



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

INCLUDING REPORTS AND BALANCE SHEETS

HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH



High Street Uniting Church AGM 2023

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Uniting Church in Australia
High Street Uniting Church, Frankston
Congregational Meeting: Annual General Meeting: Sunday 19 March 2023, 10:00 am
For the year ended 31st December, 2022
Chairperson: Ross Huggard

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer – *Rev Ross Pearce*
2. Welcome
3. In attendance
4. Apologies (read from list provided)
5. Confirmation of the minutes of the last AGM: 20th March, 2023 (see appendix)
6. Chairperson's remarks
7. Election of Elders, C.O.G Members and Church Council Members
8. Annual Reports: (see appendix)
For Reception
 - 8.1 Church Council
 - 8.2 Minister
 - 8.3 Contemporary Oversight Group
 - 8.4 Monash University Chaplaincy
 - 8.5 Council of Elders
 - 8.6 Play Group
 - 8.7 Operation Larder
 - 8.8 LEGs
 - 8.9 UC Mission Guild
 - 8.10 Management Committee
 - 8.11 Choir
 - 8.12 Safe Church
 - 8.13 Walkie Talkies
 - 8.14 Brekky Club
 - 8.15 Social Justice Group
 - 8.16 Hall Hiring Committee
 - 8.17 Gardening ClubFor Adoption
 - 8.18 Financial Report 2022 & Budget 2022/ Treasurer's Report
9. Closing Prayer – *Rev Ross Pearce*
10. Close of meeting



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5.1 Minutes from 2022

UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH, Frankston
Annual General Meeting: Sunday 20th March 2022

CHAIRPERSON: Ross Huggard

1. WELCOME

The meeting commenced at 10:05 am.

Chairman Ross Huggard welcomed all members.

2. **OPENING PRAYER:** Rev David Fotheringham, using the last verse of our closing hymn: Peter said "I'm going fishing"

3. IN ATTENDANCE

Rev David Fotheringham, Ross Huggard, Marlene Thresher, Virgil Snyder, Roy Giesemann, Alan Jenkins, Gill Jenkins, Rona Russell, Dorothy Bucher, Jennifer Johnson, Michael Johnson, Ann Cleland, Mac Cleland, Mary McDonald, Monica Dick, Rev Alan Mathews, Bronwyn Mathews, Aubrey Mair, Rev Ian Cayzer, Jill Cayzer, Phil McCall, Fiona Jones, Cheryle Wilson, Edith Seller, Dawn Pickup, Fay Loader, Aileen Rankin, Rev Joe Rankin, Rev Arthur Poole, Dawn Peacock, Graham Peacock, Heather Rawson, Nylma Carruthers, Rodney Carruthers, Enid Churcher, Andre Jooste, Karin Jooste, Kay Burdett, Murray Burdett, Graeme Horsburgh, Jenny Horsburgh, Ali Vagenas, Edna Runciman, Marilyn Downing, Harriett Holton, John Upton, Tim Lake, Mandy Lake, Vilma LaBrooy, Barb Conner, Marg Scarlett, Lucas Scarlett, Beryl Fithall, Wayne Fithall, Marilyn Downing, Robert Downing, John Annable, Jackie Annable, Keith Holmes, Julie Holmes, Valmai Scully, Glenise Swallow, Santhira Thuraisingham, Ley McIntosh, Emma Lindenburg

4. APOLOGIES

Russell & Kerry Pederick, Mike & Phillippa Guest, Michael & Sherryn Downing

The apologies were accepted.

5. TABLING OF MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

25th March 2021

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the previous AGM had a slightly different format: it was conducted via web conferencing software (Zoom) to limit personal contact between attendees and lower the risk of the virus being spread.

Proposed resolution: that the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting on 25/3/21 be accepted.

Moved: Barb Conner, Seconded Rona Russell. Motion passed.



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6. CHAIRMAN'S REFLECTIONS & OBSERVATIONS

Yet again, it is my privilege to highlight some of the significant aspects of our life as a diverse and forward-looking congregation over the last 12 months, both as your Congregational Chairperson and Chair of Church Council. As always, please forgive any glaring omissions I may inadvertently make as I seek to review our church activities in the truly momentous year, that was 2021.

In many respects, I am sure you will agree that the last 12 months have been something of a blur and yet, we also know that our Christian witness has never been more important. Throughout all of the pandemic, we ensured that our worship would not be interrupted as we pivoted to Zoom seamlessly, having first done this with the arrival of COVID-19 on our shores in 2020. At the same time, the wonderful outreach of Operation Larder managed to continue largely unabated, whilst other forms of outreach and Christian witness had to be unavoidably paused. Throughout 2021, our congregation remained unified, and even grew slightly with Zoom services enabling wider access, even to other parts of Victoria. It would seem that 2022, and the dramatic recent events in Ukraine and floods in Queensland and NSW, are further reminders of the need for a Christian response to crisis, well exemplified by the establishment of a Social Justice Group.

So many of you so freely, and continually, give your time and talents to various aspects of our congregational life and, in 2021, this proved to be even more essential as new challenges and unforeseen situations arose. May I specifically acknowledge those of you who exercise key decision-making and offer spiritual and pastoral leadership, as we conduct elections for members of Church Council today? Indeed, without their selfless commitment we would simply not be able to function effectively as a viable Christian community. Allow me to acknowledge, on your behalf, the huge debt we owe to our indefatigable Treasurer, Keith Holmes and his assistant Emma Lindenburg, who ensured that we could meet our financial commitments notwithstanding the pandemic's inescapable impact on our revenue stream. I also wish to acknowledge the very considerable workload so reliably and efficiently undertaken by Kerry Pederick, as Church Council Secretary, sometimes assisted by the versatile Karin Jooste, who once more is our minute-taker today. I also wish to acknowledge the services of those no longer able to be actively involved in various capacities, including Robert Downing who has been a loyal Church Council member but has decided to step down, whilst continuing his wonderful work as part of the Management Committee.

Some key elements of the atypical year in our congregational life in 2021 include:

- The wonderful pastoral care, support and outreach by Rev Brenda Cooper, our appointed Pastoral Care associate, who regrettably decided to resign at the end of the year, but continues to be a key member of our congregation, dating back to when she so adeptly was our Supply Minister before the arrival of David.
- Our ongoing outreach to the students of Monash Peninsula Campus through the wonderfully supportive and flexible ministry of our Chaplain, Mandy Lake
- Continued oversight of key Safe Church practices, also by Mandy Lake



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- Elders and pastoral care visitors who continued to reach out to members of the congregation, including those who are frail in body or mind, so capably providing spiritual nurturing and spreading the love of Christ. This often had to be undertaken in less personal and COVID-safe ways, one of the many challenges to be met!
- Escalating demand for the support provided by Operation Larder, with wonderful organisational and financial leadership provided by members of our congregation in its 39th year of operation. The leadership of Dawn and Graham Peacock, Nylma Carruthers and Graeme Horsburgh continues to be exceptional. These determined individuals continued undaunted by the huge challenges generated by the virus, and managed to keep the whole operation afloat despite all sorts of challenges, even after such a problematic year in 2020.
- Periodic meetings of LEGS and UC Mission Guild continuing to support those who require our support and financial assistance, both locally and beyond.
- The ongoing maintenance and enhancement of our facilities by a team of often unsung heroes: Mike Guest, Alan Jenkins and Robert Downing, the members of our Management Committee. This work continued during the worst of the pandemic as our lengthy lockdown operated.
- Special thanks needs to be made to Karin Jooste who collaborated for such a lengthy period with David to ensure all the technical aspects of our weekly Zoom services operated seamlessly and effectively. Ongoing support in this technical area, both offsite and at the sound-desk at the rear of the church, has also been wonderfully overseen by Alan Jenkins, who ensured that our hybrid model of on-site data projector, camera, sound and Zoom together could actually operate. Key input by Tim Lake, Russell Pederick, Matthew Kim and Robert Downing also must be acknowledged. We simply could not function without all of your wonderful work!
- Likewise, the commitment and reliable efforts of the members of the COG team who continue to ensure that reliably plan, facilitate and oversee contemporary worship, under the leadership of Kerry Pederick and Tim Lake
- Obviously, our choir which nurtures and enhances our 9am worship through music, so ably led by Bronwen Matthews, and talented organists, Nylma Carruthers and Elaine Keynon and others had to take an extended break, as in 2020.
- Likewise, our talented and dedicated bands and music groups which energise the contemporary service so powerfully with a means of choral worship, with its stalwart members Kerry and Russell Pederick, Mike Guest, Tim Lake, John Annable, Valmai Scully also had an unplanned rest of vocal-chords and fingers
- Support and nurturing for children, youth and families so determinedly and reliably provided by Meg Ryan and Hannah Dungan
- Support for Playgroup families, especially during lockdown, by its convenor, Emma Lindenburg
- Determining the congregational membership for the Joint Nominating Committee under the leadership of Rev Joy Blamires to discern a new minister
- All those who Chair and lead other church groups and organisations: thank you!
- Jill Cayzer's ongoing wonderfully supportive work as funeral verger
- David, even whilst the depths of the pandemic seemed to assail us, yet again as in 2020, you continued to ensure that we were spiritually enriched, nurtured and affirmed. I also wish to sincerely thank you for your wise counsel and leadership through Church



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Council and the COVID-Safety Oversight Group, and for your energetic capacity to diffuse challenging situations with your characteristic Christian optimism and effusive laughter. Knowing that you will be leaving our midst to assume your new role as Moderator in May 2022, which you will undoubtedly perform with your usual thoughtfulness, insight, collaboration, positivism and energy, is hard to accept, even if we must so do!

I look forward to continuing to accompany you on our shared, and hopefully not quite as challenging, journey of Christian witness in 2022.

7. ELECTION OF ELDERS & CHURCH COUNCILLORS

Nominated as Church Councillors:

- Ross Huggard, Keith Holmes and Alan Jenkins

By ballot paper, all nominees were duly elected to their roles with overwhelming majority.

8. ANNUAL REPORTS

For reception

Church Council report, Minister's report, Children, Youth & Family Ministry, COG, Monash University Chaplaincy, Council of Elders, Play Group, Operation Larder, LEGS, Mission Guild, Management Committee (Property), Choir, Safe Church, Walkie Talkies, Timor Leste.

For adoption

Financial Report: prepared by Keith Holmes, *Treasurer*.

In response to a query, in future years the endorsement of accounts by the official auditor will be included with the financial report as presented for the AGM.

By show of hands, financial reports were adopted.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Clarification was sought about the background to the apology to be made by Rev Dr Mark Lawrence

(General Secretary, Synod) and Rev Duncan MacLeod (Team Leader, PPE Presbytery) at a special

Joint service on Sunday 27 March 2022. Several explanations were provided in response, with an

overall summation by the Chairperson, Ross Huggard.

10. CLOSING PRAYER: *Rev David Fotheringham*

11, CLOSE OF MEETING at 10:40 am



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7.1 Election of Elders, C.O.G Members and Church Council Members

The nominees for 2023 are:

Elders:

Elder	Term
Marlene Thresher	5 years
Keith Holmes	5 years
Robert Latimer	5 years

Contemporary Oversight Group:

COG Member	Term
Jackie Annable	2 years
Barb Conner	3 years
Tim Lake	2 years
Meg Ryan	3 years
Marg Scarlett	2 years

Church Council:

Church Councillor	Term
John Coulson	3 years
Karin Jooste	3 years
Mike Guest	5 years
John Annable	3 years
Meg Ryan	3 years



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8.1 Church Council Report: Year ended December 2022

1. Overview

Once more perusing the Church Council Report of 12 months ago, as we were still endeavouring to manage the challenges and uncertainties imposed by COVID-19, 2022 demonstrated that there would continue to be unexpected situations to be resolved and some meetings continued via Zoom. It also became apparent that streaming our own regular traditional and contemporary services via Zoom would continue indefinitely; at least perhaps one positive outcome of the pandemic!

2022 also demonstrated the dedication and commitment of members of your Church Council and this should be both acknowledged and applauded. For example, two special additional meetings were held in January and another one in March, to deal with pressing issues. I wish to especially acknowledge the dedicated work, and to thank Keith Holmes, our astute and meticulous Treasurer, aided by his assistant Treasurer, Emma Lindenburg, along with our ever-reliable Secretary, Kerry Pederick, aided by Karin Jooste, who has also been our AGM minute-taker.

1. Key challenges facing us in 2022

Each year, given Church Council's responsibility for the oversight of all aspects of church operations, contentious and challenging issues need to appropriately considered and resolved. Some of the most significant of these dealt with in 2022 were:

- **Responding appropriately to the sale of the former Wesley church site.** Both Keith and I consulted with Rev Dr Robert Johnson (our former minister), drawing upon his knowledge and expertise as long-time former General Secretary of the VicTas Synod. This resulted in a special full Church Council meeting (without the presence of Rev David Fotheringham, due to a perceived conflict of interest) in mid-January to determine the most appropriate response, given that we were not consulted about the planned sale, in keeping with UC regulations. This resulted in a formal letter of concern being sent to the current General Secretary of Synod, Rev Dr Mark Lawrence, and a request for a face-to-face meeting with our Church Council at HSUC. I subsequently met with Rev Dr Mark Lawrence over Zoom to explore our concerns and to coordinate this in-person meeting. This included concerns over the lack of prior consultation, deprivation of our planned rental income, inaccurate valuation of the Wesley land/site, disquiet over the suggestion that our current site might not be optimal for the future and the specific request for a written apology over the failure of Synod to follow due process or to provide HSUC with correct advice.
- Accordingly, in March, another extraordinary Church Council meeting was held, with 4 invited guests: Rev Dr Mark Lawrence and Peter Thomas (Synod), Rev Duncan Macleod and Gavin Faichney (Presbytery). The outcomes of the frank and open discussions at that meeting were: errors have been made on all sides and the original lease (endorsed by Synod) for the Wesley site with the Brotherhood of St Laurence was significantly flawed in its wording; there would be a formal apology to the congregation on 27 March; a Local Initiative Payment of up to \$30,000 would be



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sought via Presbytery and a request to recoup as much of the \$63,000 of lost rental income from Synod, as possible. In addition, Rev Dr Mark Lawrence wrote an expansive formal letter of apology to our church, ending: "I trust...that we will be able to build on the past processed to develop ongoing positive relationships between the Synod and the congregation."

- **Supporting the work of the Joint Nominating Committee.** Given the very considerable amount of time and energy expended in dealing with the highly contentious sale of the former Wesley site, there was considerable pressure imposed on Church Council to support and uphold the critically-important work of the elected JNC, chaired by Rev Joy Blamires, to discern the next minister to call to our High Street UC congregation. This naturally included overseeing and endorsing an appropriate placement profile, which was finalised at another special Church Council meeting in late January (again not attended by Rev David Fotheringham, due to conflict of interest). JNC conversations commenced in April and the wonderful outcome was the successful calling of Rev Ross Pearce. Accordingly, on the afternoon of Sunday 2 October, a joyous service to induct Rev Ross into our congregation as our Minister of the Word, was conducted with much excitement and eager anticipation.
- **Preparing the manse for Rev Ross Pearce.** Since the departure of Rev Jay Robinson and her husband Bruce, our manse in Highland Drive has been successfully leased, as well as occupied in more recent times by Rev Craig Mitchell and his wife Yvonne (members of our contemporary worshipping group). So as to ensure that the manse met the requirements of Presbytery, in preparation for the occupation by Rev Ross Pearce, his wife Carmen and mother-in-law, a series of renovations needed to be undertaken. As with all aspects of HSUC maintenance, these were skilfully and carefully overseen by Mike Guest and Alan Jenkins, to whom we are all greatly indebted.
- **Departure of Rev David Fotheringham.** After 6 years as our minister, we bravely farewelled our much-loved and respected minister, Rev David Fotheringham, to prepare to assume the new mantle and responsibility as Moderator of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania. Accordingly, on Sunday 15 May, a formal 'cutting the ties' service was held and actively supported by all members of Church Council. Members of Church Council and the congregation subsequently shared in the induction of Rev David Fotheringham as Moderator at Wesley Uniting Church in the city on the evening of Thursday 30 June.
- **Establishment of Social Justice Group.** Following encouragement and suggestions offered by Rev David Fotheringham, a Social Justice Group, reporting to Church Council, was established in February. It determined four main focus areas: refugees, climate change, homelessness and the First Nations People of Australia. One visible outcome was a prominent refugee banner at the front of the church, funded by members of the congregation. Church Council committed to actively supporting this



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key new group and its work into the future, given its active and educative stance on key social matters as endorsed by the Uniting Church.

- **Cleaning of our facilities.** Church Council was advised at the end of 2022 of the impending resignation of our long-time cleaner. Several quotations were obtained and a cleaning company was appointed, with clearly identified checks included. Given the extensive use of our suite of buildings by various groups and organisations, including our own HSUC uses, we recognised that reliable and comprehensive cleaning was essential.

2. Future plans?

- We are very conscious of the need to support and uphold the work undertaken in the area of pastoral care. Accordingly, Mandy Lake, whose paid position as Chaplain at Monash University, Peninsula Campus will cease in 2023 (whilst she has indicated that she will continue to voluntarily continue some of this work beyond 2022), has been employed on a small-time fraction to undertake pastoral support. This will be funded in 2023 from our employment reserve, but beyond that is uncertain. We are very grateful to Mandy for her willingness to work in this manner, with her typical sensitivity, care and supportive words, following in the wonderful work by Rev Brenda Cooper and Rev Arthur Poole.
- Support for children and families remains an area to be explored and prayerfully considered, with money set aside to enact this more expansively in the future.
- Our Management Committee, led by Mike Guest and so continually supported by the practical work of Alan Jenkins, has a myriad of tasks to try to work through, both to adhere to Synod requirements and to enhance our own facilities. It is hoped that in 2023, money accrued from the Wesley sale (Money for Mission program) will support this key process.
- With slightly declining congregational numbers, our financial situation post-pandemic, is not as healthy as it has been in recent years. This will necessitate some prudent planning and considered decision-making, as well as a formal planned giving program in 2023. The pleasing financial (and outreach) results of our November fete were encouraging but cannot recoup reduced income from facility hirers and planned giving.

3. Final words

May I thank all of you for your support and encouragement across the fourteen years I have performed this role as Chairperson of your Church Council. In 2022 I continued to be upheld by both our outgoing minister, Rev David Fotheringham, our incoming minister, Rev Ross Pearce, our 'team' of retired ministers and especially our wonderful Office Administrator, Esther Galvin. Esther's systematic and tireless work, oversight and attention to detail



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ensured that the transition of one minister to another, including a period of supply ministry, was managed with skilful ease and efficiency.

I would also like to acknowledge and sincerely thank Rev John Connan for so willingly and ably supporting our congregation as supply minister, wonderfully supported by his ever-energetic wife, Ann.

Our church continues to be vibrant, energised and diverse, willing to adapt to new challenges and situations. I am confident that our new minister, Rev Ross Pearce, will lead us into new pathways, as well as known ones, with his characteristic smile, sense of innovation and energy. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your Church Council, serving Christ, as we all journey into a volatile but exciting future.

Shalom

Ross Huggard, *Chairperson*

8.2 Minister's Report: Year ended December 2022

Dear new friends in Christ, 2022 was indeed a year of change. For you, David's farewell and move to become the Moderator, and for me the move to High St after 8 years with Highfield Rd. With change comes grief, and some anxiety, about 'what's next?', along with all the excitement and hope about 'what's next?' It has been a great pleasure to join you here at High St and feel both the welcome and the willingness to experience newness and difference.

This will not be an extensive report as I was only here for 3 months of 2022, however I can report on what I have discovered about this congregation in those months. This is a lively congregation with strong links to the wider community through Larder, the Wednesday BBQ, the Voices of Frankston, Playgroup, and the many groups who hire the facilities. The two styles of worship, with an overlapping fellowship time, allow for the welcome of a range of people to share in our congregation of two worshipping communities.

There are many long-established programs and events, however there are emerging signs of the need for refreshment and generational change in leadership of some of our programs, and possibly some new programs to reach a changing wider community.

The suite of buildings provides plenty of spaces for both our internal groups and external hirers on all but the busiest of evenings, however the buildings are showing signs of age and there are some big, and potentially expensive, issues arising.

As with a lot of churches, we are facing challenging issues of change in just about all aspects of being a church in this time and place.



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At the invitation of the Church Council, I have presented some Dreams and Possibilities for the coming year, some of which have already grabbed people's imaginations:

- **Small Groups:** I suspect there are people not connected into the church community other than Sunday morning, despite the current groups – LEGs, Chaos, Craft, and Bible Study. Carmen and I have started a fortnightly study group at the manse, and I would like to encourage other groups to form, both for Bible study and for pastoral care.
- **Alternate Worship – *Seekers and Sojourners*:** A 'service' that is more intentional about learning the faith and discussing matters of faith and God. It would be less about formal structured worship and more about spirituality. Possibly on a Friday evening or a Sunday evening.
- **Speaker Series:** A quarterly dinner or lunch with a speaker on a range of topics that would be of interest beyond our congregation – social justice, cultural stresses, aging and aged care etc. Using the hall and table seating and advertised throughout the local churches.
- **Café of Big Ideas:** Negotiate with a local café to take over the space on a Thursday or Friday evening and invite a speaker to raise and discuss important community issues. Partner with other churches or with CSF to neutralise any ideas of evangelism.

Carmen and I have felt very welcomed into what is both a new church and a new part of Melbourne, and we are enjoying settling into the manse and learning more about the delights of Frankston and the peninsula.

I look forward to a new year of possibilities and connections as we all live out our calling as the people of God.

Rev Ross Pearce



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8.3 Contemporary Oversight Group: Year ended December 2022

COG has the responsibility to consider the life of the Contemporary (10:40) congregation including pastoral oversight of those who associate with it.

COG has met on Zoom most months since March 2022, although we began meeting sporadically face to face once Ross Pearce commenced in October. We are now zooming simultaneously for those unable to attend but able to participate.

Membership remained consistent year – Tim Lake (Chair), Kerry Pederick (Secretary), David (Minister until May), Ross Pearce (Minister from October), Meg Ryan, Jackie Annable, Marg Scarlett, Barb Connor, and Michael Downing. Patti Scully decided early in 2022 to relinquish her membership and we thank Patti for her diligent participation during her time on COG.

In the past 12 months we have considered a number of issues affecting the life of the 10:40 worship and sought to make plans, take actions, consider options, generally oversee the life of the congregation. These have included:

- Management of the conduct of the 10:40 congregation's worshipping life, including specific plans for worship, worship planning teams, children's involvement and activities, technical support, rostering, and so on. This was particularly important during the time of supply ministry between May and October.
- Oversight of pastoral concerns.
- Decisions regarding the future of our funded Children/Youth Worker position
- Supporting the desire for more authentically combined worships in January 2023

The issues on our agenda in the coming year will include but not limited to:

- The methodology of our pastoral care in the contemporary congregation, but formally and informally – we have devoted our March meeting to reflect solely on these concerns
- The development of an appropriate way forward for the Children/Youth Worker position which has become challenging due to an inability to find an appropriate candidate – we have sought discussions with Dr Craig Mitchell to discuss collaboration possibilities with other congregations
- Sustaining the ongoing challenges of preparing and leading worship of a contemporary and 'EPIC' nature and filling rosters
- How to successfully and sensitively allow, what we see as necessary change, to be positively embraced by the High Street Congregation(s). For example, a desire for a more inclusive arrangement of pews

I want to personally thank David Fotheringham for his leadership and involvement in COG over the years. I have also already enjoyed working with Ross Pearce since he started in October and look forward to a positive contribution from him in COG. Lastly, I would like to thank the members of COG for their persistent and diligent contribution to COG and the life of the contemporary congregation. A special thanks also to Kerry Pederick for her careful and super quick distribution of the minutes.

Prepared by Tim Lake – March 2023



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8.4 Monash University Chaplaincy: Year ended December 2022

Chaplaincy at Monash University Peninsula Campus continued during 2022, thanks to funding for two days per week from this congregation.

2022 was a year that much of the University's education and social and support activities returned face to face again, after two years of interruptions with lockdowns. This brought lots of joys as well as some challenges.

It was wonderful to have the full complement of students and staff back on campus, and enjoying a much more "normal" university environment and experience. Students enjoyed all the orientation week activities and social events throughout the year, as well as being back in face-to-face tutorials and classes with much more direct contact with fellow students and teachers.

Pancake breakfasts continued to be very successful, attracting anywhere between 80 and 180 students per week, depending on the time of semester, and how many students were out on placements. It continues to be a well-known and respected activity on campus, where students and staff can come and not only enjoy a delicious breakfast, but meet up with classmates or colleagues before or after classes, make new friends, and provide support for each other in doing so. It also continues to be a great way of people getting to know the Chaplain in a more informal kind of setting, which is invaluable. Thank you once again to my wonderful volunteers, Alan and Gill, Peggy, Rachel, Koraly and Meg – it definitely wouldn't happen without your excellent assistance!

I was involved again in organising an Iftar Meal and an Eid Celebration around Ramadan, which attracted around 75 people each, including Muslim students and their families, and other staff and students who were interested in sharing and learning about these important celebrations for people of diverse faiths and cultures.

I also continued to have many pastoral care conversations with students and staff in relation to a range of issues. Many times, the discussions are around stress and anxiety of the learning and teaching environment, in addition to other personal issues such as health, caring, family difficulties, relationships. Many conversations were had about the difficulties of expectations of being back to "normal" and "business as usual" and "fully functioning", when people were in fact still exhausted and recovering from all the impacts of the past couple of years.

As the funding for this Chaplaincy finished up at the end of 2022, I would love to convey my thanks for the opportunity of working on your behalf. It's been a real privilege to be in this position and I am very lucky to have been able to develop a presence at the University which I hope has been helpful and has made a difference. I will still be continuing for at least one day per week in a voluntary capacity.

Once again, my thanks to all at High Street who support me in many different ways, I very much enjoy carrying out this work on behalf of you all.

Mandy Lake.



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8.5 Council of Elders Report: Year ended December 2022

This year the Council continued to strive to enhance our reputation for providing a wholehearted and friendly community based on the nine o'clock service. It continued working and worshipping with all who came to the service during the year and importantly the increasing numbers of shut-ins who join the service electronically via 'Zoom'. The disease, Covid-19 continued to affect the services even though late last year the government relaxed its vaccination requirements for groups meeting indoors. So, services continued as normal but many preferred to continue to worship from afar. Also, we did not share with other churches, services such as Easter and Pentecost. In February, our prime organist, Nilma Carruthers caught Covid and as no other organists were available, for a couple of weeks the 9.00 service singing was accompanied by video recordings. As the year progressed we became more comfortable with living with Covid since most people had had multiple vaccinations; precautions against the spread of the disease lessened, and morning tea was re-established during May.

There were many changes in the parish ministry. At the end of January, Rev Brenda Cooper stepped aside from her pastoral care ministry in which she was much appreciated. As previously arranged, Mandy Lake, our Monash Uni Chaplain, ably stepped into the role. In May, our minister, Rev David Fotheringham left us to take up his role as moderator of the Victorian Synod. The Elders expressed their grateful thanks and appreciation of his ministry, particularly his valuable expertise, friendly guidance and motivation of the Elders. Presbytery appointed Rev. John Connan to be part time supply minister during the vacancy. The vacancy was filled during September, and the Elders recorded their appreciation of John's preaching, devotion to detail and pastoral care.

In February, a monthly communion service and afternoon tea commenced at Baxter Village - a retirement village in Frankston South - for the nearly 30 HSUC members who reside there. The service was established out of concern for the increasing loss of mobility and convenient transport of many of the members. Leadership of the services was shared among the retired minister members of our parish. The parish took part in the National Church Life Survey early in the year and the results will be reviewed by Church Council when the results have been compiled early in 2023.

Elders continued to meet face to face, monthly, throughout the year. At each meeting, members with particular concerns and needs were reviewed and together gathered together in prayer. Each elder demonstrated considerable care and enthusiasm for this task. During the year, Dorothy Bucher resigned after 40 years as an Elder. It was noted that she has also served in various other significant capacities both within the congregation and presbytery. Later in the year Rev. Arthur Poole also resigned, following the death of his wife, Ruth. The continuing Elders are: Jill Cayzer, Mac Cleland, John Coulson, Shirley and Daryl Groves, Keith Holmes, Jen Johnson, Erica Hutchinson, Dawn Peacock OAM, Rona



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Russell, Marlene Thresher (minute secretary) and Stanley Zhungu. Ann Cleland continued as a pastoral carer.

Early in October our vacancy was filled when Rev Ross Pearce was inducted into the parish as Minister of the Word. He and his wife, Carmen reside in the manse at South Frankston and are rapidly becoming part of City of Frankston life. They have easily settled into the church community and we look forward to Ross placing his stamp on the congregation's spiritual journey and the implementation of his new ideas on parish life.

Marlene Thresher continued to coordinate the Prayer Chain, receiving requests from the Prayer Tree located in the foyer, by phone, from reports from Elder's meetings and the like. She has continued as minute secretary and we record our appreciation of her work and the posting of suitable letters or notes to members on the occasion of significant events in their lives. We also record the thoughtful and enthusiastic support provided by the new office administrator, Esther Galvin,

For 2023, our Council will continue to be guided by the congregation's vision statements: Strengthening Community through the Holy Spirit, Embracing all People with Christ's Compassion and, Connecting Younger Generations in God's love.

John Coulson

8.6 Play Group Report: Year ended December 2022

Playgroup started up again well last year after a long break due to covid. We had some new families join. There are about 9 families attending regularly. On average we have 4 to 7 families coming each week. 4 families have returned in 2023 after being away from playgroup for over a year. It's been great to welcome them back and see how much they've grown over this time. There were also 2 new babies born last year.

We said farewell to 5 children who have started school this year and presented them with personalised school bag tags. They have been invited to return for a visit during the school holidays. Over the last year we decided to continue running playgroup during the school holidays to keep a regular routine for families and also to have a chance to see siblings who we don't see during school term due to kinder and school commitments. There has been a good attendance to these extra sessions.

Thanks again to Jill Cayzer for all her hard work each week. We have both developed close relationships with the children, parents and grandparents.

Emma Lindenburg
Playgroup Coordinator



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8.7 Operation Larder Incorporated: Year ended December 2022

I am delighted to prepare my report as we celebrate Larder's 40th birthday.

Year 2022 was exactly as challenging as the past two year. Foodbank Victoria has again been our major supplier at low cost. Some items were purchased from local suppliers so we have been able to satisfy CSF with the items as pledged.

Once again, Julie Burnham has stepped up to the plate and we thank her, and are truly grateful of her never-ending support to Operation Larder. Some of our volunteers are camping at the bit, eager to do something to help Larder; but at the moment, CSF wants no change. The world may never be the same again.

Our budget has again been lower than regular. We are thankful for the financial support of the Uniting Church Share, Frankston Council Community Support, the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, and the Andrews Foundation for their continued support – they have kept our finances healthy.

Thanks to Graham Peacock for his time in applying for grants, and also to Graeme Horsburgh for again keeping our finances on track. We appreciate your professional talents. We also thank Beta Sigma Phi.

Our secretary, Nylma Carruthers, has kept us in the loop! Thank you! We also give thanks to the local Soroptimist Group who have continued to deliver a car load of food bi-monthly.

We packed 350 Family and 200 one person Christmas hampers. A great effort!

The Cheese Club has been reborn, and 40 blocks of cheese arrived at Church two weeks ago – well done!

We have kept our commitment to the needy folk in Frankston. Once more, thanks to all who gave us assistance and encouragement in this operation.

Dawn Peacock, President.



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8.8 LEGS Report: Year ended December 2022

This report has been prepared for LEGS 2022 another enjoyable, informative and year of friendship for LEGS members. We have had a varied program with the continuation of the theme to include social, craft and informative speakers, not to mention “service”.

The 2022 program featured: Alan Mathews, picture show; Esther Galvin and son Tom, new to HSUC; Catherine Arnold, David Scott School; Michelle Thomas, Animalia Wildlife Shelter Frankston; Sally Beard, Backpacks 4VIC Kids; Craft activities and Christmas Dinner.

SERVICE: LEGS Members have been called upon to provide catering during the year and continue to willing help out were needed. Members looked after the Book Stall, the LEGS table and catering during the Church Fete in May which raised \$1201.35 – the total raised at the fete was \$4,755. Members also assist at the Christmas Fair in November.

LEGS donated to the East Timor Appeal; Animalia Wildlife Shelter; Larder; Flood Appeal – in addition we provided 4 cartons of goods for Backpacks 4VIC Kids.

WEEKEND AWAY: Whilst the decision was taken not to proceed with the “weekend away” in 2022, it is included on the program for 2023.

MEETING TIME and FORMAT: To facilitate the requirements of some of our members, as mentioned in the Secretary’s Report, we now commence our meetings at 6pm and have invited partners of members to join us for a light dinner on the evening. Irene Heidenreich took on the responsibility of coordinating dinner, provided by members, on the night of the meetings.

LEGS: 32 members graciously support the preparation and running of these events at church and it is my pleasure to have the opportunity to acknowledge and extend our thanks and appreciation for their involvement and commitment. Members of LEGS also serve the church by preparing flowers for Sunday services, weddings, and funerals as required. Big thank you to LEGS members for providing flowers when available.

I would like to thank the Executive Committee, Marilyn; Gill; Bronwen; General Committee Members, Anita, Beryl, Irene, Margaret Little, Peggy, Special thanks to Marilyn, Gill and Beryl for their visits to members when they are bereaving, Beryl for our birthday gifts and for her visits to those not so well.

In closing, it has been a privilege for me to serve as President again this past year and for that I thank you.

Marg Scarlett – President, LEGS 2023



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8.9 UC Mission Guild Report: Year ended December 2022

Despite the virus still being round we managed seven meetings, with an average of 6-7 in attendance. We started our year with a Commitment Service, a great way to begin the year.

We had two Sammy Stamps days.

Brenda Cooper came and told us of her stint in Bangladesh, and Anne Connan gave us an update of their Outreach Program in the Pacific. Dawn also took us to Antarctica on a Russian Ice Breaker on a very cold day – very appropriate!

Again, we were able to collect blankets, knee rugs, baby blankets, beans and scarves from the Congregation. These were divided equally between an outreach program in Ringwood, and the Uniting Church at Broadmeadows. Both groups were extremely grateful and gave us “Thank You” certificates.

I don’t know where the money comes from, but we were able to forward \$450.00 to Uniting World so that they could access the Government 5-for-1 offer, which raised the amount to \$2,700.00. Also, \$235.00 was sent to our Tom Sutherland to assist his program in caring for the Darlet people of Kerala, India.

We have welcomed our new Minister, Rev. Ross Pearce, and look forward to his ministry.

We wish Rev. David Fotheringham a rewarding time as Moderator at Vic/Tas Synod.

All-in-all, despite Covid, we have maintained our coming together, supporting one another and working for numerous outreach programs.

We do not know what the next year brings, but we will trust in God’s guidance.

Dawn Peacock - Secretary.



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8.9.1 UC Mission Guild Report: Year ended December 2022

FRANKSTON HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH MISSION GUILD

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2022 YR.

CREDITS		DEBITS	
Affiliation Fees	63.00	Affiliation Fees	63.00
Network Subs.	200.00	Network Subs.	200.00
Collection	460.00	Uniting World	450.00
Least Coin	108.70	Least Coin	38.40
Uniting World	250.00		-----
	-----		751.40
	1081.70		
Balance in Bank	112.09		

Total Credit	1193.79		
Debits	751.40		

Balance in Bank	442.39		
21/11/22			

I have examined the Financial Records and find that they show an accurate Statement of the Financial position of the Group.

Sharon M. Powell (AMIE)

23/11/2022

\$ 120 LEAST COIN 10-1-23.



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8.10 Management Committee Report: Year ended December 2022

This year has been particularly difficult in relation to maintenance issues, with a lot of minor issues manifesting themselves in quick succession and some of our contractors not being available for a number of reasons, - work load, unable to source materials or components, illness and other assorted reasons.

As reported last year, we had a proposal for a building program to replace the asbestos roofing with Colorbond steel, and also to replace all the steel framed windows on the west side of the church with timber frames. Along with these upgrades there were also repairs and upgrades to the 2 porticos in the courtyard and some additional work on guttering on the foyer.

Due to financial limitations we have had to put the major works program on hold.

Although the works program is on hold there were essential tasks that still needed to be done, and the following is a list of some of those tasks.

CHURCH

- Toilets:
 - Ladies Toilets - with Heavy Rain this past year a few issues were experienced, skylight leaks and back flow flooding (Floor Drain). These issues have been resolved. The toilet seats that had been a concern, have been replaced.
 - Men's Toilets – Toilet seats have been fixed or replaced.
- Foyer
 - New Gutters have been installed.
 - The Plumber has fixed most leaks.
 - The Guttering along the East Wall needs to be replaced.
- Church Heater - after a long cold spring and summer finally the heater control has been fixed.
- Church Hall:
 - the top gable vanity panel was rebuilt along the whole length of the hall after it fell down.
 - the stage area and back store rooms have been tidied and cleaned.
 - Rodent control has been introduced.
- Front Fence - The damaged brickwork front fence has been rebuilt.
- Garden:
 - Playground - Tidied and weeded then top dressed with mulch.
 - West Driveway Area - Tidied and weeded then top dressed with mulch.
 - Front Driveway Area - Tidied and weeded then top dressed with mulch.

Many thanks to the gardening club for their work on keeping the garden under control.

- Computer in Church – Alan has done a service and clean-up of the Hard Drive with some data archiving to improve the reliability of the Operating System.
- Mould doctor – did a clean of the main office, kitchenette and kitchen areas, this was done to remove mould & mildew due to limited use through the Covid period.
- Dehumidifier – Has been purchased to service the main office & the photocopier areas. This should help with mould issues.



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- Sunday School – broken glass has been replaced. The rusting window frames have been causing the glass to fracture.

MANSE

Preparations to allow Ross & Carmen to move into Highland Drive were completed. Presbytery arranged for cleaners do the clean, which was unsatisfactory, so they had to do a second clean. The range-hood needed some special attention and in the end the filter needed to be replaced. Some of the issues that were resolved were:

- New Fence. (Request from our neighbour)
- New Carpets throughout.
- New Power point added (presbytery request).
- Hot Water Service was replaced due to a serious leakage.
- Roof Gutters were cleaned. Leaking issues seem to have been minimized.
- Peter the Possum man was to be engaged by Ross P. to follow up on a possum issue.
- There were 2 working bees undertaken prior to Ross & Carmen moving in.

Ross & Carmen's move into our manse was a little bumpy, however, I believe they are happy now after the initial teething issues.

ESM

A list has been made of all the required maintenance and testing that is required during a year. A book has been started that can include all maintenance carried out, and therefore it will be a record kept in the office, which can now be accessed at any time for inspections. The official report will be carried out by the company recommended by Synod so that we can comply with the law regarding Essential Maintenance.

Yours in Christ,

Management Committee:

Michael Guest

Alan Jenkins

Robert Downing



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8.11 Choir Report: Year ended December 2022

2022 had started off well for the choir and congregational singing at HSUCA. There were periods when we preferred to continue wearing masks and some members of the choir chose to not to attend if feeling unwell as a precautionary measure, or if they had contracted Covid 19. As we are now learning to live with Covid 19 most of the congregation have returned to face to face worship. We still have had some people who enjoy worshipping with us by electronic means and, I hope, they are also enjoying anthems and singing along to the hymns during worship.

Warm thanks go to Nylma Carruthers and Elaine Kenyon who have continued to be our accompanists for this year. Also a big thankyou goes to Elaine for deputising as conductor when I have been unavailable. If there is anyone in the congregation who would be willing to play the piano and/or organ for worship we would still appreciate being able to add you to the roster too.

The choir hopes to continue in 2023 to sing a mixture of songs, hymns and anthems all chosen to suit the Lectionary readings or the Church year.

I thank the choir members for their commitment and regular support by attending practice when we have been able to meet again. Please note that the practices are on Wednesday afternoons from 3.00-4.00pm and we contribute to the 9.00am weekly church services. In the cold month of July and the holiday season in January, the choir plan to recess.

We have had to farewell long time members of the choir, Dawne Pickup, as she moved into residential care and Edith Seller, who has now chosen to reconnect again with the Mornington UCA close to home (where she worshipped for many years before joining HSUCA about 20 years ago). Any congregational members interested in joining the choir or wanting to try singing with us will also be most welcome.

We have again enjoyed fellowship together, and got to know our new minister, Ross, a little better, at a luncheon in December 2022, for our Christmas break-up, at the home of Bronwen and Alan Mathews.

Bronwen Mathews



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8.12 Safe Church Report: Year ended December 2022

High Street Uniting Church remains committed to keeping children safe through implementation of the Child Safe Policy of the Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, so that all children involved in our activities, services, events and programs are safe and feel safe.

This involves embedding child safety and wellbeing in all we do, including in our leadership and governance. One of the most important ways we do this is to require many people in our church to have a current Working with Children Check, not only those who work directly with children, but all people that a child might consider to be a leader in our church.

It includes, but is not limited to, all ministers (including retired), pastors and lay preachers, plus all “appointed leaders” (Elders, Church Councillors, worship leaders, music leaders and organists, and Bible study leaders). A central register is kept in order to record these details and ensure that we know everyone is up to date. During 2022 there was a concerted effort to renew a number of members’ Working with Children Checks which had lapsed over the previous two years of the pandemic, and this was very successful. Thank you to all in our congregation who support this important commitment to our children.

Mandy Lake, Safe Church

8.13 Walkie Talkies Report: Year ended December 2022

During 2022/2023 the Walking Group continues to provide enjoyment, fitness and fellowship for all those who participate.

On Saturday Walkie/Talkies usually number 10/12 and as in previous years we have breakfast somewhere on the Peninsula and follow this with an hour's walk. We meet at 8:30am and are usually back at our cars by 10:30 on the 4th Saturday of each month.

Tuesday/Thursday walks happily continue either with refreshments during or at the completion of the walk.

The decision was made to start at 8:30 in January and February and 9:30 for the rest of the year.

Regular walkers are happy to adjust their pace to accommodate new trekkers so feel free to join us at any time.

Ley McIntosh Coordinator Walkie/Talkies.
Phone: 0408 355 622





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8.14 Brekky Club Report: Year ended December 2022

Frankston Brekky Club Annual Report 2022



Frankston Brekky Club continues providing a cooked breakfast five mornings a week for people who are homeless, living rough, lonely and/or vulnerable. We are blessed by Chisholm Institute who provide a kitchen and restaurant for us to prepare and serve the meals. Run by a volunteer committee with members from churches, community groups and businesses, it is a privilege to be involved.



The customers enjoy the food, hospitality and support that is given. It's a joy to see the sense of community and belonging that is developing among them and some of the team of 50 volunteers.

During 2022, the State Government post-COVID grant ran out; so, the previously paid jobs of Brekky Club Manager and Client Support Person have been filled by volunteers: Helen (who runs the kitchen, does the rosters and food ordering) and Ryan (who looks after the wellbeing of clients). Prior to the 2022 State election, the Labor Party (via Paul Edbrooke) promised us a \$200,000 grant to continue the program over the next four years - if they were re-elected. We are waiting to hear the details of how that grant will work and when we will receive the funding.

Other key volunteers are John (who puts out notice boards, sets up, packs up and helps with dishes), Alan and Bronwen (who do the shopping; an average shop is \$400-500 each fortnight), Andi and Howard (who order and arrange delivery of sausages), Richard (who picks up eggs donated by Somerville Egg Farm) and Warwick (who picks up bread donated by Bakers Delight at Karingal Hub).



What a team!
What a ministry to the Frankston community!

Report written by Alan Mathews
February 2023



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8.15 Social Justice Group Report: Year ended December 2022

Many within our church are actively involved supporting the needs of others within our local and broader community. We give thanks to God for this commitment and hope that God will continue to uphold you in this work.

At the beginning of 2022 Rev David Fotheringham sent out an invitation to be part of a more formal group working on social justice issues. For me personally it meant I had the support and encouragement of others to be more active and informed, and I am sure that David recognized the value of working together, sharing knowledge and skill.

At our first meeting we shared why we wished to participate, and what we thought were the most pressing social justice concerns we hoped to learn more about and address in some way. A number of things were mentioned. We came up with four main areas to begin working on (in no particular order):

- Climate Change
- Justice for Refugees
- Homelessness and the lack of affordable housing
- Reconciliation and rights for First Nations People.

We discovered that some of us wanted to be better informed about these areas. We see our group's role is to raise awareness and pass on what we learn to others within the church and wider community. We also wish to provide encouragement and practical ways to respond, either individually or together.

Our current group of nine people have been meeting monthly or bi-monthly, depending on the need, for twelve months now, with quite a few meetings on zoom in 2022. Face to face we meet at the church from 7.30-9pm on the first Thursday of each month. We don't always all make it along because of other commitments, but I greatly value the contribution each can make as they are able.

Initially we shared the role of 'Chairperson' but finding this a little difficult I was asked to continue on in this position from last August, which I was happy to do. I am greatly indebted to Carmel Huggard, our Minute Secretary', who took on this role from the early days and does a great job of recording our conversations, and decisions. Thanks again to Carmel for this.

I also want to thank Esther Galvin, the church office administrator, who receives the minutes from Carmel, and sends them out to our participants. Esther has also helped to produce posters, and taken on other tasks at our request. Thank you, Esther.

One of our first projects was the creation and hanging of the "Justice and Compassion For Refugees" banner on the front of the church, which was hung in late August last year. We



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have received positive feedback about this, including from people not within our congregations. We hope that people driving past have been prompted to consider more fully the needs of refugees and asylum seekers within Australia, and abroad. Special thanks to Dawn Peacock, for her liaison work with Daryn Hancock and his company 'Simply Red' which produced and arranged for the hanging.

We are also deeply grateful for the generous monetary contributions from both congregations which paid for this banner. Thankyou.

As you would have read in High Street Times we are looking to produce more banners to be rotated with the current one, highlighting our areas for action. At our last meeting, March 2nd, we decided to postpone until the end of the year, the 'Climate Change' banner in favour of one speaking about the First Nations Voice to Parliament, which the Uniting Church supports. Hopefully this will go up in the next 1-2 months and remain until after the referendum. We have already been offered a generous donation towards this, and feel that the time is right to demonstrate our support for First Nations people.

The invitation to the congregations to vote or comment on the 'Climate Change' banner will still go ahead as planned, and once up at the end of the year will remain for an extended period. We are also grateful for a generous donation towards this banner.

Other actions over the year include:

- Members contributing articles to High Street Times to raise awareness, and provide information and encouragement.
- A small display area in the foyer with reading materials, and postcards to relevant parties regarding social issues.
- Members in the group have been receiving the Vic Tas U.C. Synod's Justice and International Mission Cluster publication 'Just Act', an excellent and informative magazine covering a variety of social issues and best of all, actions we can take. A few of these have also been available in the foyer for the congregation to borrow.
- Two members of the group met with Peta Murphy MP in August last year to discuss the then new Federal Government's plans and commitment to refugee support. Since then we have been pleased to see some positive change happening but recognize more needs to be done.
- The group recommended that spare masks be made available to the public and congregations entering the premises, as this was considered a health and social justice issue during Covid.
- Two of our members have attended local forums in April and August, on the affordable housing crisis and needs of homeless people, particularly on the Mornington Peninsula. These were informative, and we continue to work at ways to address this. One of



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our members is working to gather local church ministers to lobby our state politicians. Rev. Ross Pearce, who joins our group when able, is working hard to be knowledgeable of the local needs, and well prepared for when this meeting occurs.

- In November we had an information table at the church Fete. We intend to do this again this year.
- Dawn Peacock was invited to present at a LEGS meeting on the 6th March 2023, talking about the Social Justice group's aims and action, as well as Larder. Thankyou to Dawn for this, and especially to the LEGS group for their interest, invitation and ongoing support.

This year in July we hope to have a combined service and lunch, followed by a guest speaker on a current social issue.

We are also planning a fundraising Morning Tea between the services on April 2nd, Palm Sunday. Donations for this will go towards the 'Asylum Seeker Resource Centre'.

As a group we are looking at other practical ways to support new refugees coming into Vic. and whether we might join with other community groups to do this.

We will also be investigating whether the church could become a Recycling Drop off point for various small items. This was suggested by Rev Ross Pearce, and Esther.

A big thanks to the members of the group, past and current, for their commitment, willingness to share knowledge and skills, and encouragement.

Thanks also to the Church Council, and the wider church community for their support.

All are invited to join us, or contact us with ideas, hopes or suggestions. Together we can do more.

Yvonne Mitchell, Chairperson



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8.16 Hall Hiring Committee Report: Year ended December 2022

During 2022 a small Hall Hiring Committee was set up, for the purpose of supporting our Office Administrator (Esther) with her important work in hiring out our church buildings. The committee members are Keith Holmes, Emma Lindenberg and Mandy Lake, who met occasionally with Esther to agree on parameters for hall hiring, hall hiring rates, and to deal with any issues that arose or questions that Esther had. The committee are very happy to report on Esther's very organised and efficient work in this area, and also the current usage of our buildings.

Our property is being used every single day by a wide variety of groups, including essential support groups (e.g. AA, GA, Red Cross), not for profit community groups (e.g. carer groups, recreational groups), community outreach groups (e.g. providing meals for community members), and a couple of commercial groups. In the short time since the start of the new year, we've already received several bookings for one-off community events and birthday parties!

Mandy Lake.

8.17 Gardening Club Report: Year ended December 2022

The HSUC Garden Club was formed about 12 months ago at a LEG's meeting and I was nominated and accepted to be the coordinator.

The gardens and courtyard were in quite a neglected state (no doubt this was mostly due to Covid 19 and the church being closed for such a long time), so I knew I had a big challenge ahead of me. Since then, with the assistance of a very small number of volunteers, we have slowly been able to tidy up the garden beds and the courtyard.

We have also held 2 working bees during the year. The first one about 6 months ago, to spread out mulch on the garden beds and on the playground area in the courtyard. The second one was held a couple of weeks ago, to cut down and dig out the roots of some very prickly shrubs and to take down dead branches from trees in the courtyard.

There is still much more to be done and I am hoping a few more volunteers may like join the Garden Club so I can set up a roster, especially as Dennis and I will be away quite a bit over the coming months.

We used to meet every 2-3 weeks on a Thursday afternoon, but have recently changed this to Monday afternoons.

Anita Setterfield.



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8.18 For Adoption: Financial Report 2022 & Budget 2022

Proposed Budget 2023

Income/Expenditure for 12 months

Income	Budget 2023		Actual 2022	
Planned Giving	95000		107763.57	
Open Plate	5000	100000	4660.00	112423.57
Rental Income:				
High Street (and Manse 2022)		30000		41096.13
Donations/Bequests		1500		550.00
Donations: Children's Outreach		500		440.00
Fete/Bazaar		10000		9550.85
Interest – Cash Management A/c		200		89.25
GST Reimbursement MBA		2000		4011.23
Interest – Atkinson Foundation		3000		1281.56
Interest – Guest Foundation		3500		1351.49
Goods and Services Tax				1124.38
Reimbursements/Miscellaneous		5000		14672.49
BOMAR Grants				
Operating Income		155700		186591.05
Transfer from Wesley Lease		43000		42450.36
Transfer from Employment Reserve		22000		38400.00
Transfer from Bequest		3000		3000.00
Money for Mission Fund		40000		
Unit Allocation				626.41
Unit Price Adjustment				-191.47
Total Income		263700		270876.35
Expenditure	Budget 2023		Actual 2022	
Ministerial Stipends/Allowances	113000		132934.97	
Synod Fixed Charges/Workcare	6000		4915.97	
Visiting Preachers	1000	120000	750.65	138601.59
Administration Costs:				
Secretarial Salary/Superannuation	32000		26859.32	
Other Remuneration	1000		688.95	
Printing/Stationery, etc	1000		665.23	
Postage/Office Expenses	1500		2324.59	
Telephones/Internet	2500		2016.85	
Photocopying	5000		4491.02	
Audit	1900	44900	2500.00	39545.96
Planned Giving Expenses		500		466.00
Property Costs:				
Cleaning	33000		14029.98	
Gas/Electricity	9000		7273.53	
Maintenance	10000		21226.38	
Rates – Council	2500		2134.05	
Rates – Water	2000		1352.20	
Fire Brigade Levy	500	51000	486.00	46502.14



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Expenditure	Budget 2023		Actual 2022	
Insurance: High Street/Manse		10000		10410.00
Sunday School/Children		1000		0.00
Organ, Choir & Copyright		2500		2609.42
Goods and Services Tax				5482.19
Miscellaneous		10000		14437.47
Operating Expenditure		245900		258054.81
Outreach:				
Mission and Service Fund	12000		15000.00	
Community Support (Larder, etc)	1500		750.00	
Tom Sutherland	500	14000	500.00	16250.00
Total Expenditure		259900		274304.81

Wesley Lease Account:

Final Balance:		57629.85	
		Budget 2023	Actual 2022
Income:			
BSL Rent			69509.23
Total Income:			69509.23
Expenditure:			
Roof Loan Repayment			702.00
Transfer to Cash Account – Maintenance		10000	15510.38
Transfer to Cash Account – Cleaning		33000	14029.98
Transfer to Cash Account – Audit			2500.00
Transfer to Cash Account – Insurance			10410.00
Capital Works and Maintenance Reserve			
Awnings		5000	
Total Expenditure:		48000	42450.36
Final Balance 2023: (approx.)		9000	

Notes:

1. This proposed budget was endorsed by the Church Council at its meeting on the 7th February 2023.
2. The operating deficit for 2022 was \$3428.
3. There has been a delay in receiving the auditor's report for 2022.