

ANNUAL REPORT

Annual General Meeting
8 February 2024

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

Philippians 1:9-11

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.

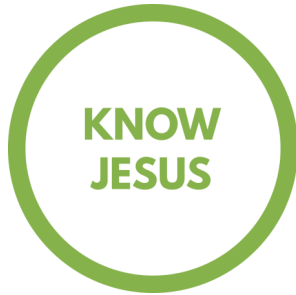
Under God, this is a picture of what success in our Mission will look like.

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

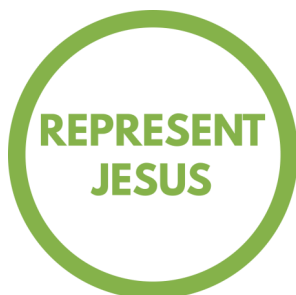
Growing in devotion, depth and breadth

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

There is much to be thankful to God for over the past 12 months. Our church has grown in so many aspects: in faith and deepening maturity; in strengthening relationships in community; in new people coming into the life of our church; in the growing care of people experiencing hardship or heartache.

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. I want to highlight just a couple of items.

Reach Australia Consult

For the past several years, our staff have spent time together attending the Reach Australia conference over three days. It has proved a very significant time for us receive input, and to think, plan and pray about how we lead our church into the future.

In May 2022, we had a consultation with Reach Australia (partially sponsored by our bishop), and a subsequent report identifying areas that we need to put our attention to. This has been a very useful process, and consequently, has shaped much of our thinking and planning in the second half of the year. Among other areas, it has helped us think more intentionally about how we engage in local mission, it's provided clarity to our plans toward an evening congregation, helped us to establish a membership pathway, and provided a framework for ensuring we attend to every important aspect of church life and health. You will find some of the early results of this thinking in the pages that follow, as we have rethought, refreshed and reimagined various parts of our church life.

Young Adult Community

Over the past 12 months, we have gathered a team fortnightly to think, plan and pray about the possibility of launching an evening congregation. It's been

quite an inspiring and encouraging journey. We've worked hard in thinking, learning, and planning together. It has been a real joy to see a healthy sense of community develop among the team over the year, and with a deep missional heart to reach young people across our city who don't yet know Jesus.

The initial result of our work last year has been the formation of a Young Adult Community, which we launched only last Sunday. It has been a great encouragement to see such a strong level of ownership among the team for the success of this ministry, to hear their desire to help their friends come to know Jesus, and for the time they have put into organising and running the ministry.

Revelation & Mental Health Sermon Series

As a preacher, you hope that every sermon and every series has a deep impact in people's lives, and is used by the Holy Spirit to grow people in their knowledge and love for Jesus. Sometimes, it is more obvious than others. These two series in particular seemed to resonate broadly and carry an impact well beyond our church.

I am thankful to God for that encouragement. The task of preaching the Word of God is no small matter, and one I do not carry lightly. I count it an enormous privilege to be given time to spend deep in his word, and to teach, preach and bring it to bear on the lives of others.

Staff

I am incredibly thankful to God for our staff team. I don't often get the chance to formally recognise them, but I wish to do so here. Robbie, Renee, Laurice, Larissa and Lual each bring a unique set of gifts and skills to their roles. It is a joy to lead them.

I am especially thankful for the way God has brought Larissa and Lual to us as an answer to our prayers. They have each made a significant contribution to our team and to our church in their first year with us. I know they both have developed their leadership in their roles over the past year, and I am excited to see how God will use them in the year ahead.

Larissa has had the difficult task of stepping into a newly created role for her first ministry position. She has been admirable in her humility, enthusiasm and thoughtfulness. She has had a great deal to learn, and a great many people to get to know—both inside and outside our church. She has been involved in some important work fostering relationships with local organisations and ministries in Blacktown. She has also been instrumental in our ability to launch our Young Adult Community, and I'm not sure we could have done it without her. This year, she will also have a greater presence in inspiring and equipping our whole church for the work of mission in our city.

Lual has also come into a difficult ministry context. His patience, wisdom, leadership and generosity to others have been very encouraging. Under his leadership, we have resolved some significant issues of conflict, and are in a much healthier place than we were 12 months ago. There is much more to do, and I have every confidence in Lual to continue the good work he has begun.

Renee continues her brilliant work in ministry to kids, youth and families. The growth of our ministry to young people has been very significant under her leadership. Her enthusiasm, creativity and care for others shine through all that she does. There are many challenges that lie ahead of us with a growing ministry, and whilst not necessarily easy, they are the good kind of challenges that come with a growing ministry. I am excited to see how God will continue to grow and use her in service of our church.

Laurice has served us wonderfully over the past four years, not only as our administrator, but also as a significant contributor to our pastoral ministry team. Her dedication, expertise and ever-willingness to help others are all greatly admired. Laurice has now taken on leadership of our system for helping people find their way into opportunities to serve, and will bring much needed expertise and passion to that important work.

Robbie and I continue our partnership as excellent counter-balances to one another. It is rare to find someone you can agree with just as strongly as you can disagree at times, and for both to see that as a blessing. But I think we very much have an iron-sharpening-iron relationship that benefits us both, and by extension, the church.

I'm a firm believer that a church is only as healthy as its staff team. As I see much growth in health across our church in so many ways, I believe it is a fitting reflection of what God has done among our staff. Please pray for each of them. Give thanks to God for them. And pray for courage, wisdom and resilience as we continue to pursue the mission of Jesus, and become an increasingly Jesus shaped community.

It has been a delight to welcome Rhiannon Steer onto our staff team as an intern. Rhiannon will be completing the Youthworks Year 13 gap year program this year, and alongside that, getting a taste of ministry experience. It has been a great encouragement to me to see our youth ministry continue to grow. My prayer is that Rhiannon is the first of many to come who take the opportunity for a discipleship gap year.

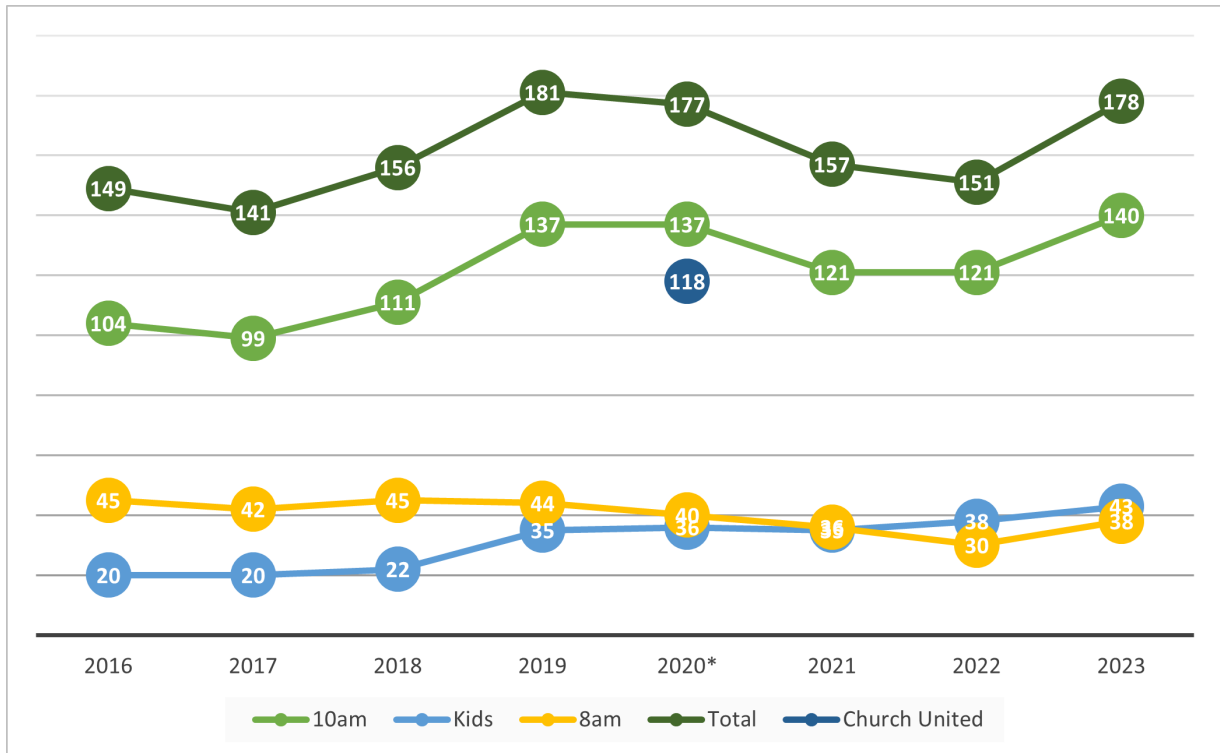
Please be praying for God's wisdom and guidance over all these matters, as we strive to grow people who Know Jesus, Treasure Jesus, Depend on Jesus and Represent Jesus, for the glory of Jesus and for our joy.

Luke Thomson
Senior Minister

Church Life

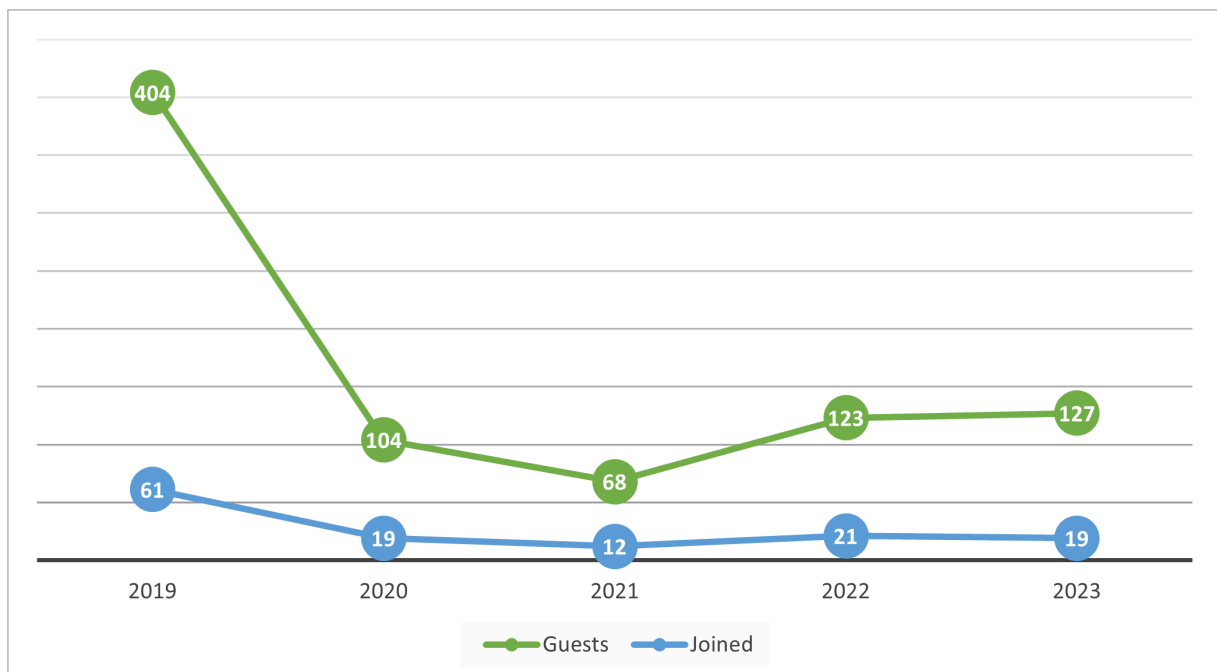
A snapshot

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



Know Jesus

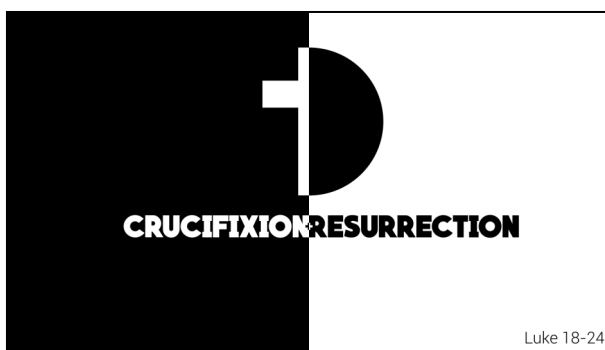
For salvation and for life



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 2023?

Bible studies



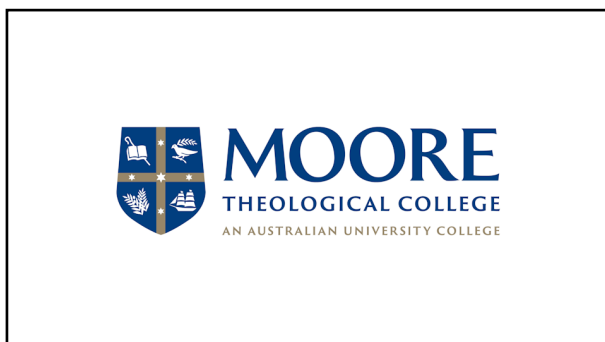
In term one, we produced Bible Studies alongside our sermon series in Luke. This resource encourages us to grow deeper in exploring the Bible together beyond the sermon, in our Community Groups or on our own.

Revelation Online Guide



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

Moore College Mission



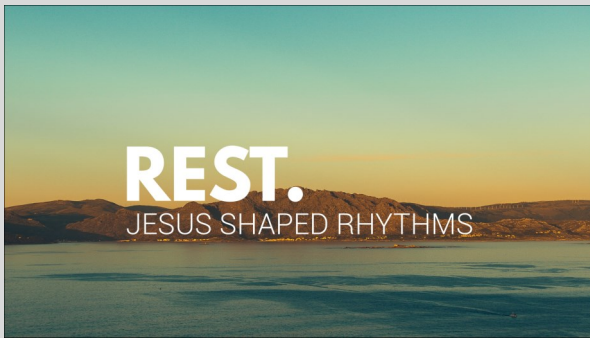
In partnership with other local Anglican churches, we hosted a Moore College team of students for a week. It was an opportunity for us to be encouraged as we heard their stories, and as they had a taste of ministry in Blacktown. Alongside our own people,

the team was involved in a number of evangelistic activities through the week, sharing the gospel with many unchurched people across our city.

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 2024, we are planning to preach through Acts 1-7 and the whole book of Daniel. We will be preaching topically on: A Better Way (which we have just completed), Identity & Sexuality, and Belonging. Later in the year, we will preach our annual Vision series and Advent series.

Discover Jesus



We paused this course in 2023, as we considered how to revitalise it and grow its effectiveness. Larissa and Robbie have been working towards a new approach, centred around the sharing of a meal together. We're excited to relaunch this in 2024, and

our prayer is that it becomes a significant pathway for people to discover Jesus for themselves and find new life in him.

Bible Reading Program



This year, we're encouraging people to set a target of reading through the whole Bible, following the Bible Recap program. It includes a short daily podcast along with readings, and the opportunity to share with others as we grow in community together.

Men's and Women's Ministry

In 2024, we are seeking to shape our men's and women's ministry events to have a greater emphasis on inviting and welcoming those outside our church. We have loved the community that has been building in these ministries over the past few years, and we believe that these are a key pathway for people to come into the life of our church through invitational evangelism, along with a refreshed Discover Jesus course, and a new belonging course.

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 2023?

Evening Congregation Planning Team



Across 2023, we gathered a team fortnightly to think, plan and pray about the possibility of launching an evening congregation. We had a fantastic year together, as we explored theology, history, demographical data and ministry

philosophy. As we progressed through the year, it was clear that our next step toward planting a new congregation was to first launch a dedicated young adult ministry. The team worked towards implementing some preview sessions of what we hoped this ministry might become. We were delighted to officially launch the new Young Adult Community last Sunday.

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 2023, Simba Musvamhiri (Australasian Director of African Enterprise) came and preached to us and was a great

encouragement.

We were also able to celebrate together with a multicultural feast at our Mission Week Dinner, and hear from Omar Djoeandy who shared about his mission work across the world with SIM.

Treasure Jesus

In worship and in community



Bible Reading in heart languages

During our Revelation series, our 10am service heard from members of our church share a little about their country of origin, and read the Bible in their heart language. It was a wonderful 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.

Men's and Women's ministry

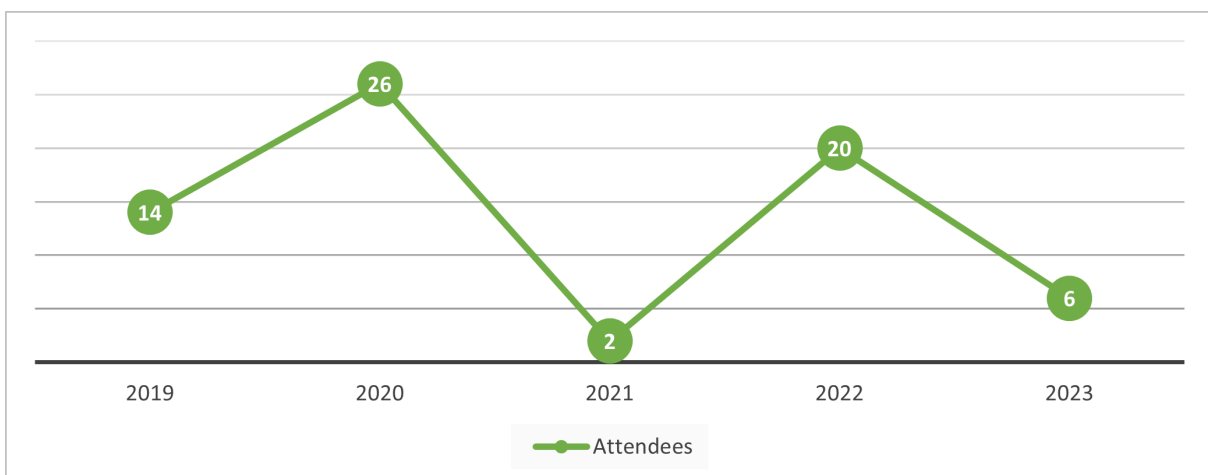
Our Men's and Women's events continued and were a great encouragement for building community within the church. We are making a few adjustments to our plans for 2024 (as noted earlier in this report).

Welcome Lunches



Welcome Lunches have been 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. We

hosted just one lunch earlier in the year, before pausing to spend time considering how we can more effectively assist people into the life of our church. We also hosted a couple of 8am congregational lunches to build fellowship and community.



Treasure Jesus

In worship and in community



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 Service

Lual began as the pastor to the Sudanese congregation 12 months ago. He has done an excellent job in building the health of the community in that congregation.

Church Picnic

We held a church picnic across the road, in conjunction with our visit from Adam and Avril (our CMS Mission Partners). It was wonderful to spend time together in community in a different context.

Return of Morning Tea at 10am

It has been wonderful to resume serving morning tea after our 10am service. It is an important time for building community, and many thanks to those who serve us in this way.

What's Next?



Young Adult Community



In 2024, we will be seeking to build and grow the new Young Adult Community. Initially meeting fortnightly, we hope in time to move to a weekly gathering once we reach a suitable critical mass. We have worked on some targets we believe

we need to meet for attendance and engagement at both the 10am service and the Young Adult Community before we can further transition into a full evening congregation.

Simply Start Belonging



In 2024, we are launching a new two week course to help those new to our church understand who we are, what we are on about, and how they can participate. This will be part of a broader range of adjustments to increase the effectiveness of our

pathways for guests to become engaged members in our church community.

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 2023?

Prayer Week



We continued to set aside a week devoted to reflecting and growing in prayer together, and held a prayer gathering as part of the week.

Open Doors Sunday



We set aside a week to hear and pray for the persecuted church. Jordan Scott from Open Doors came and shared with us some personal stories to encourage us, and further equip us to pray for our brothers and sisters around the world.

Pledging

Each year we ask our church to prayerfully consider what generosity might look like in the context of giving to 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.

Fundraiser for Kids & Youth

It was wonderful to raise funds to provide a significant contribution that assisted our Kids and Youth to attend camps over the year (Square One & Kyck, respectively). The generosity of our church enables our young people further grow in hearing and responding to the gospel.

What's Next?



Prayerfulness

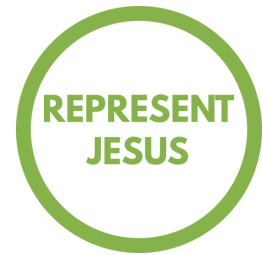
In 2024, we're hoping to refresh our prayer gatherings through the year, and continue to build a deep culture of prayerfulness across all that we do. We're hoping to build upon some of our existing resources on prayer, alongside our Prayer Week.

Courage

Through our Acts sermon series, we will be looking to grow people's courage and confidence in the gospel, as well as the need to bring the good news of Jesus to the people around us. Across the whole year, we will be looking for ways to highlight and share stories of how members of our church are stepping out in courage and faith for the sake of the gospel. We hope this will be an enormous encouragement and blessing, and lead to a growing collective heart for the people of our city.

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 2023?

Mobile Community Pantry



Our Mobile Pantry ministry continues to provide practical support to our community. As the cost of living challenges continue to affect many, this ministry has had a valuable contribution to the people of our city.

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.

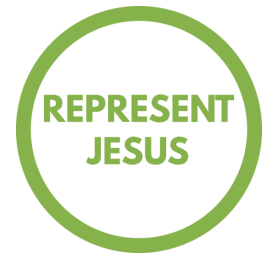
Playtime



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.

Anglicare Shop



Larissa has been building our relationship with Lisa, the manager of the Anglicare Shop in Blacktown. Lisa shared during our Sunday services about the role and breadth of resources that the shop provides. We continue to foster a healthy

relationship, and are looking for opportunities for further engagement.

Mental Health Seminar

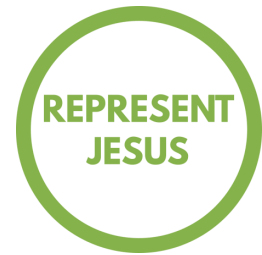
As part of our sermon series on Mental Health, we held a special seminar in partnership with Anglicare to train and equip us with knowledge and skills to better care for people who are suffering with mental ill-health.

Blacktown Council

Robbie is part of a group of ministers who open local council meetings in prayer. This has been a great opportunity to serve and build relationships with our local government and officials.

Represent Jesus

By our proclamation, presence and practice.



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.

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. Our Beyond Blacktown mission committee continue to work faithfully in connecting with, praying, and supporting their work on behalf of our church.

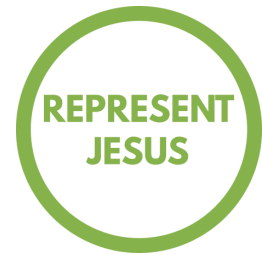


In 2023, we met Adam and Avril, our new CMS Mission Partners. It has been a real joy to hear their story, and the work they will be involved with in Madagascar. We enjoyed a very encourage week with them as they shared on Sunday and met with our

Community Groups. They arrived in Madagascar just two weeks ago, and we look forward to continuing our prayerful partnership as they train pastors to lead the significant growth that the church is presently experiencing.



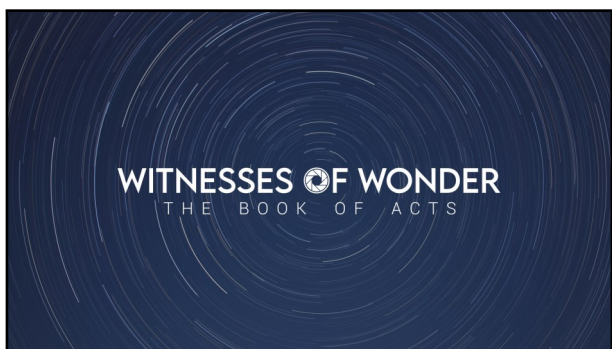
What's Next?



University Ministry

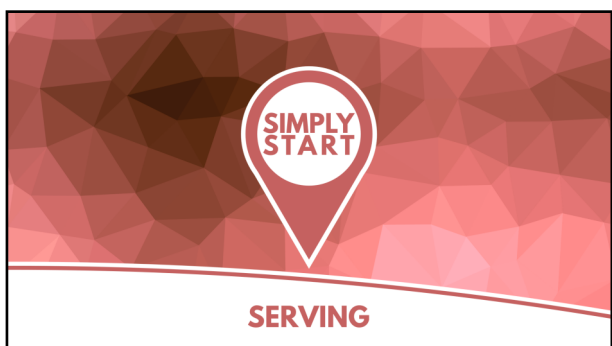
We have continued the slow work of building relationships with the ACU campus in Blacktown. We have connected with a number of other churches and Christian ministry organisations, and together are working out ways we may partner together to serve the university students with the gospel. We would love prayer for this ongoing opportunity.

The Acts Challenge



In term one, we will be preaching through Acts 1-8. Alongside this series, Larissa will be inspiring and equipping us to lean into the many opportunities we have to bring the news of Jesus into conversations with our friends, neighbours, colleagues and family.

Simply Start Serving



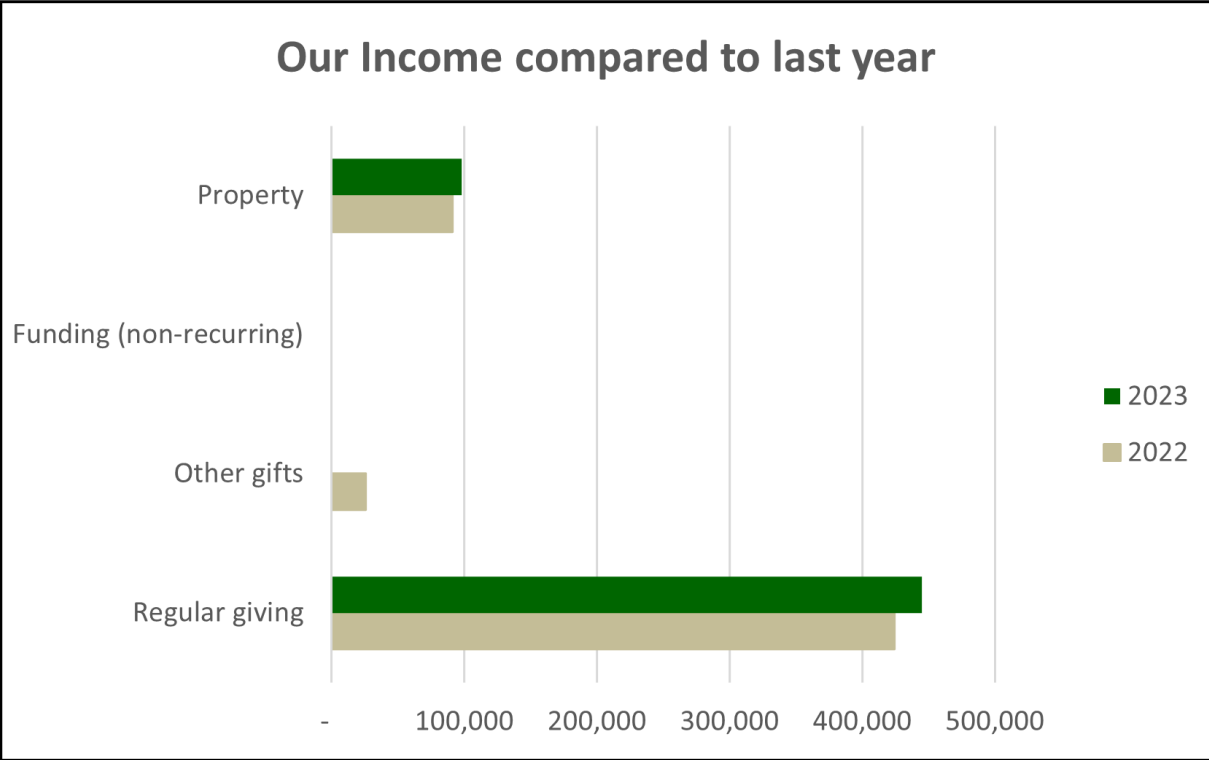
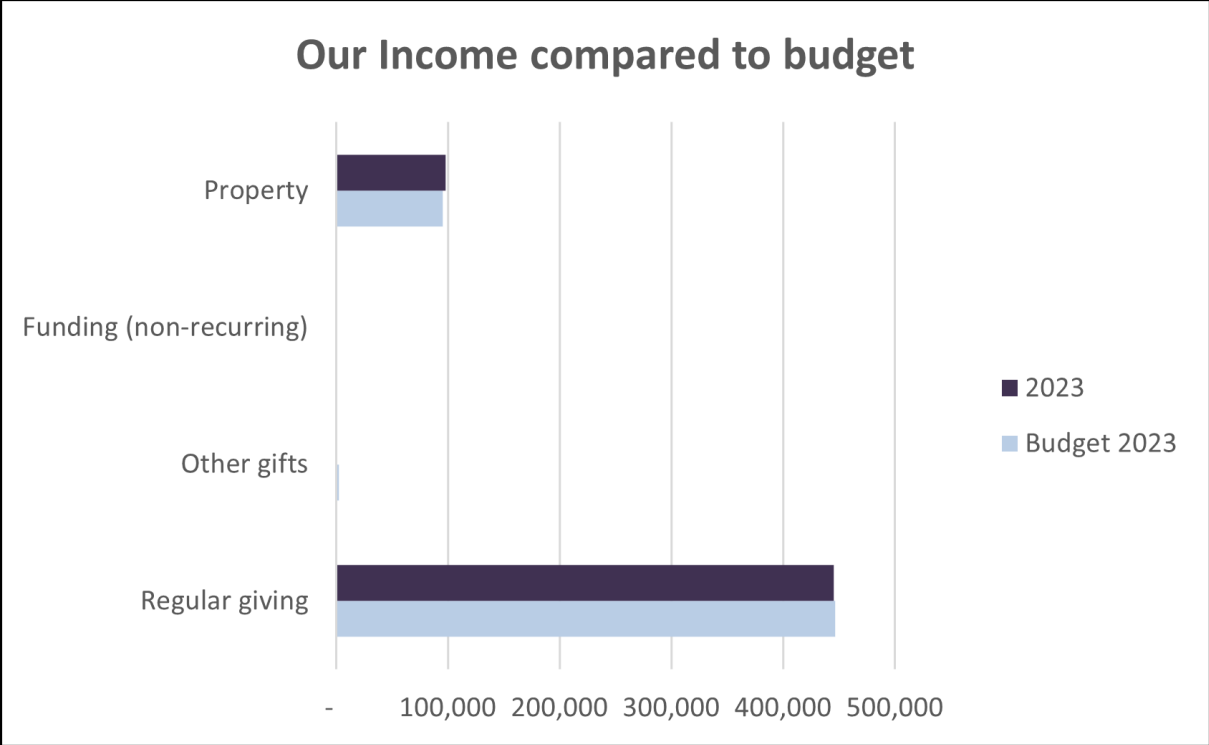
As part of our Reach Australia consult, we have recognised the need to give additional time and focus to growing the serving capacity of our church. Laurice has taken a lead in this space, and we're hoping to make some significant improvements to how we

on-board volunteers into various roles, and ensure that our serving teams are well supported and encouraged.

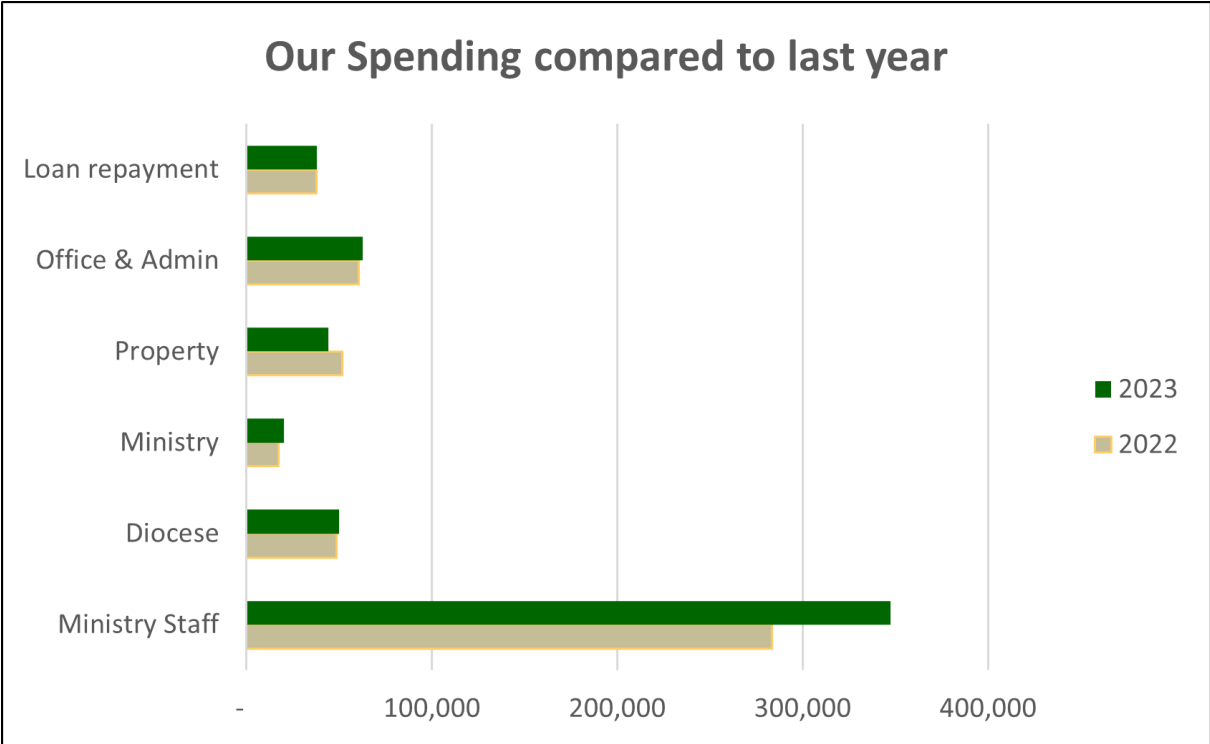
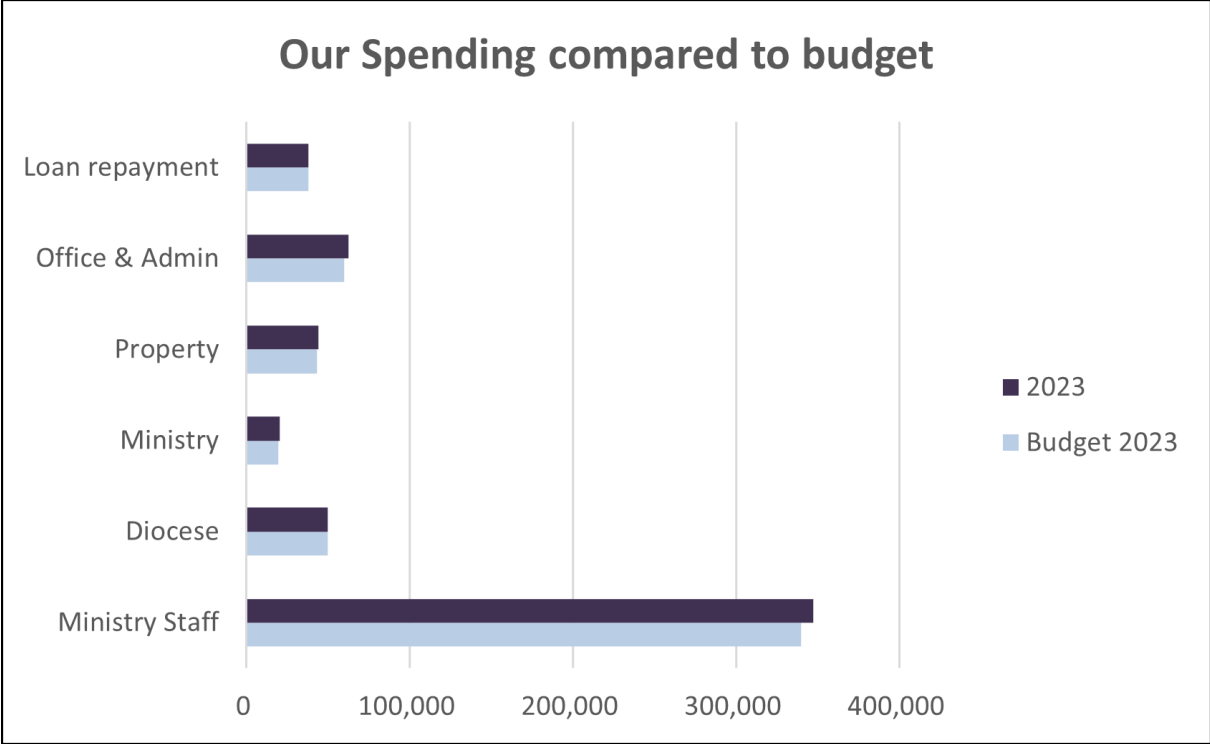
Financial Overview

A summary of our income and spending for 2023.

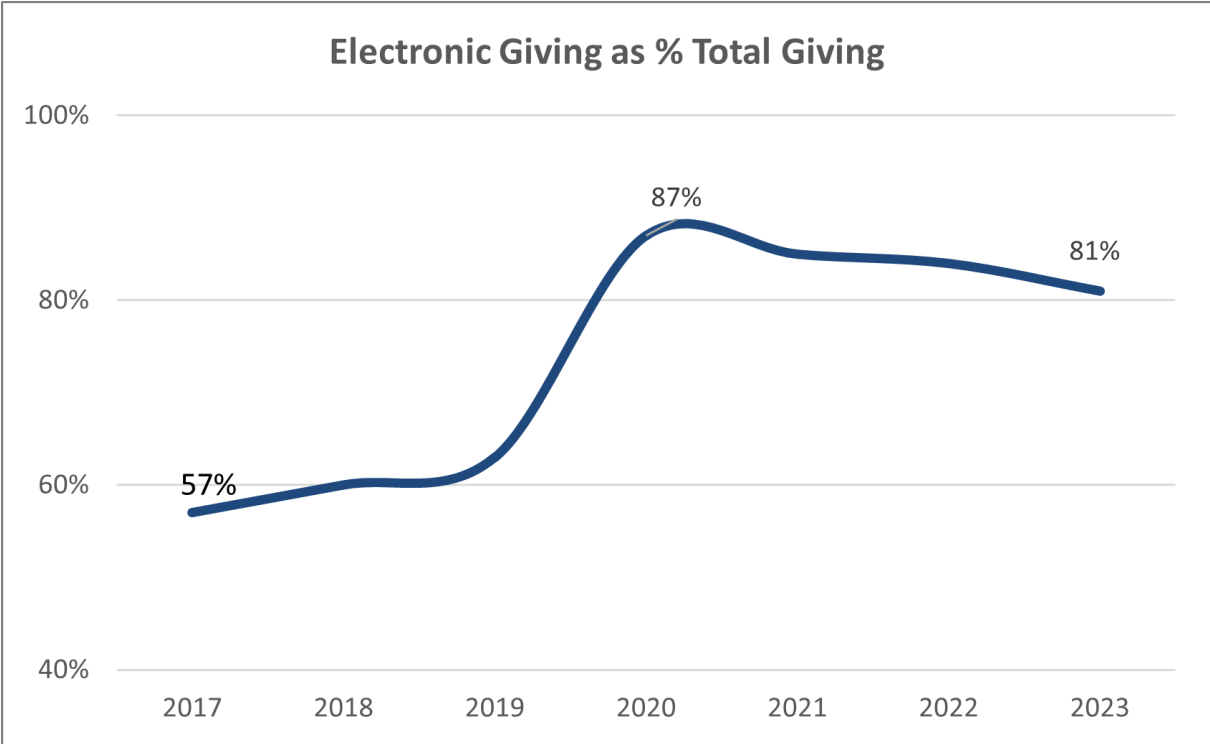
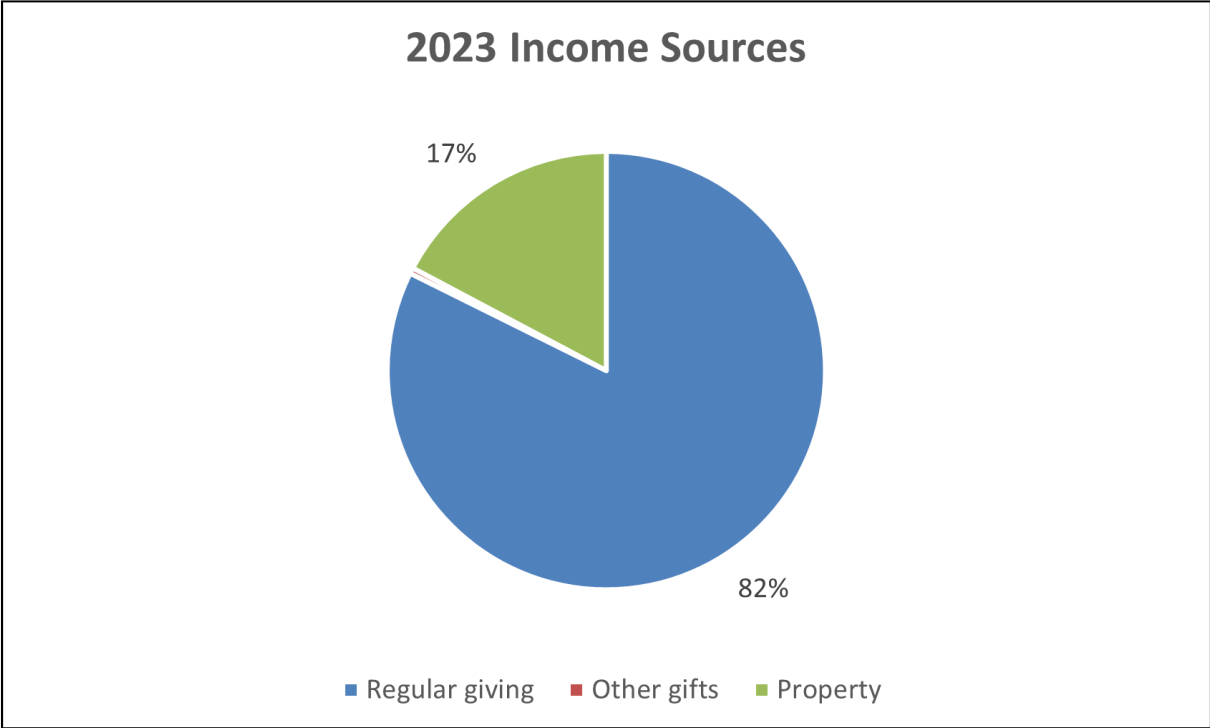
See the detailed financial reports for further information.



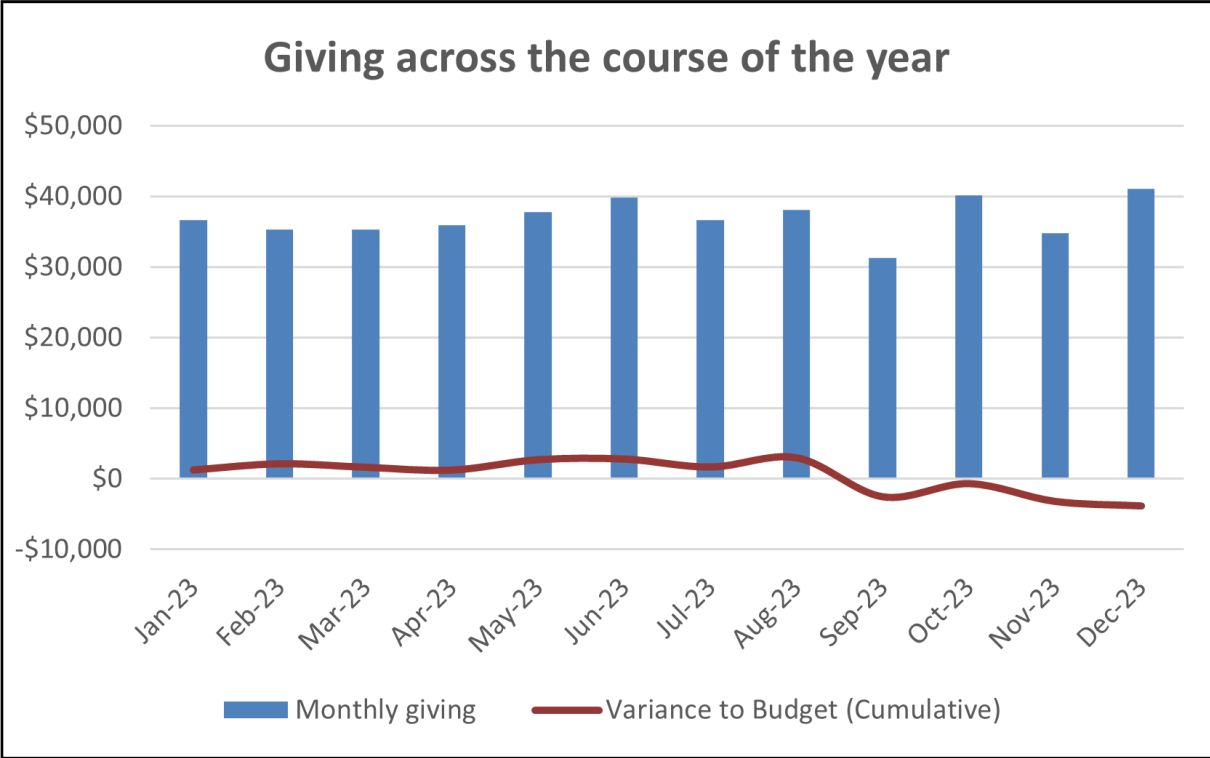
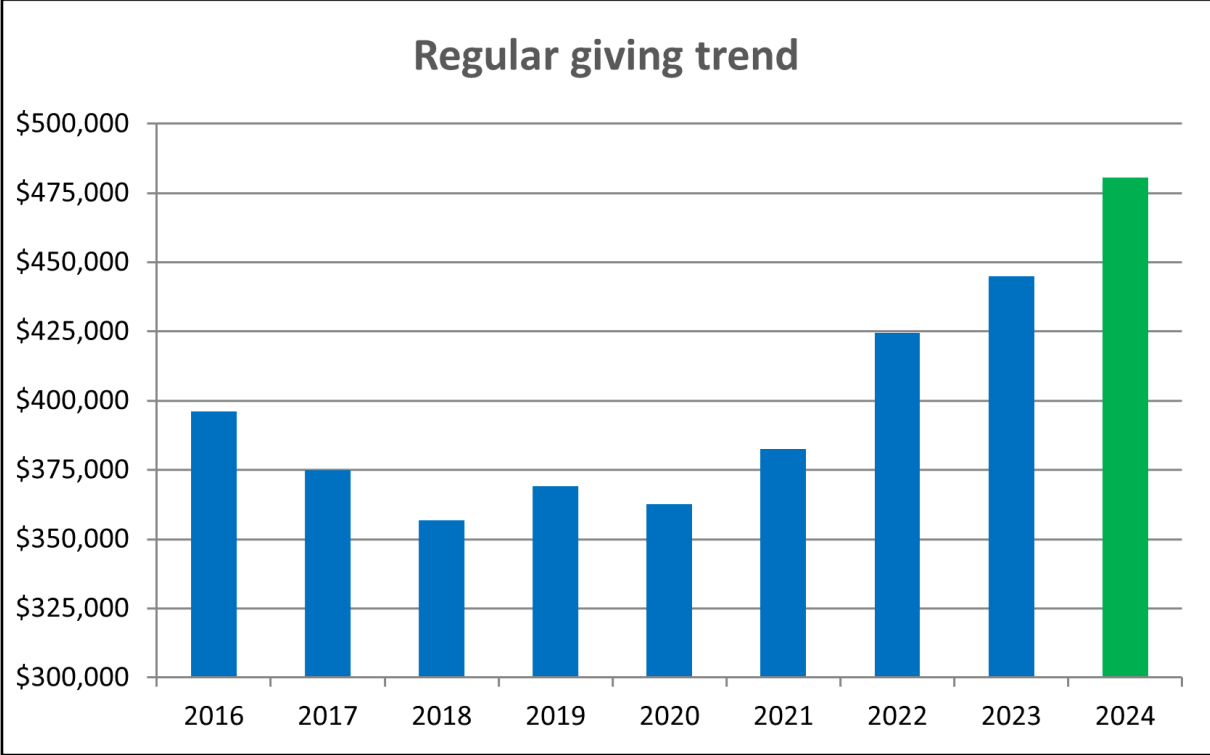
Financial Overview



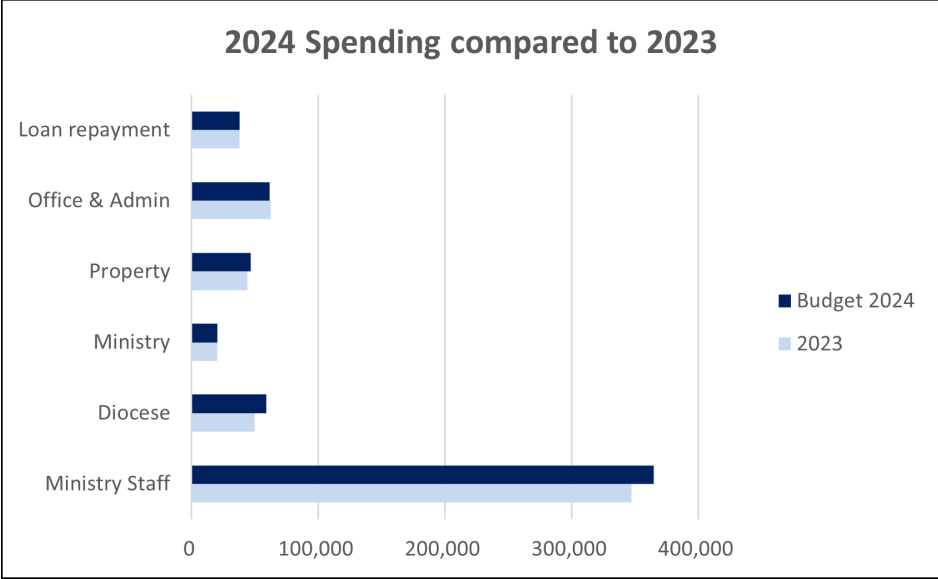
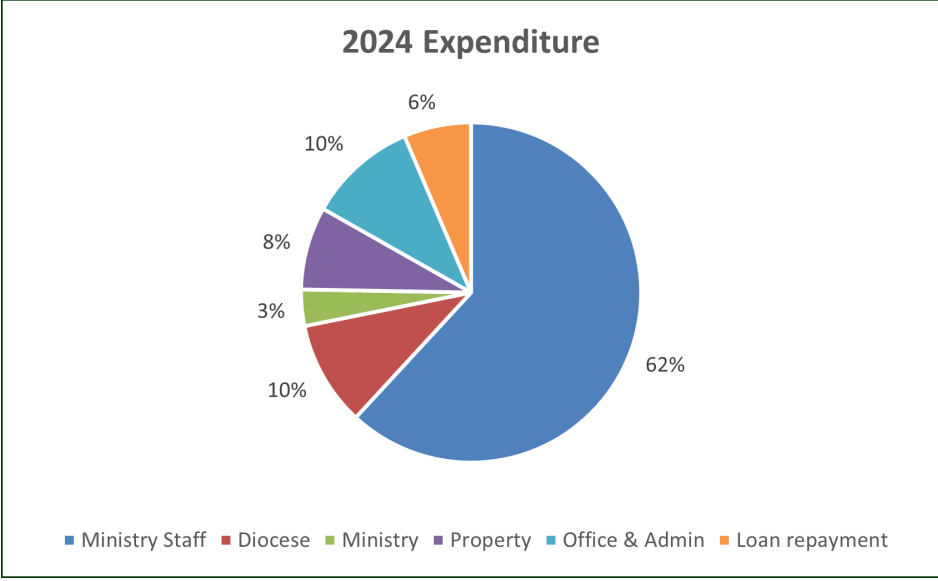
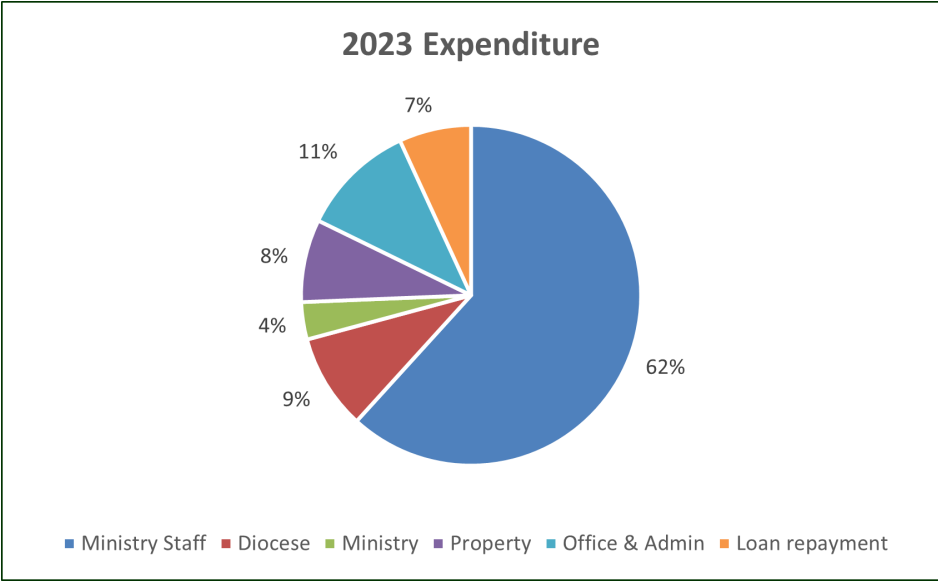
Financial Overview



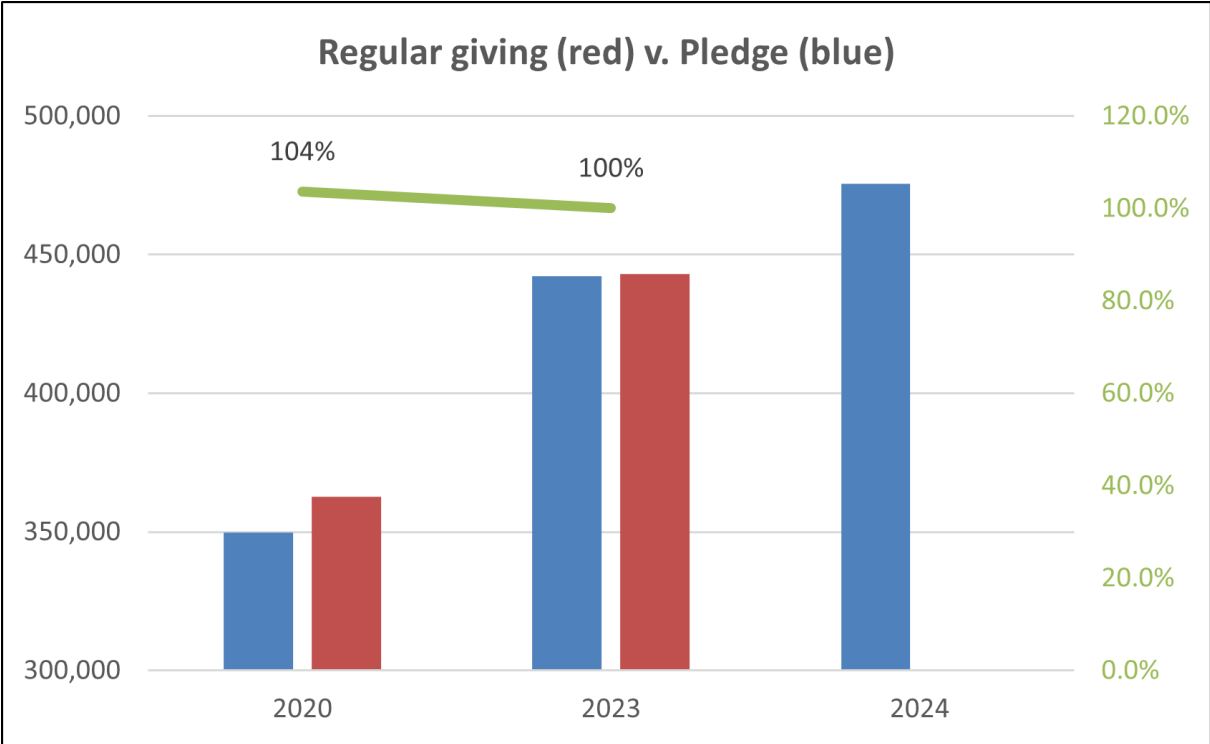
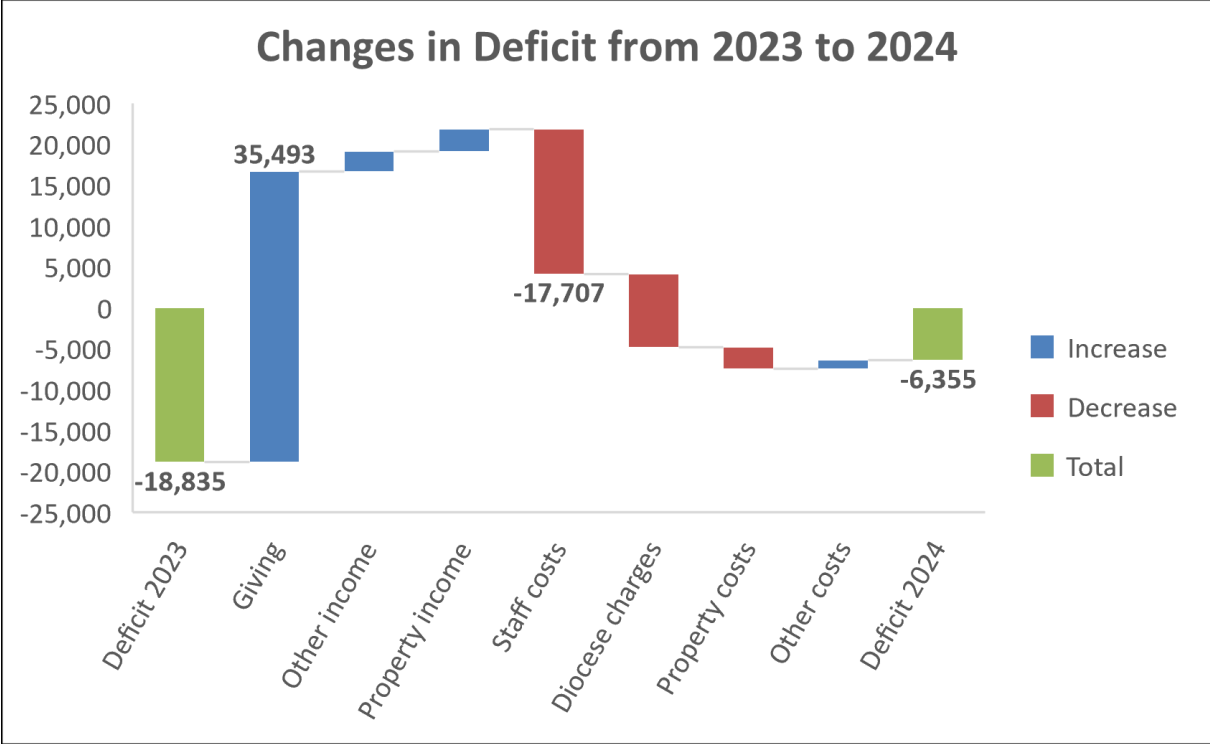
Financial Overview



Financial Overview



Financial Overview



Treasurer's Report

Greg Muddle

Key Numbers - 2023

Surplus for the year: **-\$18,836**

Compared to Budget: **-\$13,361**

Net Funds Available: **\$229,158**

Congregation Giving: **\$444,972**

Compared to Budget: **-0.9%**

Increase on Prior Year: **+4.8%**

Key Numbers – 2024 Budget

Deficit for the year: **-\$6,356**

Congregation Giving: **\$480,465**

Increase on 2023: **+7.9%**

Parish funds in summary

	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Revenue	550,161	544,693	554,432	583,577
Expenses	(479,723)	(520,368)	(546,411)	(562,933)
Net Income (PFS page 2)	70,438	24,325	8,021	20,644
Loan capital repayments	(28,047)	(29,800)	(26,857)	(27,000)
Surplus (Deficit)	42,391	(5,475)	(18,836)	(6,356)

Key changes in revenue in 2023

(increase of \$4,271 compared to 2022)

- An increase of approximately \$6,600 in rents and donations from the use of property;
- An increase of approximately \$20,500 in regular and other giving in the parish mostly from increased pledging;
- An increase gross receipts from ministry events of approximately \$3,000 consistent with the number and size of events including fundraising for youth events; and
- The prior year included approximately \$26,000 in insurance recoveries

which were not repeated (and which is partly offset by lower repair and replacement costs). Approximately \$8,500 in receipts and donations for events, which is offset by expenditure on those events.

**Key changes in expenses in 2023
(increase of \$66,688 compared to 2022)**

- Higher ministry staff costs of approximately \$64,000, with the addition of staff members (Larissa and Lual) and increase in stipends set by the Diocese;
- A decrease of approximately \$7,500 in property maintenance costs compared to the previous year. 2023 costs were around average, and the previous year included significant repair costs related to roof leaks;
- An increase of approximately \$6,000 in ministry related costs – partly the use of additional money raised in parish events, and partly reflecting increased church and children’s ministry activity.
- Small increases in office expenses and Diocesan charges.

**Key variances from Budget in 2023
(net result \$13,361 worse than expected)**

- Parish giving approximately \$2,000 below budget – a variance of less than 1% and largely in line with pledged commitments;
- Staff costs higher than expected by approx. \$7,500 due to higher than budgeted leave and superannuation costs; and
- Property costs higher than budget by approximately \$3,700, no particular reason other than normal levels of variation and slightly higher than expected power costs.

Other items

During the year Parish Council approved the use of \$30,000 of parish funds for additional loan repayments. The parish had built surplus funds in 2020 and 2021 from JobKeeper grants and from loan repayment relief, using some of these funds to make additional repayments now will enable the parish to pay off its debt quicker and free-up capacity in future for other expenditure.

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 2023 mission support payments of \$26,786 were made (\$22,766 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 Open Doors and Perry & Kim Anderson.

2024 Budget

The Parish Council proposed a draft budget for 2024 that included an increase in staff hours. This was communicated to the parish during October 2023 when the congregations were asked to consider their giving and indicate by pledge their proposed level of giving.

Although the pledge indicated a significant increase in giving this was not sufficient to meet the increase in costs anticipated in our draft budget and accordingly Parish Council set expectations for 2024 in line with what it can afford, with a small deficit expected. Parish Council will continue to monitor our capacity to afford additional staff hours as we move through 2024.

Regular giving pledged in 2024 will deliver an increase of 7.9% and rents from the Childcare Centre will increase with inflation at approximately 5.4%.

Costs will increase due to increases in staff rates of pay (increases in Diocesan rates and experience grades). There is a significant increase in Diocesan contributions (which are largely based on parish income on a trailing basis – i.e. the large increase in costs in 2024 reflects income increases we had in 2022). 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 2024 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 2024 runs at a small deficit that is effectively funded from the unplanned one-off income items from earlier and is not a risk to the parish financial position. We continue to have sufficient reserves to manage unexpected financial impacts should they occur.

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 growth in committed giving enabling the new opportunities in the parish.

Greg Muddle

Warden & Treasurer

Warden's Report

Geoff Stevenson, Graeme Tuckwell, Greg Muddle

2023 was a relatively quiet year for property maintenance with no major issue to report.

Projects completed include –

- The construction of the privacy wall in front of the toilet doors in the foyer.
- Renovation of the two top rooms in the cottage. This included painting and new floor coverings.
- Installation of security cameras in the carpark.
- Repair of vandalism damage to lighting bollards in the car park.
- Installation new vanity unit with easy-to-use taps in the lady's toilet.

The wardens very much appreciate the assistance of the volunteers that assist in various areas like lawn mowing, yard maintenance, duty wardens and accounting. Not to mention all those who assist in our working bees. Thank you and we look forward to your continued support.

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?