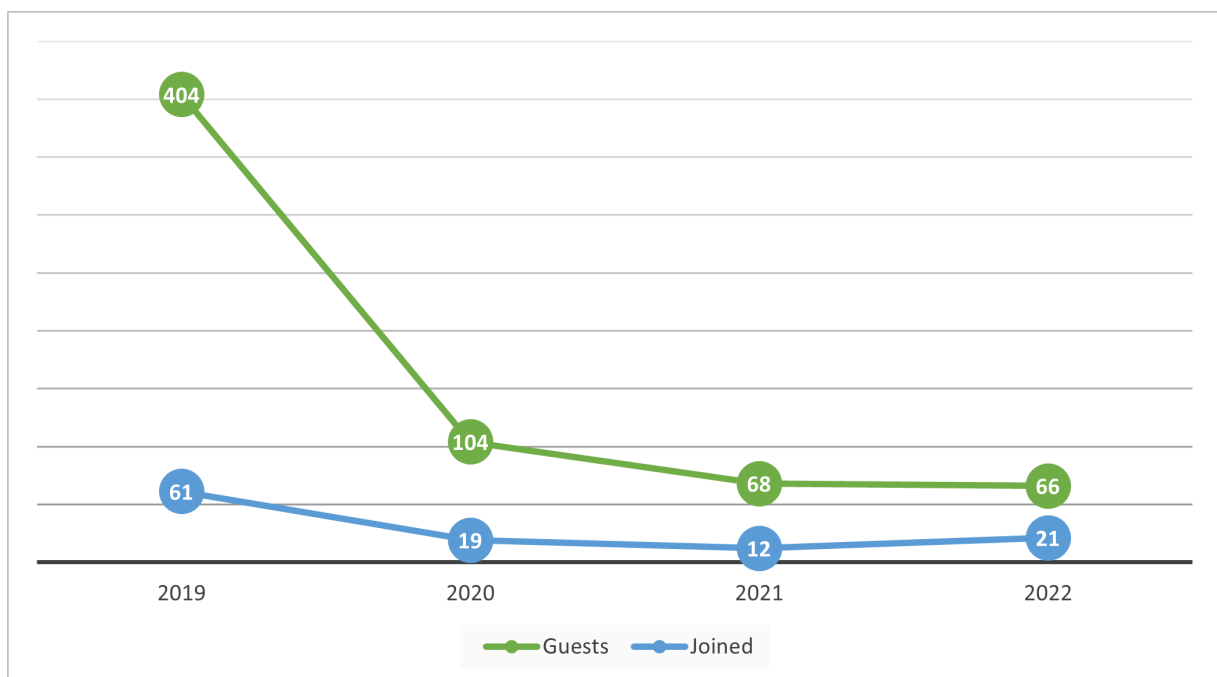
A snapshot

## Average Sunday service attendance



\*2020 attendance for 8am and 10am only for period 1/1/20-15/3/20. Church United includes total attendance from 1/11/20-31/12/20.

## New members and guests



**66**

first-time guests visited our church

**21**

people joined our church

# Know Jesus

For salvation and for life



We want every person to Know Jesus as their King and Saviour.

We seek to grow to Know Jesus as a life-long and life-changing endeavour, understanding what God is doing in the world through Jesus, and how we should respond. What have we done in 2022?

## Bible studies



In term one, we produced Bible Studies alongside our sermon series in Luke. This resource encourages us to grow deeper in exploring the Bible together beyond the sermon, in our Community Groups or on our own.

## Discover Jesus

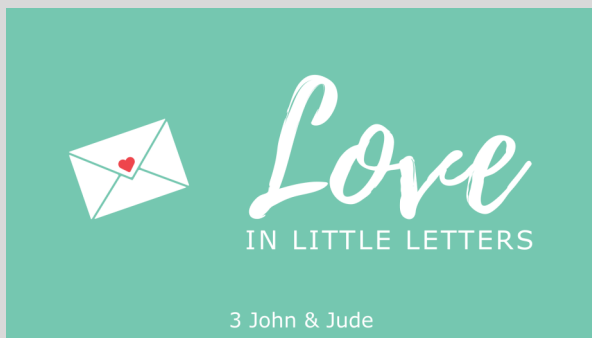
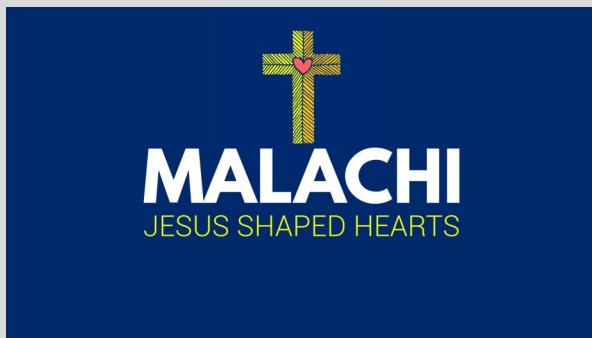
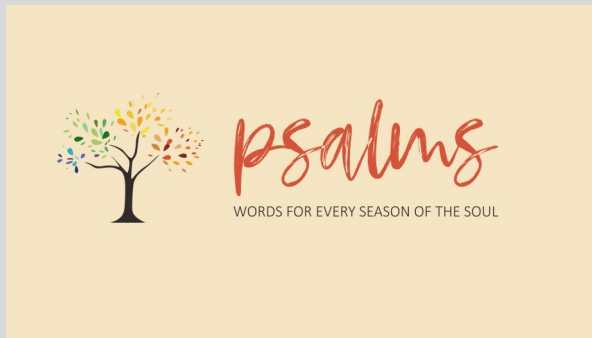


We ran a series of Discover Jesus courses, of which 12 people attended, with 3 looking at Jesus seriously for the first time.

# Sermon Series



Here is what we have preached through over the past 12 months to help us Know Jesus through his Word.



# What's Next?



## Preaching

In 2023, we are planning to preach through the books of: Luke 19-24, Revelation, and the Servant Songs in Isaiah. We will be preaching topically in several short series: Rest (which we have just completed), Mental Health, and being a Jesus Shaped Presence. Later in the year, we will preach our annual Vision series and Advent series.

## Revelation Online Resource



As part of our Revelation series, we are building an online resource to assist groups and individuals to navigate their way through this rich book.

## Simply Start Reading & Jesus Shaped Reading



We are reworking our resources to help people engage in reading their Bible. As well as tools to assist people in navigating and understanding the Bible for the first time, we are working on some helpful digital resources to encourage us as a church community

to continue habits of regular Bible reading.

# Treasure Jesus

In worship and in community



We seek to grow people who Treasure Jesus in Worship, through praise and obedience, and in community, through Jesus centred unity and Jesus shaped relationships. What have we done in 2022?

## Mission Week

Our Mission Week is an opportunity to have our eyes lifted to see and hear what God is doing around the world and through our mission partners. In 2022, Mike Southon (from Anglican Aid) came and preached to us and was a great encouragement. We were also able to celebrate together a multicultural feast at our Mission Week Dinner, and hear from (and farewell) our mission partners, Keith and Margie.

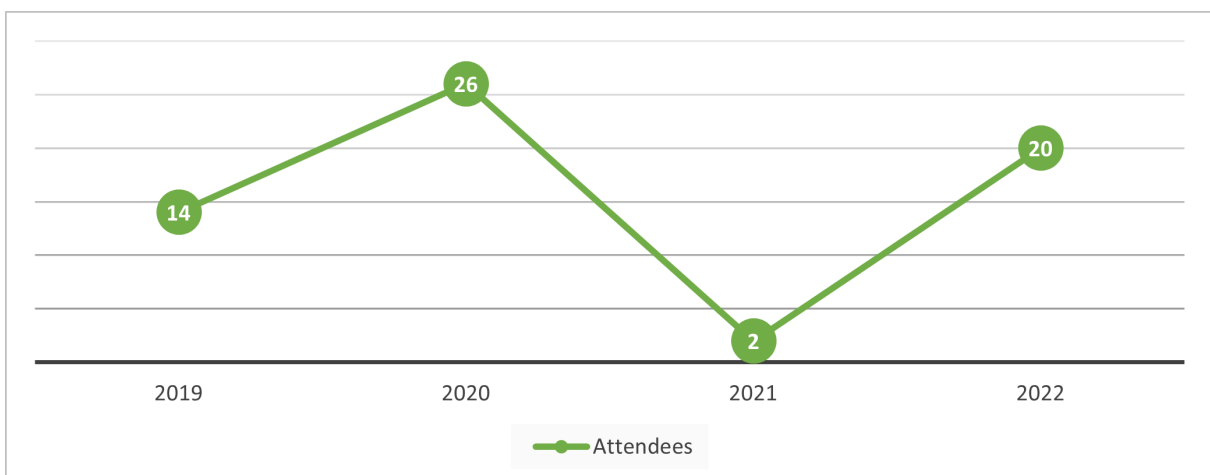
Earlier in the year, we welcomed another of our mission partners, Neville Naden (with BCA) who preached and shared an update on his work.

## Welcome Lunches



Welcome Lunches are an opportunity for those new to our church to connect with others, hear a little about the Mission and Vision of our church, and consider the next steps in partnering with us in our mission to the city of Blacktown. Welcoming

people into our church is a vital step in pursuing our mission, and helping people navigate pathways to connect, belong and partner with us.



# Treasure Jesus

In worship and in community



## **Men's and Women's ministry**

We continued building on these ministries with four events over the course of the year. Each event has had a particular focus on one of the four aspects of our Mission: to help us Know Jesus, Treasure Jesus, Depend on Jesus or Represent Jesus.

## **Leadership Training**

We continued regular training session with our Community Group leaders and Welcome Team members to improve our effectiveness in these areas. Our 10am Music Team also engaged in some training and development.

## **Gingerbread Afternoon**

This event was a wonderful celebration of Christmas in community together, as well as providing an opportunity to welcome others among us.

## **Sudanese Developments**

In 2022, we worked through a process to identify some of the complexities of ministry in this space, and clarify the needs, desires and possibilities of the congregation going forward. As part of this process, Eiliya resigned from his position after many years of faithful service to the community.

Through this process, God has answered our prayers through Lual's appointment as we seek to grow the health and missional capacity of our Sudanese congregation.



# What's Next?



## **Evening Congregation Planning**

In 2023, we're gathering a team together to think plan and pray for the future possibility of launching an evening congregation. This will form part of our strategy in developing a long-term, healthy ministry to young adults both inside and outside our church community, as well as strengthening our present youth ministry with clear pathways as they grow up. The planning team will also provide a great opportunity to develop the next generation of leaders in the life of our church through both theological thinking and practical experience.

## **Bible Reading in heart languages**

During our Revelation series, our 10am service will hear a member of our church read the Bible in their heart language each week. It is an opportunity to hear a variety of new voices from the front and to more visibly show that we welcome people into our church from all walks of life. It will also allow others of us to experience what it is like to attend a church in an unfamiliar language, and to provoke us to consider further how we reach the diversity of people in our city.

## **Leadership Training Events**

In 2023, we are looking to continue to build on the foundations we have begun for leadership training across our whole church. As well as targeted training for particular ministry areas throughout the year, we are hosting two training events for all leaders across our church to attend. This will provide an opportunity for us to develop our broad leadership skills, and continue to grow our leadership capacity in pursuing our mission across all areas of the life of our church. We are also looking to bring clarity to leadership roles, responsibilities, and expectations across all ministries.

## **Building our Sudanese Ministry**

Under the leadership of Lual, we are prayerfully seeking to implement a more unified structure of leadership in line with the wider parish, and a deeper engagement of partnership between congregations.

# Depend on Jesus

By being prayerful, generous & courageous



We are seeking to grow in our devotion, breadth and depth of prayer, being generous with our time, talent and money, and through courageous decisions and actions that reflect our deep trust in God's power and grace.

What have we done in 2022?

## Simply Start Praying



During Prayer Week, we launched a brand new resource to help equip and encourage people to grow in their prayer habits, especially if they don't know where to begin. Along with the resource, we encouraged people to utilise the digital app, Prayer Mate, as

a way of growing regular habits of prayer.

## Prayer Week



We continued to set aside a week devoted to reflecting and growing in prayer together, with Peter Jensen joining us to preach on the Lord's prayer.

## Prayer Gatherings

We held a couple of prayer gatherings through the year as a way of setting aside an extended time to pray for our city, our church and our mission.

## Pledging

In 2022, we reintroduced pledging as a means of being wise and faithful stewards of the resources God provides us as a church. Together, our church responded with great generosity, leading us to pursuing the employment of a new staffing position to focus especially on local mission.

# What's Next?



## **Increased prayer across our services**

As we look to focus our sermon series each on one particular area of our mission, our 10am services will be structured in ways that help to highlight this focus across the whole gathering. In our service format that focusses on Depending on Jesus, we will be using a variety of methods for praying specifically for various aspects of church life and mission, with an increase in prayer as part of those services.

## **Seeking to expand our engagement with our city**

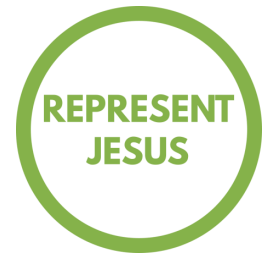
Part of our desire for 2023 is to begin a variety of new initiatives as we step out in faith and deep dependence to reach new demographics within our city. In 2023, we are hoping to grow our connection with the local university, and pursue the ministry opportunities it provides. Our evening congregation plans are a step in faith and courage to see if we are able to start a significant new initiative to reach many, especially younger people, within our city.

## **Open Doors Sunday**

In 2023, we are setting aside Sunday 17th September to partner with Open Doors, an organisation who support the persecuted church around the world. It will provide an opportunity for us to grow in awareness and prayerfulness for our brothers and sisters in difficult places.

# Represent Jesus

By our proclamation, presence and practice.



We seek to grow people who Represent Jesus by proclaiming the good news of Jesus, being a Jesus shaped presence in every sphere of life, and through our practice of advocacy for God's good design and assisting in practical aid.

What have we done in 2021?

## Mobile Community Pantry



Our Mobile Pantry ministry continues to provide practical support to our community. In 2023, we are looking to expand the social dimension of this ministry, allowing more time to connect and build relationships with shoppers and represent Jesus'

wholistic care for people.

## English Classes



Our English classes run on Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings, and help meet a significant practical need of people in and around our city.

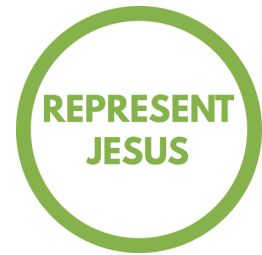
## Playtime



Our playtime ministry continues see a regular group of families attending both from those who have recently joined our church, and from those in the wider community.

# Represent Jesus

By our proclamation, presence and practice.



## Scripture in Schools

Renee co-ordinates a team across four of our local primary schools to teach kids about Jesus each week. It is a wonderful opportunity to serve kids, their families, and the school community, as we develop important relationships through this ministry.



We also partner with COBIS (Churches of Blacktown in Schools) who are involved in supporting Scripture teachers and other workers in several local high schools.

## Marriage Course

We offered another opportunity for people to develop healthy relationships through the marriage course.

## Domestic Abuse Seminar

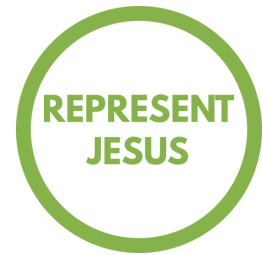
We hosted a special seminar to equip us to identify potential warning signs of domestic abuse, and provide valuable skills for knowing how to respond when a person discloses abuse to us. The present of abuse is a sad reality in the community, and we long to be a church equipped to support all kinds of people to access the practical support they need for their safety and wellbeing, and ultimately to find the sure and certain hope of Jesus.

## Blacktown Hospital

Luke & Robbie are connected with the pastoral care team in the hospital, and are on call to visit people who would like to speak to an Anglican minister. Typically these are people in critical situations, and our presence is greatly appreciated by patients and their families, and hospital staff view us as an important part of broader patient health and care.

# Represent Jesus

By our proclamation, presence and practice.



## Blacktown Council

Luke & Robbie are among a group of ministers who take part in local council meetings by opening the meetings in prayer. This has been a great opportunity to serve and build relationships with our local government and officials.

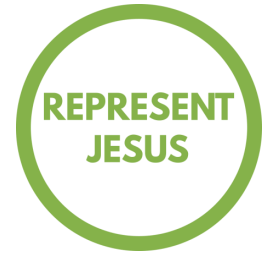
## Mission Partners

We support a number of mission partners, both in Australia and overseas. Many of these work in challenging places, and sharing public information about their work can threaten their work, or even their safety. We continue to support them through the difficulties of the pandemic. And are working through possible ways to continue connecting with them and sharing about their work, as we navigate around the increasingly public and online presence of our own church. Our Beyond Blacktown mission committee continue to work faithfully in connecting with, praying, and supporting their work on behalf of our church.



Late in the year, we were able to announce our new CMS Mission Partners, Adam and Avril. They are currently in their training and preparation stage at the CMS facility in Melbourne (St Andrews Hall), and will be joining us in person later in 2023, before they head to Madagascar in 2024. It is a joy to partner with them in the early stages of this journey.

# What's Next?



## **Local Mission Pastor**

As a result of our pledging response, we have been able to create a new staff position with a specific focus on leading us as a church in local mission. We are delighted that Larissa has joined our staff team, and look forward to growing our church's engagement in our city through her leadership.

## **University Ministry**

In 2023, we are hoping to build connections and identify some of the key ministry opportunities that arise with the Australian Catholic University campus in Blacktown.

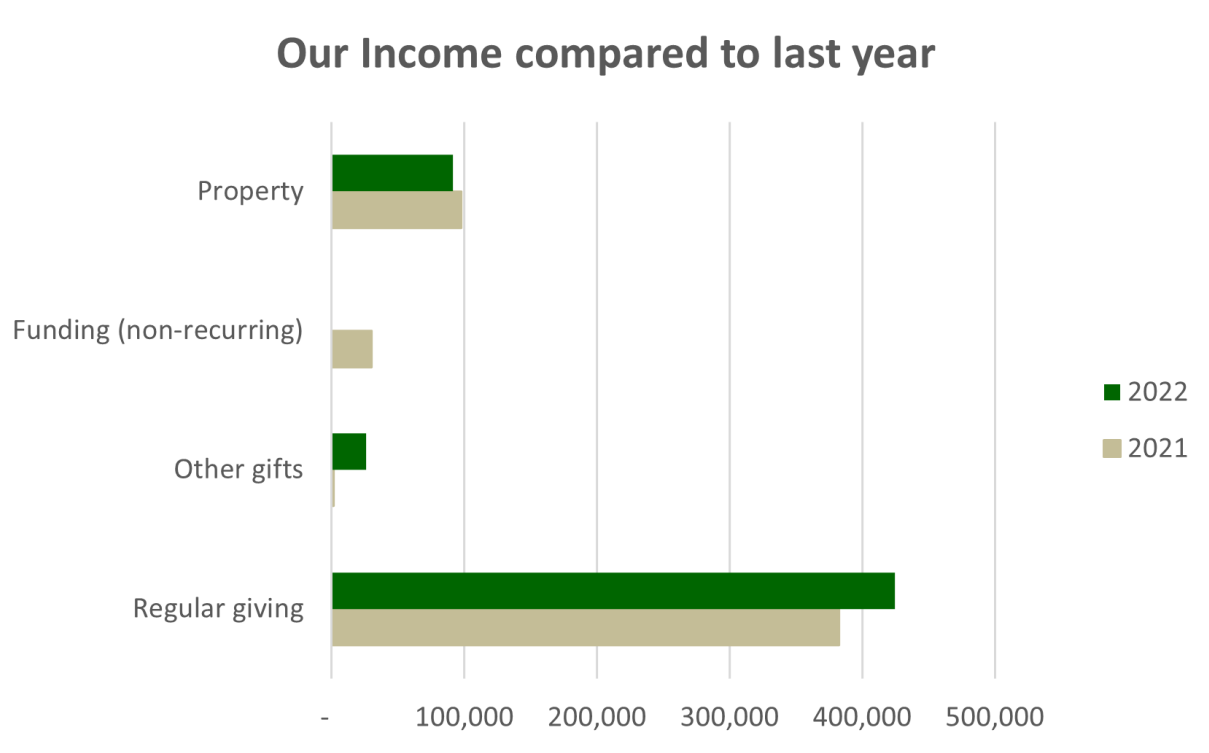
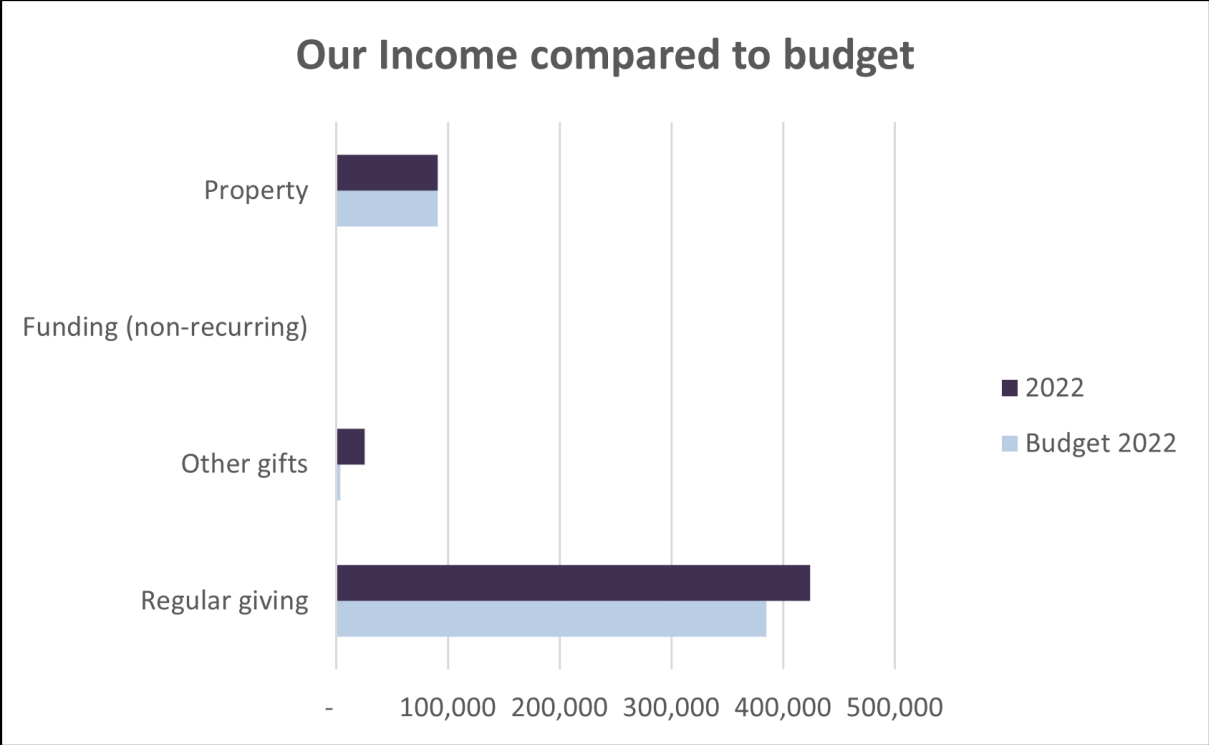
## **Visitation Team**

We are hoping to build a small team with skills and passion in the area of visitation to grow our pastoral care capacity as a church, and meet the needs of some of the more isolated, needy or vulnerable members of our church.

# Financial Overview

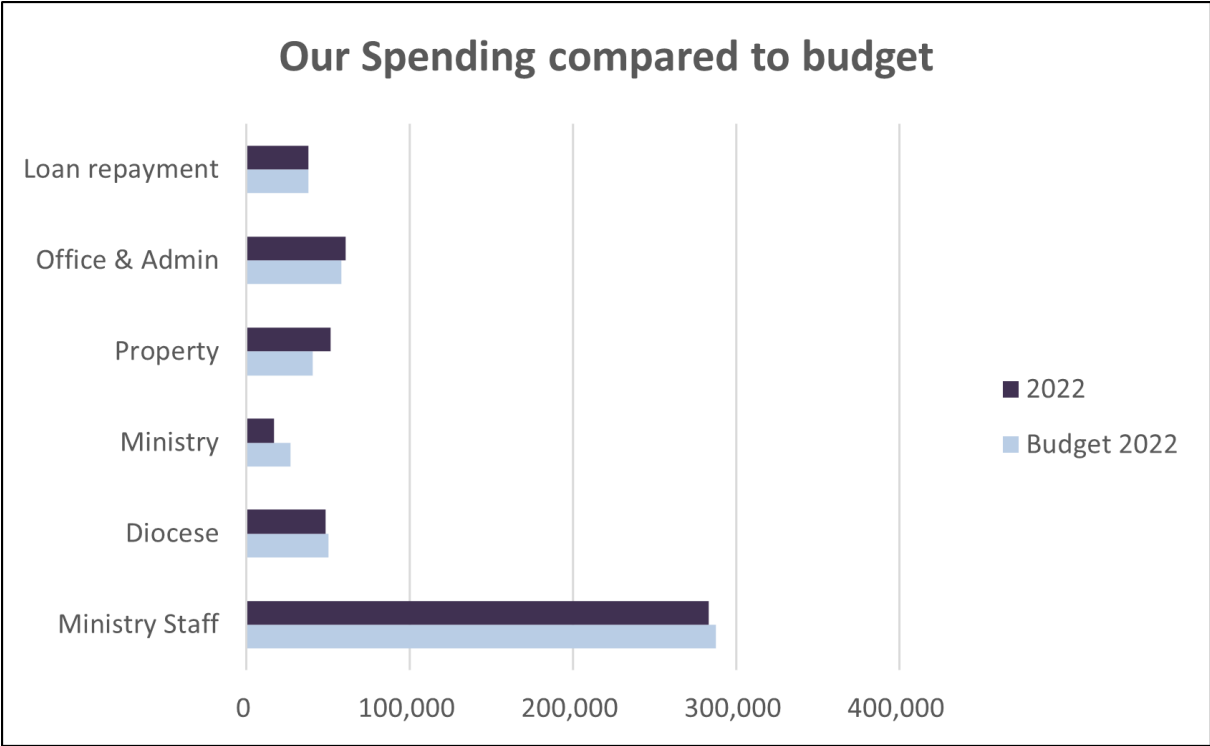
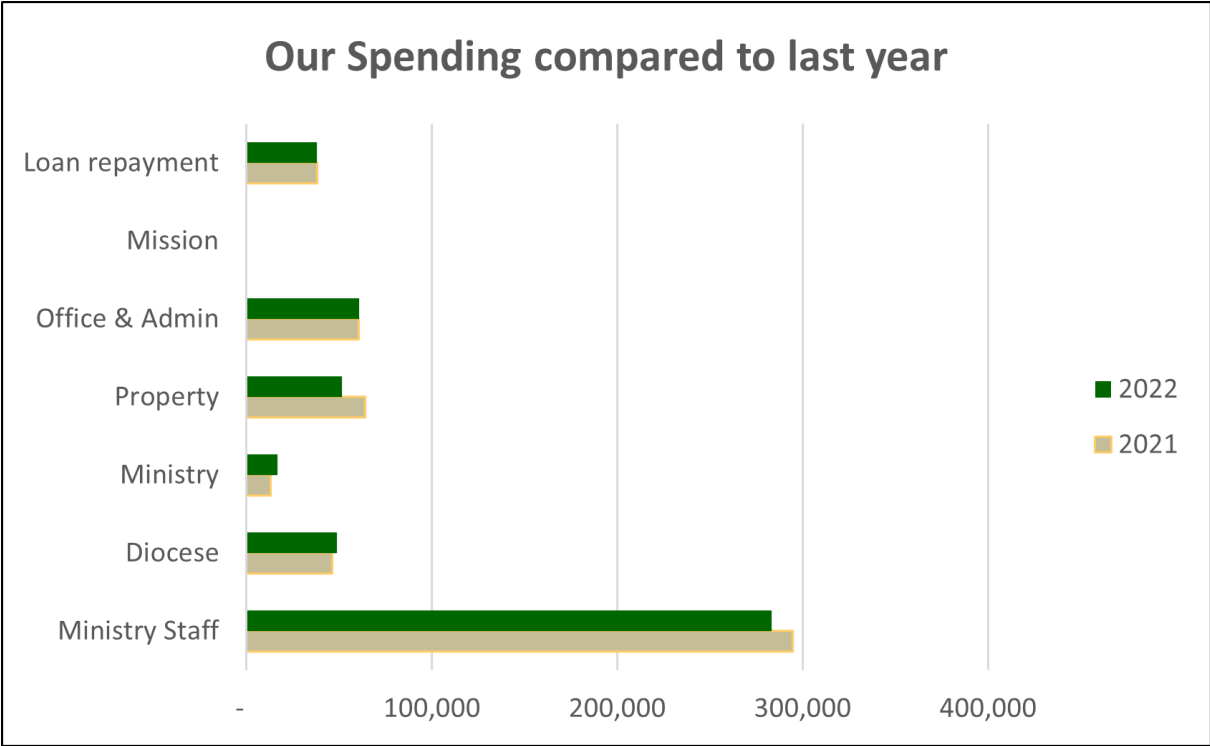
A summary of our income and spending for 2022.

See the detailed financial reports for further information.

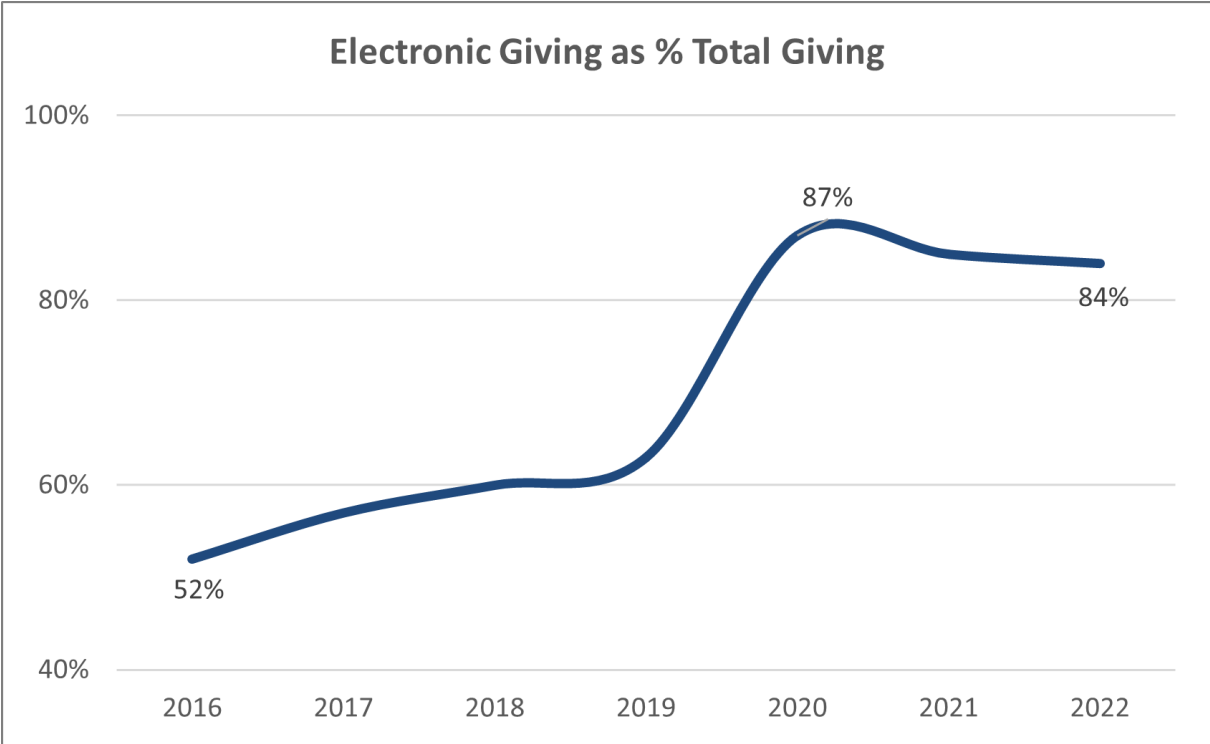
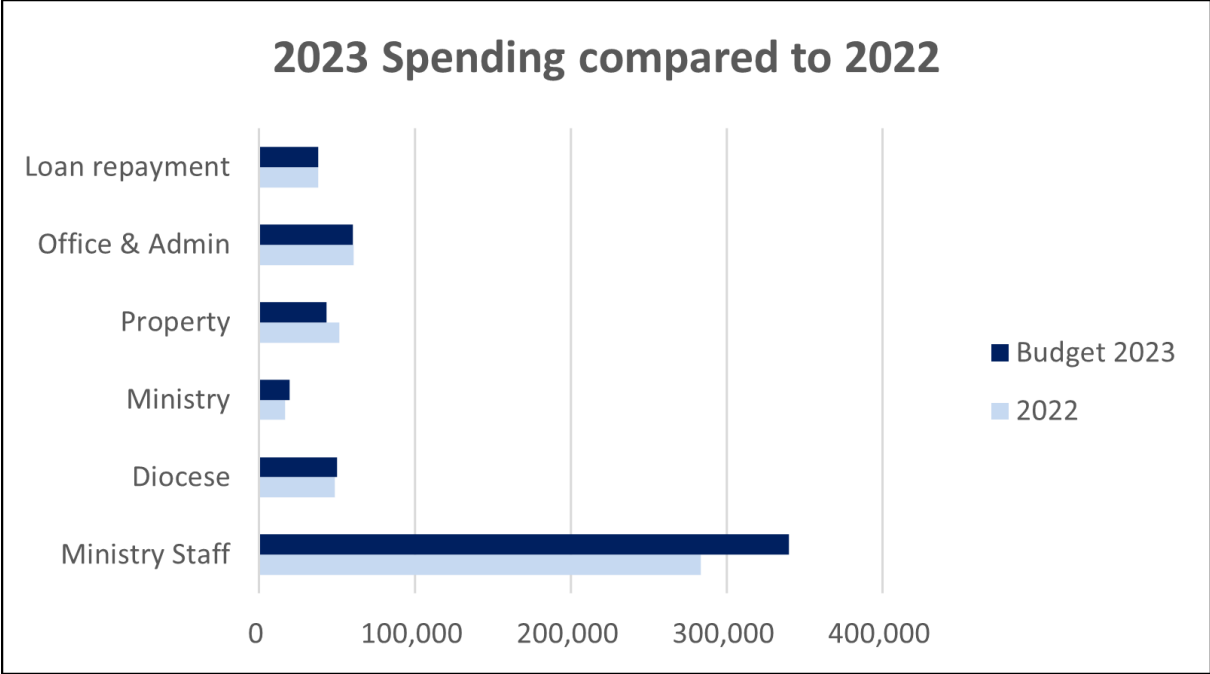




# Financial Overview

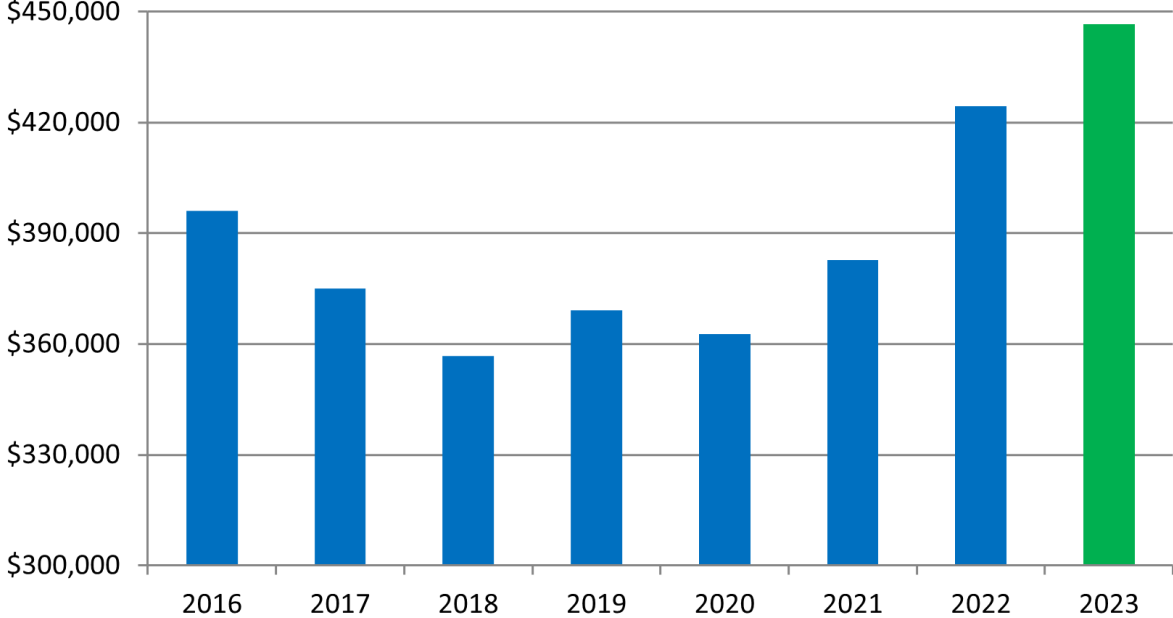


# Financial Overview

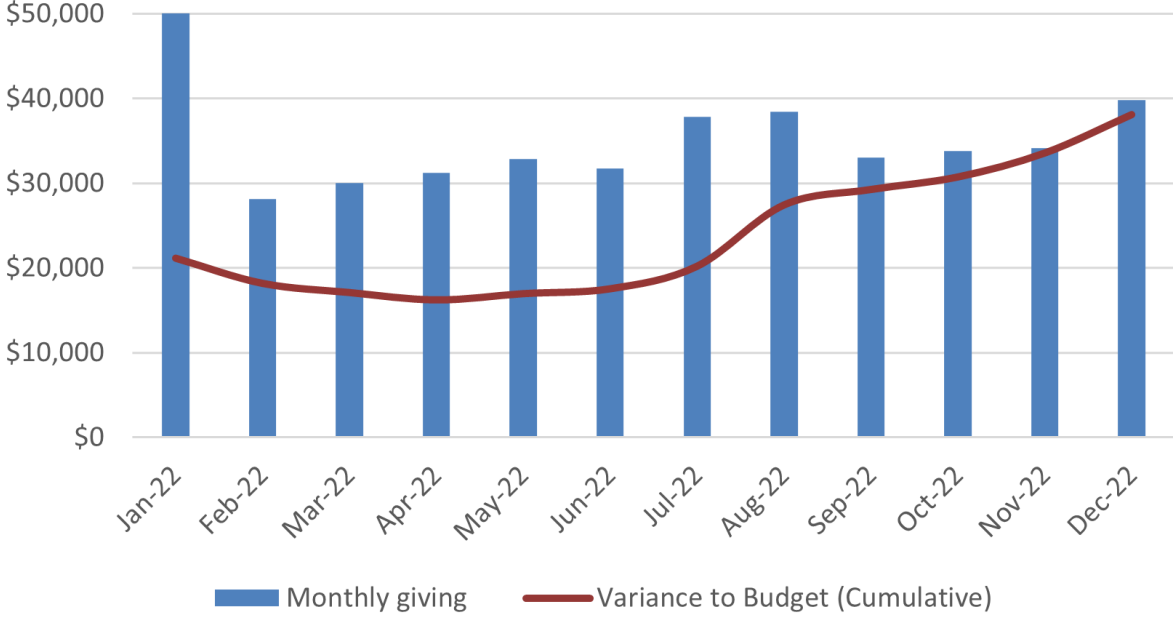


# Financial Overview

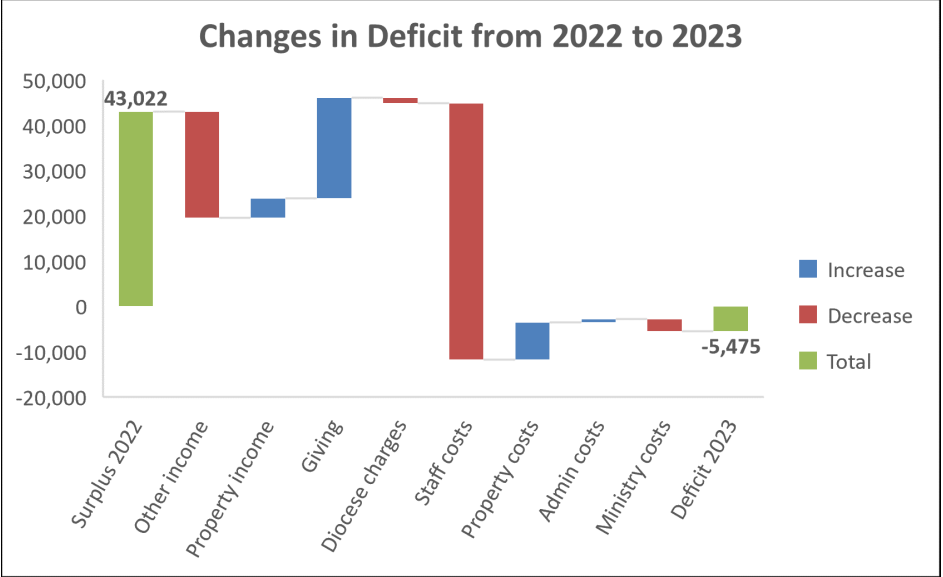
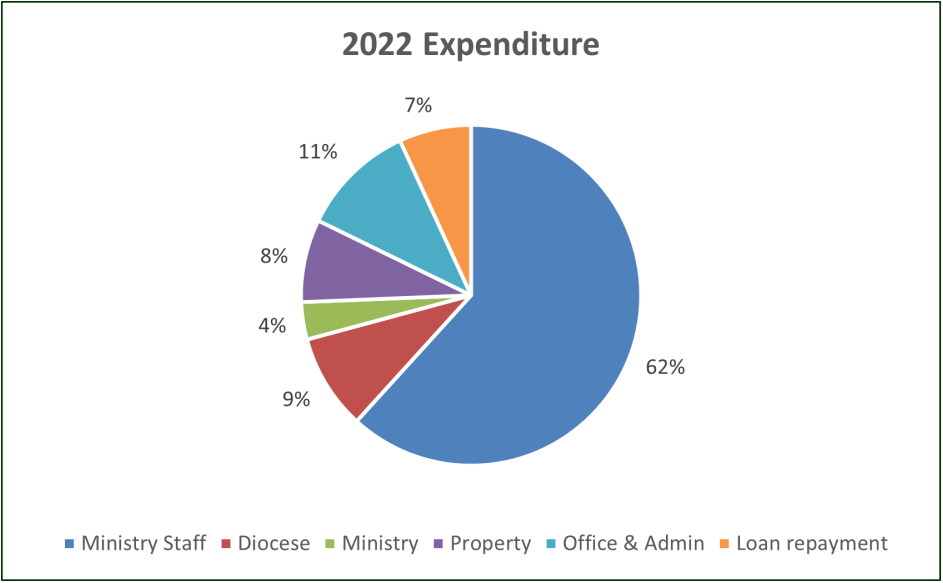
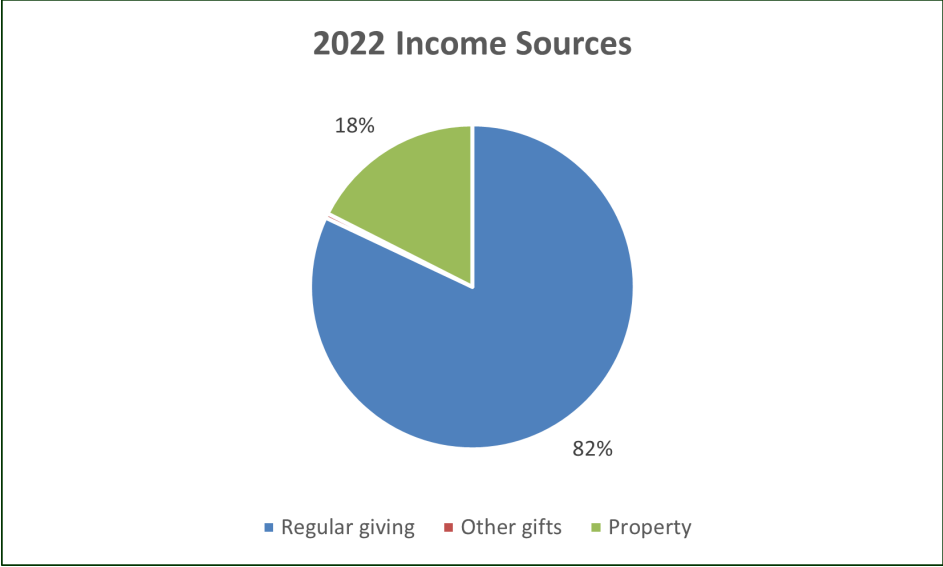
Regular giving trend



Giving across the course of the year



# Financial Overview



# Treasurer's Report

Greg Muddle

## Key Numbers - 2022

Surplus for the year:	<b>+\$42,391</b>
Compared to Budget:	<b>+\$64,272</b>
Net Funds Available:	<b>\$221,808</b>

Congregation Giving:	<b>\$424,442</b>
Compared to Budget:	<b>+9.9%</b>
Increase on Prior Year:	<b>+10.9%</b>

## Key Numbers – 2022 Budget

Deficit for the year: **-\$5,475**

Congregation Giving: **\$446,993**

Increase on 2022: **+5.2%**

## Parish funds in summary

	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
Revenue	512,327	480,225	550,161	544,693
Expenses	(488,862)	(471,634)	(479,052)	(520,368)
Net Income (PFS page 2)	23,465	8,591	70,438	24,325
Loan capital repayments	(27,583)	(29,800)	(28,047)	(29,800)
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(4,117)</b>	<b>(21,209)</b>	<b>42,391</b>	<b>(5,475)</b>

## Key changes in revenue in 2022: (increase of \$37,834 compared to 2021)

- A decrease of \$30,000 in one-off funding, Community Building grant in 2021 not repeated in 2022;
- A decrease of approximately \$6,500 in rents, rent from the counselling service ceased part way through 2021;
- An increase of approximately \$42,000 in regular and other giving in the parish, approx. 50% of this from large one-off donations;
- Approximately \$20,000 surplus from PACS (counselling service) donated to the church on the winding up of that service;
- Approximately \$8,500 in receipts and donations for events, which is offset by expenditure on those events; and

- Approximately \$3,000 recovered by the Church Property Trust related to historical property expenses and deposits.

**Key changes in expenses in 2022: (decrease of \$9,193 compared to 2021.)**

- A decrease in property project costs of \$30,000 funded in 2021 by the Community Building grant;
- Lower ministry staff costs of approximately \$11,000, largely related to accrual for untaken leave in 2021 not repeated in 2022 as leave was taken;
- An increase of approximately \$17,000 in property maintenance costs compared to the previous year. 2021 costs were lower than average and there were significant repair costs this year related to roof leaks;
- Approximately \$10,400 in parish event costs, largely offset by income and donations; and
- Small increases in ministry expenses and Diocesan charges.

**Key variances from Budget in 2022: (net result \$64,272 better than expected)**

- Parish giving approximately \$38,000 better than expected;
- Donation from PACS of approximately \$20,000;
- Unexpected income from the Church Property trust of approximately \$3,000;
- Staff costs lower than expected by approx. \$11,000 due to leave accrual adjustment;
- Lower than budget office admin costs, approximately \$4,000; and
- Offset by higher than budget property costs of approximately \$10,000.

**Mission Support**

The Prescribed Financial Statements only reflect mission support out of general parish funds, money donated in the parish specifically for mission work is not shown.

In 2022 mission support payments of \$22,766 were made (\$18,616 in the previous year), with payments to CMS, Pioneers, MAF, BCA and Scripture Union in accordance with our planned support and donor-specified amounts to Compassion and Perry & Kim Anderson.

### **2023 Budget**

The Parish Council proposed a draft budget for 2023 that included an increase in staff expenses. This was communicated to the parish during October 2022 when the congregations were asked to consider their giving and indicate by pledge their proposed level of giving.

Although the proposed 2023 budget required a substantial increase in giving from the 2022 budget, approximately 16%, this was supported by the pledge and Parish Council committed to the budget for 2023 on that basis, and Luke commenced the hiring process.

Although there is an increase in regular giving pledged in 2023, overall revenue is budgeted to decrease in 2023, with significant one-offs in 2022, particularly the PACS donation, not expected to be repeated.

Staff costs will increase due to additional staff and increased rates to offset some of the increased cost of living. There is not any substantial shift in other expenditure, other than an inflation impact.

Property maintenance costs remain the most significant variable expense in the budget. In 2023 the budget is based on an average level of maintenance and no large capital maintenance costs. The parish has a small fund (\$50,000) set aside that can be accessed should significant capital maintenance be required.

The budget for 2023 runs at a small deficit that is effectively funded from the unplanned one-off income items from 2022 and is not a risk to the parish financial position.

The funding of ministry in this parish is substantially from the faithful giving of the members of the parish, and it is encouraging to see this growing and enabling the new opportunities in the parish.

Greg Muddle

Warden & Treasurer

# Warden's Report

Geoff Stevenson, Graeme Tuckwell, Greg Muddle

This is a brief account of the main property issues dealt with by the wardens this year. It is included in the AGM papers to keep church members informed of some of the issues that are going on in the background.

Noteworthy issues dealt with this year are listed below in no particular order:

1. Roof leaks continue to be a recurring issue. Remedial action taken includes:
  - a. The valley above the cot room in the CCC had a couple of major leaks which caused damage to the cot room ceiling. After a number attempts by one roofing contractor to prevent the leaks it was decided we would engage a different contractor to seal the valley with a moulded polymer sheet. This has resulted in a marked improvement with a slight leak being detected since this was done.
  - b. The cot room ceiling was replaced with a suspended ceiling which allows for easy replacement of ceiling tiles when damaged.
  - c. A leak in the Creche was repaired.
2. Glass replacement. One of the glass doors at the car park entrance was replaced after an errant dog smashed it. (Yes, fact is stranger than fiction). One large window pane was replaced after it developed a crack that appears to have been caused building movement.
3. The landscaping and signage on the Richmond Rd frontage is complete. The signage, which was completed this week, includes a new car park entrance sign.
4. Over the course of the last couple of years we have had an issue with youths gathering in the small park at the rear of our car park. These gatherings often spill into the car park. Behaviour by this group includes alcohol abuse, noise and broken bottles. The police have been called a number of times. In a recent event a number of the car park bollards were damaged. Negotiations are ongoing with the council to have the park declared an alcohol free zone. We have also applied for a grant through the CCTV Program of the Department of Community and Justice with the goal of installing CCTV in the car park. These issues are ongoing.



5. During the course of the year the equipment that allows live streaming of services has been upgraded. This includes cameras, microphone, etc.

As always the wardens would like to thank all the volunteers that perform a myriad of tasks for us.

Without your help and cooperation this place would not function. We won't mention any names but you know who you are – thank you so much!

# Our 2040 Vision

Over the coming years, Blacktown will see many more people come and call this city 'home'. We seek to grow, spiritually and numerically, so that we might pursue our Vision to see our city flourish, in God's good design, through the Jesus shaped community we are within this city. We are dreaming big about the kind of impact we might have, and how we might see this Vision become a reality. Here are some of our big dreams for our church, ministry and mission as we look toward 2040:

- 100 new confessions of faith in Jesus each year.
- 1000 kids in a holiday kids club program.
- A growing community of trained leaders equipped and empowered to serve Jesus in our church, our city and around the world.
- Resourcing the global church to pursue excellence in cross-cultural and cross-generational ministry.
- Having a clear Jesus shaped identity and character that is known, recognised and appreciated throughout our city, its people and institutions.
- A thriving ministry involvement in the new Blacktown university.
- A network of church congregations gathering each week across our city, and a recognised partnership with other Christian churches for the sake of the gospel.
- Our church representing the diversity of the city in age, culture & language.
- A significant and visible presence with staff and patients in the hospital, where our partnership in public health is recognised and valued.
- Connecting with every new parent/baby born in Blacktown Hospital.
- Sending groups in short-term mission trips to support and resource work in remote places.
- Sending people from our church into long-term mission fields beyond Blacktown with significant prayerful, financial and pastoral support.
- Every person in the city of Blacktown hearing the good news of Jesus and experiencing something of the grace shown to us all.

Will you join us in praying toward this end, for the glory of Jesus and for our joy?