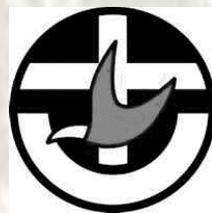


Glebe Road
Ipswich
Uniting Church



Annual Report 2019

**Prepared for the
Annual General Meeting
of the Congregation**

on

Sunday 8th March 2020

Growing Community

built on Faith, immersed in Love, empowered for Action

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
MINISTER'S REPORT	2
PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVES REPORT	3
CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT	4
RESOURCE MINISTRIES	5
TREASURER'S REPORT	5
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR 1/1/2019 - 31/12/2019	7
FINANCIAL SITUATION	8
PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT 1/1/2019 - 31/12/2019	8
BUDGET 2020	11
PROPERTY OFFICER'S REPORT	12
SECURITY OFFICER'S REPORT	14
FIRE SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT	15
DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES	16
DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY TEAM	16
PRAYER AND PASTORAL CARE MINISTRIES	16
PRAYER MINISTRY	16
WORSHIP MINISTRIES	17
10:15AM WORSHIP TEAM	17
FUN AND FRIENDSHIP MINISTRIES	18
RISKIES	18
PAINTING FOR PLEASURE GROUP	18
WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP	19
WOMENS' FELLOWSHIP STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE 31/12/2019	20
CRAFT COFFEE AND CHAT	21
WEEDERS & WATERERS	21
SERVICE AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES	21
BRASSALL VILLAGE BIRTHDAY HIGH TEAS	21
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	21
GLEBE GARDEN CLUB IPSWICH	22
GLEBE GARDEN CLUB FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2019	24
SILKSTONE EISTEDDFOD	26
SILKSTONE EISTEDDFOD ANNUAL STATEMENTS – 1/1/2019 – 31/12/2019	27
TEAM TIMOR	28
CAROLS IN THE PARK	29
ANZAC DAY HOSPITALITY	30
CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES MINISTRIES	30
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	30
FAMILY CONNEXIONS	31
MAINLY MUSIC	31
YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY	32
CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS	33
MINUTES – ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 10 TH MARCH 2019	33
MINUTES – SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 23 RD JUNE 2019	35
MINUTES – SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 28 TH JUNE 2019	38
MINUTES – SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 27 TH OCTOBER 2019	40

INTRODUCTION

Another year of God's faithfulness and blessing is celebrated in the pages of this Annual Report for 2019. It has been a year marked by significant achievements and personal challenges. In February I was diagnosed with a degenerative condition in the bones of my left foot and this led to a period of four and a half months off work. This was followed by a serious infection which resulted in another extensive period of healing and recuperation. After returning to ministry briefly I suffered a fall and injured my left knee, again returning to half-time ministry just before Christmas and finally being cleared by the orthopedic specialist to resume full-time ministry in January 2020.

I am deeply appreciative of Rev Bruce Raymond and Rev Dr David Mackay - Rankin for their willingness to step into supply ministry at Glebe Road to ensure that congregational life continued with some degree of normality. I thank them for their energy and enthusiasm in ministry, as well as their willingness to serve well beyond their original placement dates.

I am very grateful to all the members of the Church Council for the manner in which they provided leadership during my absence. I particularly wish to acknowledge the re-election to Church Council of Hannah Jackson and thank her for her visionary leadership. I also wish to acknowledge the wise and gracious leadership of John Fisher and thank him for his faithful service as he concluded his term as a member of the Council.

Finally, I wish to thank each person who is a part of our church family for the large and small contributions you make to the ministry and mission of the Congregation. For we are the body of Christ, each responding to God's call to express our giftedness and love for the world.

I commend to you the Annual Report of the Glebe Road, Ipswich, Uniting Church and pray that you are inspired by all that Christ has achieved in, and through, the life of our Congregation over these past twelve months.

To God be the glory!
Blessings

Peter Arnett, Lead Minister

MINISTER'S REPORT

Minister's Report on Pastoral Caring – Rev Bruce Raymond

This report is submitted at the request of your Church Council, which came to me via Rev Dr MacKay-Rankin, to outline my pastoral care activities during my period of supply ministry with Glebe Road Uniting Church. I formally commenced supply ministry at Glebe Road on Monday, 18th February, concluding Friday 30th August. This table represents my pastoral caring activities during this time.

Pastoral Caring Activities by your Supply Minister. Feb to Aug 2019.

(2019)	Pastoral Visits*	Hospital Visits	Baptisms	Funerals**
March	5	-	2	-
April	5	2	1	-
May	7	1	2	1
June	7	2	-	-
July	6	1	-	-
August	4	4	1	-
Totals	34	10	6	1

Notes:

*Pastoral Visitations may have involved more than one person being visited, in each case.

**By prior arrangement, Rev Trevor Foote usually conducted funeral services held at Glebe Road during this period.

The Nature and Course of Pastoral Caring.

Pastoral Caring visitation numbers are always lower than what one would like. That's the nature of the undertaking in pastoral caring activities, for both the visitor and the visited. These statistics represent a wide range of pastoral needs amongst Glebe Road members.

Those needs, and the identities of those who have them, are omitted here for the obvious reasons of confidentiality. In maintaining confidentiality, not every case was reported by me to your Church Council. In any case where the matter involved another agency or authority, your Church Council was advised. Then, confidentiality needed to be compromised to some extent, but was never fully broken. *viz.* in such cases, not all details were disclosed.

On occasions, I had advised your Minister in residence, Rev Peter Arnett, of various persons and issues relating to pastoral caring, whereby he was basically kept up to date.

Rev Bruce Raymond
Supply Minister, February to August

Additional Material to Rev Bruce Raymond's Report – Rev David McKay-Rankin

Pastoral work (September – December 2019):

No baptisms or funerals presided over by me. Most of my pastoral contacts made by phone and face-to-face conversations during the week and on Sundays. Much personal pastoral care and support at Glebe Road was done, during my time there, by faithful and committed individuals, maintaining contact with people unable to involve themselves fully in the life of the congregation for a short time or longer-term. The electronic prayer group is a valuable part of the support system.

Attendance at various church-related group activities (Friendship Group, Garden Club anniversary), Eisteddfod events, Carols in the Park.

Preaching and worship leadership (including mid-week service)

Teaching series on Discipleship (November)

One-off workshop on First Impressions

Attendance at Church Council meetings

I commend, too, the work of the leadership group of the congregation, particularly that of the church council office-bearers and members. It is a work of high quality.

Rev David Mackay-Rankin
Supply Minister, September to December

PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

There have been a few changes this year regarding the rolls and responsibilities within the leadership of Bremer Brisbane Presbytery.

Rev. Brian Hoole has tendered his resignation as Presbytery Minister for BBP and will step down on the 5th January 2020. On Sunday 19th January 2020, a farewell service was conducted for Brian then immediately followed by a special BBP meeting where Rev. Glen Schweitzer from Chapel Hill U.C. was elected as the new Presbytery Minister. Glen will commence on the 1st May 2020. In the meantime, Rev David Mackay-Rankin will stand in as supply Presbytery Minister.

David Baker's term as Moderator is about come to its conclusion thus leaving the position of Moderator vacant. Rev. Andrew Gunton, who had previously been Chair of the BBP has been elected as Moderator and as Moderator Elect has stepped down from that position. Rev. Russell Reynoldson from Forest Lake U.C. was elected as the Chair of the BBP.

Rev. Andrew Gilles is the new minister at Ipswich Central

Ipswich Churches 2020: Rev Santana Waugh presented an overview of what has been happening with the Ipswich churches thus far, and announced the churches have chosen to operate as independents under the guidance of a "Mission Council" made up of Ministers and two lay people from each congregation, as well as the Mission Facilitator provided by Presbytery. By doing this they will share mission outlooks, work and journey with each other toward a stronger future. Glebe Rd. are looking at working with Silkstone State School and Ipswich City are working on mentor programs in Ipswich North State School. This will include metalworking programs for at-risk boys and Petite Sisterhood for young girls.

Rev. Kath Behan presented an update and more information on Project Plenty which is in the “Consultation Phase” at the moment striving to engage local congregations and grassroots to find common threads of purpose between all aspects of the Uniting Church in Queensland. It is seeking to produce a document that is an “alignment of purpose” rather than a dictatorial “do this”, to give Queensland a group of common ideals and goals that we can work and support each other towards. Many resources are available online and can be used in worship, individual or study groups.

Congregations/Faith Communities Ipswich Churches.

The Ipswich churches continue working towards a more collaborative approach moving forward. It is hoped that with Rev. Peter Arnett’s return there may be more energy and direction in the new year. Lockyer Rev. Stephen Henderson concluded his supply and has been replaced by Rev. Peter Woodward. Brookfield Mr. Malcolm Scanlan continues in supply. They celebrated 150th anniversary in September. Glebe Rd Rev Peter Arnett is returning to work in a part time capacity. Rev. David Mackay Rankin is in supply and will conclude in December. Moggill Rev. Mel Wheeley will conclude on 31 January 2020. Goodna is currently without a minister. Rev Russell Reynoldson is providing some oversight. Flinders and Harrisville Rev George Tully continues to offer supply. Forest Lake Following a vitality of call consultation the PRC bring a recommendation that Rev. Russell Reynoldson be extended for up to two years beyond the tenth year under regulation. Brisbane Valley concerns about their ongoing financial viability and reviewing current placement. Karana Downs concern about their ongoing financial viability and reviewing current placement. Hatton Vale concern about their current financial viability. Bob and Rhonda Heathwood recognised as Ministers in Association. The Haigslea congregation have informed the Presbytery of their intent to dissolve the congregation in 2020 with a final service 29th March 2020. As a result the PRC recommend the dissolution of the Haigslea congregation as of 31st March 2020.

The Synod Selection Panel have accepted Claire Hoole, Erin Mawhinney, Garry Jennings and Steven Fincham as candidates for Minister of the Word. We pray for them as they progress through this time of study and preparation.

Consultations are currently underway for Karana Downs, Moggill and Inala with consultations planned for Goodna Samoan, Oxley, and Lockyer in the new year. The current consultation process is being reviewed to ensure best practice.

Lay Preachers the PRC is seeking expressions of interest for someone to promote and maintain a connection with lay preachers within the Presbytery.

Synod Sexual Misconduct Committee the PRC are seeking expressions of interest from people who may be interested in serving the church in this way. Other decisions:

Resolutions:

1. That the report be received, and the actions of the PRC be endorsed.
2. That the Rev Russell Reynoldson’s placement at Forest Lake be extended beyond the tenth year for up to 2 years under regulation 2.6.8.
3. That the Haigslea congregation be dissolved as a congregation on 31 March with a final service on 29 March 2020.

Presbytery Representatives: Janet White and Paul de Sauty.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

2019 proved to be a challenging year for the Church Council but we praise God that in the challenges he was there with us and thank Him for Peter’s return to health. Throughout the year, Church Council has endeavoured to hear and respond to the Holy Spirit’s direction for the Council, the church and the wider church throughout the Ipswich 2020 process. We spent time in prayer, devotion, conversation and openness, seeking God’s wisdom for Glebe Road. We continue to pray that God guide and lead us as we embark on the journey of 2020.

As a congregation, 2019 saw us share in joy and sorrow with our church family and wider community. We had the privilege of welcoming seven new families and new babies from within and outside our church family through baptism and membership into our church community. We also shared in the loss experienced by those in our church family as loved ones went to be with God, with three of these funerals being conducted at Glebe Rd. We pray that in these experiences we as the church were able to share the love and grace of God with those celebrating new life or a life well lived as a good and faithful servant.

In Peter’s absence, we were blessed to have two supply ministers that helped to guide and support us. We are truly thankful to Rev Bruce Raymond and Rev David Mackay Rankin for their wisdom, care, support and guidance throughout 2019.

Ipswich 2020 continued to be a focus for Church Council in 2019. We continued to meet with members of fellow Ipswich Combined Churches to share our hopes, desires and dreams for what the church community of Ipswich might look like. In July at our congregational meeting, we recognised that the life stage of all four churches were different and at this stage believe that maintaining autonomy of governance will enhance our capacity to fulfil our vision and mission.

As a congregation, we supported that we would be *a growing community 'built on Faith, immersed in Love and empowered for Action'*. A congregation which identified four Mission Priority Areas being Glebe Rd priorities - Children & Families Ministry, Life Groups and Worship; Local priorities – Silkstone School; Ipswich priorities - engagement with the Ipswich community in partnership with the Ipswich Uniting Churches; and Global priorities – Timor Leste partnership. It will be exciting to see how we, as a congregation, live out these priorities in 2020, through our passion and willingness to serve our congregation and community in differing ways. Let our prayer be that God continues to challenge and inspire us to be more of the people of God that He is calling us to be, and that we have the courage to step out in faith and show His love through our actions.

In His Limitless Love

Nyleta Bruce, Church Council Secretary

RESOURCE MINISTRIES

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is again with much pleasure that I bring to you the Treasurer's report for 2019. This was, again, an extremely challenging year financially for us but God remained faithful to us as a church and has always met our needs. Two major blessings were the finalisation of the loan account and a hailstorm that saw the insurance company replace the roofs on the Church, Fellowship Centre and Neighbourhood Centre at the cost of the excess of \$500. A profit and loss statement as well as a financial statement for the year is included in the financial report section, as is the Budget for 2020.

The following is a summary:

- Offerings averaged \$3,356 per week for the full year which was below the budget of \$3,846 per week and resulted in being \$25,485 under budget. Direct debits account for 62% of offerings for the full year.
- Balance in Parish trading account at end of 31/12/19 is credit \$9,549.69. The cheques not presented amounted to \$0. One payment of \$75.96 was not processed by ANZ before the end of the year.
- Trading ANZ account for the full year was an overall loss of \$5,406.51.
- We have definite commitments of the following:
 - Timor Appeal \$1,702
 - Mainly Music \$1,242
 - Carols in the Park \$587
 - Timor Dental Project \$0
 - Youth Ministry \$1,030
 - Appeals \$231
 - Music Ministry \$1,000

There will be further calls on these funds during 2020.

- ATO owes \$1,897.00.
- Balance in Project account for the roof appeal is \$2395.31.
- Balance in Project account for Timor Leste appeal is \$5,233.03.
- Balance of Project account for Timor Dental appeal is \$6,299.25.
- Balance of Long-Term Maintenance is \$16,205.54
- Balance of Timor Dental Grant is \$2,818.91
- Timor, and Timor Dental appeals are now transferred on a quarterly basis from the Church account to the Project account.
- \$474.18 for water charges for Manse in 2019 are owed.
- Manse continued to be rented by Tony and Lydia Shaw for \$336 per week throughout 2019.
- Donations for maintenance of \$1,000 from the Garden Club, \$1,110 which was from the cake stall at the Garden Expo and the other a \$1,000 donation from Mainly Music groups.
- Generous donations from the members of the congregation through additional offerings and donations.

- Spent around \$14,000 on building maintenance of which about \$5,000 was for Fellowship Centre wall repairs and \$4,000 for gutters on the Church roof.
- Solar systems have generated \$4,451 in credits during the year.
- Payments to the Mutual Support Scheme loan amounted to \$14,812 which finalised the loan in June and allowed us to transfer \$16,205 to our project account for long term maintenance.
- Office Administrator at 10 hours per week.
- Mission and Service Fund supported at \$29,657.
- Our Pastor, Mike, left at Easter and was not replaced.

The 2020 Budget was again framed around having to make some very realistic decisions. All expenditure was examined and reviewed by the Resource team, and much of it was on-going expenses, and all were reduced to the absolute minimum. The Budget is shown as an almost break even one. Offerings were set at \$175,000 which is the less than the 2019 Budget figure (\$200,000) and this reflected a further reduction over 2018. In 2019 we averaged \$3,356 per week so we set the budget figure of \$3320 as being more realistic. There are still a number of maintenance items on the church buildings that need to be addressed as the buildings are ageing. To this end we are committing \$14,000 for long term building maintenance as well as \$6,000 for general repairs and maintenance. Presbytery has slightly increased our Mission and Service Fund by \$550 to \$30,207.

As mentioned last year, Synod have set up a Redress Fund to enable them to pay people who were sexually abused as children under Uniting Church care. All congregations had to contribute to this fund from 1st July 2019. Our contribution for the financial year 2019/2020 was \$2,158 which was less than expected. Based on that we have budgeted for \$2,500 for 2020 but again we will not know the exact amount until 1st July 2020 as it is based on the payouts made during the 2019/2020 financial year. This is shown as the Synod Sexual Abuse Levy in the Budget rather than Sensitive Matters (2019).

There will again be fund raising opportunities throughout the year to support specific projects such as Carols in the Park, Church purposes, Timor Dental project as well as for our Mission partner Timor Leste.

We were pleased that the University of the Third Age continue to utilise our complex for their administration, computing and other classes. They are based in the Neighbourhood Centre for administration, computer lab and some of their classes, but have also utilised Shalom for many classes with some also using the Fellowship Centre and the Church overflow at times. This will continue during 2020.

The main items in the budget are as follows:

- Offerings set at an average of \$3,320 per week
- Office Administration at 10 hrs per week
- \$6,000 for maintenance of buildings and grounds.
- \$30,207 Mission and Service Fund (an increase of \$550).
- Rental of our complex was increased by CPI and expected to contribute \$30,000.
- \$14,000 for long term maintenance.
- Chaplaincy Support program of \$1,000.
- Pastor will not be replaced.

Thanks to all those people that assisted with treasury and property matters throughout the year, Mrs Nyleta Bruce as Assistant Treasurer, Colin Alexander, Rob Edwardson, Ken Fischer, Jim O'Grady, David Murphy as Property Manager, Marilyn Scott, Robyn Kunde, and all those that count the offerings each week and tend our grounds. Thanks also to the Resource team that includes some of the above as well as Peter Arnett, Peter Case and Supply ministers.

Offerings can be given in various ways including using envelopes, cash and by Direct Debit. Direct debiting has enabled the church to have a more regular income and to budget more effectively and with some confidence. During 2019 direct debit offering accounted for 62% of offerings. A Direct debit facility is available through the ANZ Bank or alternatively you can arrange a direct deposit yourself through online banking with your own bank.

Generous donations from various groups and individuals were received during the year and are listed in the 2018 highlights. Thank you all very much for your generosity, I hope I haven't omitted anyone. Without these donations, we could not achieve what we set out to achieve and meet our financial commitments.

I commend to you the financial statements for 2019 and the Budget for 2020 and look forward to another challenging year ahead.

Derek Hiron, Treasurer

Church Council Fund ANZ	
Opening Balance ANZ	15962.54
Income	447807.31
GST Reimbursed	1193.00
GST income	7246.23
Other Income	0.00
Total Expenditure	-453213.82
GST on Expenditure	-9445.57
Balance as at 31/12/19	9549.69
Mutual Support Scheme	
Opening Debit Balance	-14921.26
Repayment of Principal	14812.46
Interest credited	273.54
Interest debited	-164.74
Balance as at 31/12/19	0.00
MSS Benefit account	
MSS benefit	67.9
Interest credited	0.06
Balance as at 31/12/19	67.96
Invested by Depositors \$ 31,282.84	
Project account	
Balance brought forward roof	11,645.25
Balance brought forward Timor Dental	8,156.27
Balance brought forward Timor appeal	4,049.23
Income Timor Dental	1,828.99
Income Timor appeal	4,025.06
Income Roof appeal	1,500.00
Income Long Term Maintenance	16,205.54
Income Dental Grant	64,900.00
Transfer to Council Fund Timor appeal	-2,841.26
Transfer to Council Fund Roof appeal	-10,749.94
Transfer to Council Fund Dental grant	-62,348.06
Transfer to Council Fund Dental appeal	-3,329.04
Interest brought forward	176.68
Interest	126.95
Balance as at 31/12/19	33,345.67

FINANCIAL SITUATION

Credits	
Church Council Fund	9549.69
GST owed from ATO (approx)	1897.00
Manse water charges owed	474.18
Debits	
Timor Leste Appeal	-1702.30
Mainly Music	-1242.92
Appeals	-22.00
Music Ministry	-1000.00
Carols in the Park	-587.40
Youth Ministry	-1030.37
Timor Dental Project	0.00
Balance as at 31/12/19	6335.88
Cheques not presented to 31st December 2019	0.00
Payments not processed by ANZ	75.96

	Budget	Cumulative Position
Average Offerings 1st Qtr 2019	3301.60	3846 \$7,077 under budget
Average Offerings 2nd Qtr 2019	3373.60	3846 \$13,218 under budget
Average Offerings 3rd Qtr 2019	3286.57	3846 \$20,491 under budget
Average Offerings 4th Qtr 2019	3461.87	3846 \$25,485 under budget
Average Offerings 2015	4064.00	4150 \$4,472 under budget
Average Offerings 2016	4085.00	4150 \$3,380 under budget
Average Offerings 2017	3626.00	4150 \$27,254 under budget
Average Offerings 2018	3789.00	4150 \$18,759 under budget

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT 1/1/2019 - 31/12/2019

Income			
Offerings			
Direct Debit Offering	\$108,352.73		
Envelope offering	\$46,606.30		
Loose offering	\$19,548.49		
Total Offerings		\$174,507.52	
Donations			
Special purposes (External)	\$2,888.60		
Sponsorship Donations	\$599.00		
Church purposes	\$4,611.00		
Manse rental	\$17,448.00		
Solar rebates	\$4,451.54		
Transfer from project account	\$59,781.01		
Music Ministry	\$1,000.00		
CD Sales	\$17.93		
Use of complex		\$28,949.31	
Exam Supervision	\$5,460.04		
Use of complex bond	\$700.00		
Total Donations		\$96,957.12	
Ipswich CC grant		\$1,125.00	
Timor Leste Appeal		\$9,227.81	
Timor Dental Project		\$2,954.42	
Timor Dental Grant		\$90,771.03	
Church Office account		\$637.80	

Glebe Garden Club reimburse			\$7,463.47	
Mainly Music			\$1,816.55	
Silkstone Eisteddfod reimburse			\$2,082.00	
Carols in the park			\$3,431.90	
Manse water reimbursement			\$180.85	
Insurance refunds			\$3,598.80	
Supply Ministry reimbursements			\$22,126.18	
Water reimbursement			\$705.95	
Miscellaneous Income			\$1,271.60	
Total Income				\$447,807.31
Total Cost of Sales				\$0.00
Gross Profit				\$447,807.31

Expenses				
Ministry expenses				
Stipend		\$58,848.00		
Supply Stipend		\$13,310.86		
Vehicle - Mileage allowance		\$11,688.00		
Supply Travel Allowance		\$2,643.71		
Beneficiary Fund		\$8,724.00		
Supply Beneficiary Fund		\$1,264.86		
Other Synod payments		\$1,915.26		
Supply other expenses		\$475.01		
House allowance		\$16,644.00		
Supply House allowance		\$4,705.89		
Church office salaries		\$12,431.82		
Church office salaries on cost		\$1,306.05		
Pastor Salary		\$11,270.97		
Pastor Salary on costs		\$826.88		
Other Ministry expenses				
Supply Ministry expenses	\$449.38			
Carols in The Park	\$4,294.24			
Fund raising expenses	\$700.00			
Eisteddfod expenses	\$3,052.02			
Christian Education & RE	\$236.41			
Music Ministry	\$337.17			
Youth Ministry expenses	\$452.73			
East Timor expenses	\$8,709.76			
Copyright expenses	\$867.04			
Professional staff development	\$226.36			
Kids Hope - World Vision	\$990.02			
Worship expenses	\$750.88			
Timor Dental Project	\$4,372.14			
Timor Dental Grant	\$121,285.79			
Total Other Ministry expenses		\$146,723.94		
Mission & Service Fund			\$29,657.04	
ICC Carols grant		\$1,125.00		
Total Ministry expenses			\$293,904.25	
Gifts and donations			\$498.44	
Lenten Appeal			\$119.25	
Mainly Music			\$2,689.68	
Insurance			\$6,139.14	
Insurance repairs			\$4,288.80	
Legal & Accounting			\$80.00	
Maintenance				
Sound equipment expenses		\$69.05		
Church building repairs		\$940.73		
Fellowship centre repairs		\$5,186.00		
Shalom House repairs		\$1,103.41		

Roof appeal		\$5,450.00		
General repairs		\$764.83		
Grounds expenses		\$386.39		
Fire Equipment		\$341.00		
Total Maintenance			\$14,241.41	
Office expenses				
Telephone		\$1,162.16		
Internet expenses		\$35.00		
Computing expenses		\$554.51		
Photocopier		\$1,054.94		
Stationery		\$726.82		
Printing expenses		\$138.95		
Postage expenses		\$154.55		
Advertising		\$321.36		
Church Office expenses		\$54.54		
Exam Supervision		\$1,816.00		
Total Office expenses			\$6,018.83	
Services				
ICC Rates		\$4,501.90		
Water and sewerage expenses		\$11,378.28		
Electricity		\$6,913.68		
Cleaning supplies		\$1,212.89		
Pest Control expenses		\$645.45		
Mowing and Cleaning expenses		\$10,400.00		
Sanitary expenses		\$1,032.73		
Tea and Coffee expenses		\$554.78		
Garden Club		\$6,523.37		
Security expenses		\$1,127.71		
Safety expenses		\$493.76		
Bond reimbursement use complex		\$100.00		
Total Services			\$44,884.55	
Loan repayments				
Mutual Support loan payment		\$14,812.46		
Transfer to project account		\$16,000.00		
Sensitive Matters		\$2,157.99		
Long term maintenance		\$16,205.54		
Total Loan repayments			\$49,175.99	
Miscellaneous expenses			\$1,516.44	
Total Expenses				\$453,213.82
Operating Profit				(\$5,406.51)
Total Other Income				\$0.00
Total Other Expenses				\$0.00
Net Profit/(Loss)				(\$5,406.51)

BUDGET 2020

	Budget 2020
Income	
Envelope, Direct Debit & Loose Offering (<i>Av 3365/wk</i>)	175,000.00
Mission Partner Income	3,000.00
Eisteddfod Donation	3,000.00
Use of Complex	30,000.00
Donations, sundries,	5,000.00
Manse Rental	17,160.00
Grant	3,000.00
Fundraising	2,500.00
Carols in the Park	3,000.00
Sales/Sundries	10,000.00
Insurance Claims	2,000.00
interest income	-
Solar Rebates	4,000.00
Total Income	257,660.00
Expenditure	
Stipend	60,202.00
Car & Mileage Allowance	11,688.00
Beneficiary Fund / Synod Levies	9,936.00
House allowance	17,094.00
Mission & Service Fund	30,207.00
Church office Admin Salary	13,448.36
Pastor Salary	-
Professional Development Staff	600.00
Project fund for long term maintenance	14,000.00
Catering	600.00
Electricity	7,500.00
Telephones/Internet	2,000.00
ICC Rates	4,600.00
Water & sewerage	11,640.00
Manse Expense	1,200.00
Christian Education / RE	250.00
Mission Partner expenses	3,000.00
Insurance	13,500.00
Insurance Claim	3,000.00
Security	2,000.00
Grant expenditure	3,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance	6,000.00
Grounds Care / mowing / cleaning	12,000.00
Sanitary & cleaning supplies	3,200.00
Stationary / photocopying / copyrights	3,900.00
Advertising	1,000.00
leadership / conferences / retreats	1,000.00
Music Ministry	500.00
Sound Equipment	1,000.00
Computing	500.00
Carols in the Park	3,000.00
MSS repayments	-
Synod Sexual Abuse Levy	2,500.00
Families Ministry	1,500.00
Kids Hope	1,080.00
Chaplaincy Support Program	1,000.00
Sundries	10,000.00
Total Expenditure	257,645.36
Net Profit / Loss	15

PROPERTY OFFICER'S REPORT

This year has been exceptionally demanding, and while all the minor maintenance issues have been omitted, this report highlights the major issues that I have been involved with this year as Property Maintenance Manager as follows:

Property Break-ins:

The Glebe Road Uniting Church is a large complex that has resulted in many break-ins during the time I've been in this position. Unlike last year with no reported break-ins, this year it would appear criminal intruders made up for lost time, as follows:

Stolen Roses and Green House

On the 1st February, Faye Wright had gone to the church to water the roses in the rose garden. To her surprise, the roses had vanished, as someone had come in during the night, dug them up and walked off with them, except for the large ones. When I arrived, I also ventured over to the Green House to find it had been broken into as well. A walk through the Green House could not find anything noticeably missing, and the Green House was resecured with another padlock. Would you believe it; the next night they came back and removed the larger roses, leaving only the Gerberas. As most of these roses were commemorative, they cannot be replaced.

Shalom House

It was found that a window in Shalom House on the centre car park side had been smashed. Inspection of the building revealed that no entry had occurred, especially through the broken window due to the jagged glass still present. This was put down to vandalism.

Combined Church Properties

At 2.41 am on Tuesday 6th August 2019, an entry alarm was activated in the GRUC general office, and another in the reception office. The office door was partially open, so Police were called. It was discovered that two "centre office" windows were found open. One had been found prised open, indicating that this was the entry point and the front door was in fact the exit point. No damage appeared to have been sustained, and only a box of fundraiser chocolates, and possibly some mail from the Kid's Hope pigeonhole removed. Before the police arrived, it was noticed that windows of the Neighbourhood Centre were also open, and a wheelie bin apparently used to access the windows but prevented by the security grilles. U3A advised that an unsuccessful attempt had been made to extract computer equipment and other items through the Neighbourhood Centre open window. While items were strewn onto the floor, no report of equipment loss has been received.

Further inspections were carried out and it was revealed that the exit glass/metal frame door leading from the church hall to the centre car park was damaged. It appeared there was an unsuccessful attempt to prise open the locking mechanism on the door. Damage was caused to the locking mechanism, and the upper glass panel was cracked. The entire door was unrepairable and had to be replaced. Additionally, it was later noticed that the side door pad-bolt and lock of the Glebe Garden Club's Green House was smashed to gain entry. Inspection of the Green House revealed many trays of plants, palms, equipment and potting mix had been stolen, at an estimated cost of \$855.00. Another 3-meter potted palm was still outside the Green House wall – probably left behind, as the church alarms had been activated. The pad-bolt on the door was repaired and/or replaced with more resistant materials.

It was found that the Garden Club Green House was broken into again sometime on Wednesday night the 18th November 2019. The only damage done to the Green House was the padlock on the front door, which was cut by bolt cutters. Whoever is doing this knows what they want, as they are very selective with the plants taken. These were mainly the trays of expensive succulents, and selected plants from other trays, with an estimated cost of \$500 to \$600. It is apparent that the Green House area is dark, however; light enough from the car park security lights to carry out these break-ins. Heavy duty padlocks have now been fitted to both doors, which should make it impossible for the culprits to use bolt cutters.

The Garden Club is investigating the purchase of special internal cameras to be installed, and Church Council has approved the installation of a motion sensor spotlight on the Fellowship Centre building, overlooking the Green House.

Church Property Maintenance Issues:

Roof Leaks

Last year I reported a large water leak above the "Notices" table, and right above that, there were rust holes in the roof where water had been pouring in. The contractor (John) carried out "patchwork" repair, with the rust problem worse than first thought when the roofing panels were lifted. Patch work repair was carried out at this time until further repair investigation could be initiated.

Roof Replacements

It was during the patch work repair that John found roof damage to the church roof caused by hail, which should be covered under insurance; of which he has over 20 years' experience. A report with an associated cost were presented to Church Council who rubber stamped looking into this further. As a result, we were advised of a huge hailstorm in Feb 2018, of which a couple of church members were at the church and had their cars damaged. This gave us an exact date. A meeting was arranged with Synod representatives, of which Derek and I attended. At this meeting, Synod asked about the state of the other buildings. That, we could not answer.

Assessors checked the 3 rooves and all reported back that they were all hail damaged and needed replacement. How difficult it was to have this information and not say anything until the insurance company had officially accepted the claim to replace all 3 rooves. Initially we were looking at replacing just the church roof. This exceeded our expectation to now get 3 rooves replaced.

There were several non-conformance issues discussed with the insurance company, and who should pay, which also involved engineer input. Eventually, this resulted in the insurance company accepting full cost for the replacement of all 3 rooves. At this point I was able to advise the congregation as to what was happening. As it happened, John won the tender to replace all 3 rooves, however the church had a cost in all of this.....to pay for the replacement of the rusty box guttering and power cable conduit. Amongst all this, with the maintenance costs on the roof and church buildings, the church loan was finally paid off.

The roof replacement is completed, and I wish to extend a big thank you to all involved in this project, and for the wonderful cooperation by the members of this church. Yes, there is still more to be done and I know God will continue to guide us and be faithful to us.....especially if we continue to be faithful to Him.

Fellowship Centre:

Before I took on the task of Property Maintenance Manager 7 years ago, water damage was caused to the inside wall of the Fellowship Centre as a result of rusted/faulty guttering and roofing holes caused at construction. While the faulty guttering was replaced, the roof holes and damage to the wall was not, leaving a big hole in the wall. This hole has expanded greatly over the past years.

For years, that hole has been covered by the Garden Club's white cupboards so the public could not see it. This damage deteriorated and became extremely apparent in the men's toilet with mold, peeling paint and tiles falling off. The internal wall structure towards the corner was eaten away by white ants with the wall falling away in chunks.

This rotting wall and damage travelled up through the mezzanine wall corner, right up to the roof. Due to the advanced damage to this wall, Church Council approved the repair of this damage, which was carried out at the same time the rooves were replaced at a cost of approximately \$5,500.00.

Manse:

Routine property inspections are carried out on the Manse every six months. It is good to have these inspections as it helps me monitor issues that need attention and/or repair work to be carried out. As a result, minor maintenance issues have been resolved.

Tree Removals

The Olive tree located in the garden at the front door of the Fellowship Centre was split in half during a storm. The half lying on the ground was removed and the remaining half is still located in the garden. Sadly, the 5 fir trees located in the garden between the centre car park and Shalom House felt the effects of the long drought and all 5 trees died. Accordingly, they were removed, and I thank those members of the church who carried out this task and took them to the Refuse Centre.

Pest Control:

Courtesy Pest Control have treated all church buildings and grounds. Members using any of the church kitchens need to be aware there is a combination of a fine white dust and jelly type globules around door hinges. These substances are low toxicity and safe – unless you are a cockroach. However, to be effective, these substances need to be left there and not wiped away. This work has a 12-month warranty, and if any infestations still exist after a reasonable time, the contractor will return to address the situation.

Air Conditioner Filters:

In relation to the Synod Safety Audit, there is a need for a working group (preferably the younger members) to clean the air filters of all Air Conditioners in all Church buildings every 12 months. This work was completed, and I thank all those able-bodied members for your help in cleaning the air conditioning filters, especially those situated high on the walls of the church auditorium. Thanks guys – same time, same place next year.....!

Other Maintenance Issues:

While I have listed the main issues above, many of them take quite some time to reach a conclusion. Additionally, there are many other maintenance issues carried out throughout the year, some of them as follows:

- Maintaining the “GRUC Maintenance Plan” ensuring all tasks are carried out.
- Repair/replacement of Church lights be it internal or security.
- Extra power points and wiring
- Bi-Annual inspection/testing of circuit breakers by electrician.
- Inspecting for damage and cleaning up after severe storms.

Thank You:

My thanks are extended to all members of the congregation for their support and/or assistance given to me during the year. I wish to thank all members involved with the beautification of the Church gardens this year, with a very special thank you to Bill Milward. I have received numerous comments from people outside the church saying how good the gardens look. The garden between the Church and Glebe Road is very noticeable through the Church windows. Again, I invite members to take a walk though this area. You will not be disappointed. While the church properties belong to all members of this church, it is a huge complex and it is near impossible for me to know everything that requires repair or attention. Security of doors and windows in all church buildings is paramount. Should anyone come across something that requires repair and/or attention, please let me know, or write it in the maintenance logbook situated in the front office and I will attend to it. I look forward to your continued support again this year.

David Murphy

SECURITY OFFICER’S REPORT

The security team consists of Jim O’Grady, Paul de Sauty and Rob Edwardson, reporting to Church Council via the Resource Ministry Team and operating under formal position descriptions. Jim, Paul and Rob are on alternate 2-week rosters (flexible) to respond to alarms. No new members joined the team in 2019.

Back-2-Base Monitoring Service continues to monitor our system from a Brisbane control room and calls our rostered team members in the event of an alarm activation. Records of all callouts and other incidents are maintained and are available for inspection.

Illegal entry, property damage and loss

On 20th February a window was broken in Shalom - vandalism or an attempted break-in.

On 6th August, break-in attempts were made on all buildings on 6th August. Entry was made to the office but alarm activation caused a quick exit with little loss or damage. The back door to the Hall was forced but not entered. Damage to the door required replacement of door and lock assembly. Neighbourhood Centre windows were forced but not entered. The greenhouse was broken into and heavy loss of plants and equipment was sustained. On 18th November, the greenhouse was again broken into, with more plants stolen.

Lockup procedure

Keyholders are requested to re-read and apply the opening and closing procedures posted at all security keypads.

Lockup elements being missed from time to time include:

- Air conditioning not switched off.
- Fans not switched off
- Hall toilet doors not locked
- F/ship Centre door near toilets closed but not locked
- Toilet light left on
- Toilet tap or cistern flush left running
- Toilet bowl not flushed
- Window left open
- Window shut but not locked
- Someone opening a door or window that the leader was not aware had been used

The likely reason for these slips is “too much happening or too many people helping”.

- When others help by doing part of the procedure, either they are not as aware of what to look for or each one thinks the other has done something.
- When people are still packing up or stop to have a chat with the locker-upper on the way out the door, the distraction can be enough to miss something.

It is best to ensure everybody is out of the building before the key holder starts the lockup and then works systematically around the inside of the building.

Prevention measures

Heavier padlocks have been installed on the greenhouse by Glebe Garden Club and a movement sensor light covering the area. Cabling has been installed as part of the church re-roofing project in preparation for CCTV installation when funds become available. Removal of (dead) pine trees between the middle carpark and Shalom provides better visibility of activity in that area.

The isolation of the property from neighbours does not provide constant visible monitoring of suspicious activity, so any mechanical or electronic deterrents have limited effect. They reduce but do not eliminate the risk of further damage or loss.

False alarm callouts

False alarm callouts continue to be minimal owing to correct operation of the system and careful entry to the buildings. Gecko activity has reduced compared with previous years for unknown reasons.

Appreciation

Thanks are due to all those Keyholders who play their part in maintaining a safe environment for our members, visitors and other venue users and the security of our buildings.

This report looks much like the 2018 report because little has changed. Operations continue to go on quietly as before, with the team members fulfilling their roles with a minimum of fuss and high proficiency.

My sincere appreciation to Jim & Paul for their reliable and unflagging commitment in sharing responsibility for security monitoring and their availability for callouts at all hours of day or night, ensuring we maintain an effective service for protection of our GRUC property.

Rob Edwardson

FIRE SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT

Team

The Fire Safety team consists of Kent Wilkins and Peter Arnett, Deputy Chief Wardens and Rob Edwardson, Chief Warden, supported by the Emergency Planning Committee. The EPC complies with AS 3745 (WHS) and meets annually as a function of the Resource Ministry Team. Kent Wilkins and Rob Edwardson have completed certificated training with National Fire Safety Council in Brisbane (2018).

Fire & Evacuation Plan

A Fire & Evacuation Plan is being maintained in compliance with *Fire & Rescue Service Act 1990* and *Building Fire Safety Regulations 2008* and in consultation from time to time with Qld Fire & Rescue Service (QFRS) officers at Flinders View and Bundamba fire stations.

The Fire & Evacuation Plan is the comprehensive fire safety regime that includes equipment installation, equipment maintenance, inspection and monitoring, appointment of wardens, program of regular instruction for wardens and all group leaders, evacuation practices and prescribed records maintenance.

Copies of the written Plan tailored for each building are at the entrances to all buildings and a master copy is filed in the office safe. These are updated continually as necessary and are required to be available for inspection by a QFRS officer on request. Electronic copies are also kept in the church office and offsite.

Fire Safety Instruction

From May to July, annual refresher instruction was provided for all Glebe Rd ministry groups and regular building users such as U3A, playgroups martial arts, etc. by Rob Edwardson. Occasional venue users continue to be given basic instruction before their events.

Emergency Evacuation Practice ("Fire Drill")

An Emergency Evacuation Practice was conducted during the 10.15 service on 23 June. The drill was commenced without prior notice to wardens. As always, the drill proved to be effective, providing some valuable learning for future reference.

Equipment Inspection and Testing

All fire safety equipment is inspected monthly by Camillo, including testing of the smoke sensors. Fire extinguishers and blankets are checked 6-monthly by qualified contractors. Smoke sensor batteries are tested monthly and simulated smoke tests are done annually. The rental property at 3 Cassowary St Flinders View is included in the inspection and test regime.

Appreciation

My sincere appreciation to Camillo and Kent for providing valuable assistance in sharing responsibility for the Fire & Evacuation Plan, and to Rev Peter Arnett for his ongoing support as part of the team, ensuring we maintain an effective Plan for the safety of the congregation and our guests.

Robert Edwardson

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Team members: Rev. Peter Arnett, Xavier Camillo, John Fisher, Dan Francis, Rev. Gwen Fisher

The Discipleship Ministry Team seeks to give oversight and energy to the further development of cell groups, bible studies, educational and discipleship programs, as well as the training and equipping of leaders. It is hoped that all congregational members will be able to participate in a cell group.

During 2019 the following groups have been meeting:

- ❖ Cell Chicks – alternate Tuesday evenings – leader – Bev Bruce
- ❖ Camillo’s home group – alternate Friday evenings
- ❖ Rothery’s home group – alternate Friday evenings
- ❖ Ladies evening group – alternate Thursday evenings – led by Marg Coghlan & Judy Jackson

The Discipleship Ministry Team has prepared discipleship and study resources that are available for all the groups.

A comprehensive preaching and study series to allow all of the congregation to participate was planned at our July meeting for a new phase of group ministry in our Glebe Road Congregation from September. This was postponed to implement once Rev. Peter is able to provide the necessary leadership.

While serving in supply ministry, Rev. Dr. David Mackay Rankin conducted four teaching sessions on Discipleship. These were offered over four weeks in November both during the day and also for an evening session. The sessions were well-attended, and we are grateful for the leadership Dr. Mackay Rankin provided on this important topic.

Grahame Tainton generously volunteered to provide administration of the library, including cataloguing and stocktake of the books. Grahame has also taken responsibility for ensuring the library is available following worship services each Sunday, preparing a roster for those who can assist borrowers.

In partnership with the Prayer & Pastoral Care Ministry Team, the Discipleship team hopes to develop an effective process for enfolding people into new small groups.

Rev Gwen Fisher

PRAYER AND PASTORAL CARE MINISTRIES

PRAYER MINISTRY

More than 150 Prayer Requests were received in 2019. Most requests related to a medical condition and its resolution, there were also prayers of thanks for answered prayer. Towards the end of the year we had prayers in relation to national emergencies - drought and bush fires. God encourages us to pray regularly on all matters. Ephesians 6:18 “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests”.

If you have a prayer request, please email Ken Fischer: prayermt@gleberd.com.au

In the case of confidential matters contact the Intercessory Prayer Group, Vi Beaumont 32886358.

Ken Fischer

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

10:15am WORSHIP TEAM

Our team of faithful worshippers are privileged and blessed to lead our congregation in song and to create a space where our congregation can meet with our Saviour and give Him glory, honour and praise. The living of our life is a constant act of worship - the way we speak, react, respond and interact with others. Our Sunday worship is an event which enables the construct of intentional corporate worship to be developed, fashioned and brought to life in such a way that it is genuine and pleasing to our Father.

Our team continue to come together every Wednesday night to practice and fellowship together and to spend time as a team in worship of our Lord. I am privileged to lead a team of faithful servants whose desire it is to worship God and create a space for those who come each Sunday to meet with Him.

We pray that God continues to challenge us to do and be better worshipers. As such we have had discussion with regards to help see our worship space on a Sunday become an even more engaging space in which people can enter into the presence of God. This is an ongoing conversation that we have been having but the team have expressed a passion to make our worship experience more meaningful, reflective and engaging.

The 10.15am worship team have also had the privilege of helping to lead worship in our All in together services which our Xtreme team run on the 5th Sunday of the month. It has been a blessing to see our children and youth leading us in worship through prayer, song, bible readings and some fun memory verse activities. This has been a great time of sharing and experiencing God word.

We, as a team, are looking to encourage new members of our congregation to join us in any capacity that they feel able to contribute. Whether it is by playing an instrument, singing, doing data or sound – we want to encourage people that are passionate about worshipping our Lord through music to join our team so that they can use their gifts to bless God and our congregation.

The team are also invested in continuing to contribute their gifts to the Carols in the Park. This is a great time of coming together of the church and wider community to celebrate the birth of Christ. We are thankful to the Garden Club for allowing us to run a BBQ at their Expo with funds going towards the expenses involved in running our Carols in the Park. A big thankyou to all the volunteers that helped with the BBQ, we would not have been a success without you. Also, a big thank you to Kath Hart and Karen Madders, the Arnett's egg sales and any others who through their efforts helped raise funds for Carols in the Park.

I pray that we continue to seek after God and offer ourselves fully to Him as we give ourselves to Him in worship, not only on Sunday but with our whole lives.

Praise God!!

Jeremy Bruce

FUN AND FRIENDSHIP MINISTRIES

RISKIES

The "Riskies" group comes under the Fun and Friendship Ministry Team. It is a self-motivated and self-organised social gathering of fun-loving adults who plan a range of engaging activities and outings roughly on a monthly basis throughout the year. The premise for the group is that activities are planned to allow people to form and develop stronger friendships by doing fun stuff together.

Activities are planned by the group at the beginning of each year to lock in the dates of these activities before the year gets too busy. The idea of, '**Come when you can - but don't worry if you can't**' allows this group to be fairly relaxed and stress free. The members attend as many outings as they feel they can. Numbers range from about 10 to 25 for most activities.

Carpooling is done for most of the activities so those who do not like driving can usually hitch a ride with other people.

The group consists of people from the congregations of our church, some from other churches and other friends from all walks of life. Friendships have been strengthened and support structures built by being involved in this group..... and there are always plenty of laughs.

Do you sit at home on the weekends and wish you could go out with some friends? If so, this is the sort of group that might appeal to you. Everyone is welcome to join this group so please see Jill Case or email her (riskies@gleberd.com.au) and your name will be added to the mailing list. You will receive an email each month with details of the upcoming event. We would love to have you join us.

Apart from the activities listed below, Riskies also provided assistance at the ANZAC Parade morning tea and also the Glebe Garden Club Expo. It is good to be involved in these service activities.

Activities for 2019 included:

February	Planning evening, Coffee & Dessert night.
March (2)	Science Nation (Science Says) and Team Timor Trivia Morning
April	Passion Play at Moogerah
May	Boonah Markets, Bushwalk at Mt French
June	Bulimba Heritage trail walk via City Cat
July	Theatre Night - Incinerator Theatre
August	Trivia Fundraiser for Blackstone Soccer Club
September	Toowoomba Carnival of flowers (postponed)
October	Casserole and Games Night
November	Powerhouse Theatre and Supper (Die Hard – the movie, the play)
December	Christmas Breakfast at Fourth Child Restaurant

Jill Case

PAINTING FOR PLEASURE GROUP

We started the year on 15th January as planned with ten participants under Dorothy's guidance. However, word got around about her excellence and I had to have a waiting list for enrolment as we are limited with table accommodation. There are 24 on roll with an average attendance of 16. We have welcomed four artistic men to our friendly group and we all enjoy each other's paintings and company.

Judith was successful at Ipswich Show in May coming 2nd in Abstract with her "Dancing Couple" and received H.C. in Novice section with her beautiful "Gap of Dunloe". Other talented competitors entered as well.

We received an invitation to be in an Interfaith Art Exhibition on 6-8 September, expressing beliefs, faith, religion and spirituality through art. Three of our members contributed some beautiful entries to this amazing display held at the Ipswich Community Gallery.

Rob dutifully instructed us regarding safety issues and where to assemble etc. if there was an emergency, who to take notice of and what to do.

We ended our year on 10th December with a special Christmas morning tea and decided to recommence on 14th January 2020.

Margaret Johnson

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our ladies have again had a very enjoyable and rewarding year of fellowship together. Over the year we were delighted to welcome four new ladies to our group and we had an average attendance of 18 to 20 ladies each month, with some months 25 ladies in attendance.

Unfortunately Rev Peter Arnett was not able to join with us this year due to ill health, but we were delighted to have Rev Bruce Raymond, our supply Minister for part of the year, and also Rev David Mackay-Rankin, to share time with us. Devotions were lead by Rev Bruce and several of our ladies giving us food for thought each month.

Birthdays were celebrated each month with each lady receiving a gift from the birthday basket. We shared in celebrating a special 90th birthday with Mavis Cunning and visited Thelma Hales in Milford Grange for her 90th birthday.

We were saddened at Thelma's passing only a few weeks later. Thel was a dear and loyal friend to all of us in this group over many years. We also acknowledged the passing of Bev Antonioli, also a dear friend and former Fellowship member.

Our various programs kept us busy throughout the year as we enjoyed unscrambling verses of hymns, did Gentle Exercise to keep us fit, sang our favourite choruses and hymns, put names to our Mothers' photos, enjoyed a Devonshire Tea with a difference as well as our usual visit to the Allawah Camp site where we participated in an Easter Egg Hunt, were treated to a BBQ lunch and enjoyed playing Board Games in the peaceful surroundings.

Our special fundraising Morning Tea held in June was again a great success when we supported the Bush Chaplains and people in the Outback, with the program provided by the Alchemy Street Choir and our Guest Speaker from Frontier Services who highlighted the plight of the farmers and outback people doing it tuff.

We were privileged to have Sgt Nadine Webster from the Police Service as a guest speaker who enlightened us on security in the home and also our own Roslyn Beduhn who shared with us of her time in PNG with her late husband.

Several of our ladies were kept busy throughout the year as we catered for a number of funerals, a Timor lunch, a Presbytery meeting, provided sandwiches and morning teas for the Garden Expo, provided kitchen help at the Garden Club's 20th Anniversary and baked biscuits and helped at the Silkstone Eisteddfod. We also acknowledged the wonderful contribution of Merle Setch as the Catering Convenor for almost the past 30 years and we thank her most sincerely.

We hosted the UCAF Synod Committee's AGM and Dedication service and several of our ladies attended the World Day of Prayer service held at the United Welsh Church and were represented at the annual UCAF service at Beenleigh.

Financially, we continued to support our Compassion child, Mary Tei throughout the year, provided aid to the needy in the Ekaristi church in Timor Leste, Frontier Services Bush Chaplains and people in the Outback, Frontier Services Fire & Drought Appeal, Uniting Care North Qld Flood Appeal, UCAF Synod Committee Project of Disaster Preparedness in the Pacific, Silkstone Eisteddfod Awards, Compassion Project of Farming Bundle & Health Bundle, Ipswich Hospice and the Church Office.

We were able to deliver 11 Bags of Christmas goodies to the 'shut-ins' connected to our congregation and also provided items to fill a number of Red Bags for the Wesley Mission Appeal.

We celebrated together at our annual end of year Luncheon held at the Racehorse Hotel and concluded the year with our Christmas themed program when several ladies entertained us with humorous short plays and a Christmas Pass the Parcel and we sang appropriate Christmas carols.

As usual, our faithful few men from the Weeders and Waterers set up the hall and sound for us each month, for which we are very appreciative.

Our ladies have journeyed together throughout the year, sharing God's love and care for each other in fellowship and friendship and trusting in God's faithfulness to us all.

Lola Milward

WOMENS' FELLOWSHIP STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE 31/12/2019

<u>INCOME</u>		
Catering	\$ 3,300.00	
Fellowship Subs & Donations	374.30	
Special Morning Tea	1,000.00	
Special Morning Tea – Variety Stall	277.10	
Presbytery Morning Tea	276.25	
Christmas Luncheon	520.00	
Empty Christmas Tree	70.00	
Christmas Stall	175.00	
Miscellaneous Income	22.00	
Interest	022	
	\$ 6,014.87	
Balance B/Fwd	7,407.88	
	\$13,422.75	
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Affiliation Fee (inc. Individual Fees)	\$ 55.00	
Catering	498.88	
Birthday gifts for ladies	139.65	
Church Hall Curtains, 2 Folding Tables, Gifts for Speakers	184.66	
Brassall Florist	75.00	
Christmas Luncheon	498.00	
Miscellaneous expenses	117.07	\$1,568.26
<u>Donations:</u>		
Uniting Care Flood Appeal	\$ 100.00	
Alchemy Choir	100.00	
Frontier Services – Bush Chaplains	750.00	
Silkstone Eisteddfod – Awards	300.00	
East Timor Ekaristi Church “Women in Need”	500.00	
Panasonic Microwave for Church Kitchen	116.00	
Compassion Australia	576.00	
Compassion Australia – Birthday & Christmas gifts	60.00	
Compassion Australia Health Bundle	200.00	
Ipswich Hospice Inc.	200.00	
G.R.U.C. Church Office	200.00	
Frontier Services Empty Christmas Tree & Stall	245.00	
Frontier Services Drought Appeal	1,000.00	
Frontier Services Christmas Cards	60.00	
UCAF Qld – Project for 2019 “Pacific Disaster Preparedness”	200.00	\$4,607.60
		\$6,175.86
Fellowship A/c Balance as at 31.12.2019		\$7,246.89
U.C.I.S. A/c		\$10,476.76
		\$17,723.65

CRAFT COFFEE AND CHAT

This group continued to meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from February to November. The average attendance was 6. Although numbers are sometimes low, the group is an important outing for those who attend. Members enjoy the opportunity to indulge in their chosen craft, share morning tea and a friendly chat. Knitting, crochet, embroidery and counted cross stitch are the usual activities. We all share the joy of a long-term project being completed.

Anyone who would like a pleasant morning out indulging in a craft activity, morning tea and having a chat with other 'crafty ladies' is welcome to join us on Wednesday, 12th February 9:30 – 11:30am in the Church Hall – our first day for 2020.

Faye Wright

WEEDERS & WATERERS

Weeders and Waterers are a group that meets each Wednesday at 7:00 AM for a clean-up of the church grounds. The work is followed by an early morning tea. We have five members who attend each Wednesday, two independently mobile, the other three on walkers prepare the morning tea. We all take part in the morning tea discussions where the problems of the world are solved.

We are always looking for new members, all are welcome, contact Ken Fischer or just turn up.

Ken Fischer

SERVICE AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES

BRASSALL VILLAGE BIRTHDAY HIGH TEAS

What a privilege it has been for our team of four to minister at the Lodge at Brassall Village again this year. We've followed the same pattern with celebratory birthday visits from February to November inclusively. We are regularly told how much the party food, fine china, designer tablecloths and the opportunity to contribute to discussions on a wide range of topics are appreciated.

Our team is richly blessed as we interact with our friends and hear stories from their long and interesting lives. Community singing is embraced enthusiastically and with a great deal of musicality. One of the residents continues as a regular accompanist. We are so grateful to Robyn and Shirley for filling in when needed.

Easter and Christmas are celebrated with a special program and individual residents invited to participate in the presentation. A small gift is given to each guest. Every visit is an uplifting experience as we give and receive Christ's love and remind one another how special we are to God.

Once again, we would enlist your prayer support for our team and the folk from whom we receive so much. As our members are very busy people and not getting any younger, we are keen to expand the team so that we have people on standby to allow respite, as needed.

If you are interested in blessing and being blessed, please contact me for further information.

Carole Edwardson

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Brief Recap on Habitat for Humanity (H4H) Ipswich Annual Report 2018.

Ken Fischer stepped down as Chair of the Ipswich Chapter, to date the position is still vacant but Habitat Queensland is working on this. Also, Habitat Qld merged with Habitat NSW, the Queensland entity renamed Habitat for Humanity (NSWQ) Ltd.

Efforts to find a replacement chairperson were unsuccessful so in 2019 the committee members determined that the Ipswich chapter should be dissolved. Sadly, Habitat Ipswich is no longer an outreach of Glebe Road Uniting Church.

*Ken Fischer (past Chair)
H4H Ipswich Chapter*

GLEBE GARDEN CLUB IPSWICH

Monthly Club Functions

The Glebe Garden Club has enjoyed another successful year. The monthly functions have been well attended and we attracted a range of speakers covering a variety of topics.

In February, Robert Wilson spoke about native bush tucker plants; in March Melainie White spoke on cottage-style and edible plants.

In April, Carmel Brown was to speak on Begonias, but she did not arrive, so the time was spent as a question and answer session, which proved popular. Our Annual General Meeting was also held this month. I was honoured to be elected President, giving me the challenge of meeting the leadership values of our immediate past president, Reverend Peter Arnett, who resigned due to ill health. Reverend Bruce Raymond kindly chaired our AGM.

Our May speaker was Viola Hamilton who gave an informative talk on, and demonstration of, propagating. In June Brian Donaldson spoke on starting and maintaining worm farms and the benefits of worms.

July is a popular month for members as we hold our Panel of Experts function. This is always popular with members who arrive with many questions on gardening.

Our August topic was on African Violets and Annette Spears drew on her 30-years of experience in propagating and growing African Violets.

Our September speaker was Julie Lumsdale, who is a lifetime member of Friends of Brisbane Botanic Gardens and Sherwood Arboretum. She spoke about the role of volunteers at the Brisbane Botanic Gardens and the Sherwood Arboretum.

Our October speaker was Professor Darryl Jones of Griffith University who spoke on the strange world of urban ecology and the interaction and consequences of birds and wildlife in suburbia.

November was the occasion of our 20th birthday. Our guest speaker was Dale Arvidsson, curator of Brisbane's two Botanic Gardens and the Sherwood Arboretum. Invitations included other garden clubs and dignitaries, such as Federal Member for Blair Shayne Neumann and State Member for Ipswich Jennifer Howard. Our Treasurer, Faye Wright, prepared a history of the club and had Honorary Life Membership certificates presented to the founding members of the club, David Murphy, Desleigh Murphy, Mavis Wakefield and Tom Wakefield. Other dignitaries were Reverend Bryan Gilmour, and Phillip Adam, president of QCGC. Our nominated charity, Wounded Heroes, assist returned service personnel struggling to re-enter society and often suffering from PTSD. Three members attended and a donation was presented to them. We were grateful to the Women's Fellowship who ran the kitchen, so our members could enjoy the celebrations. A birthday cake was cut by Mavis Wakefield, Reverend Bryan Gilmour and Ian Muil.

Our final meeting of the year was addressed by Kevin and Coral Larsen. Coral spoke on growing plants for the sub tropics, providing examples of the plants she was talking about.

Change to monthly Members' meeting fee structure

Earlier this year the committee addressed the issue of financial and non-financial membership. This resulted in an increase in financial membership as there is a slight saving on the outlay over the year for financial members.

Ipswich Home Gardeners Expo

The annual Ipswich Home Gardener's Expo was the 17th year in succession this event has been held. This event included almost 80 stalls, a plant crèche and an ATM, were available for those replenishing funds. This year our visitor numbers exceeded 2000, coming from right across South East Queensland. Each year, the Club invites local charities to be part of the Garden Expo and they can conduct a stall and raise funds for their cause at no cost. Our nominated charity this year was Wounded Heroes. This annual event requires support from many people and organisations, and the support of the Ipswich City Council every year is much appreciated. This year the event was given a special boost through the provision by Council of a substantial portion of Cameron Park for parking. We were able to arrange for the Boys' Brigade to manage the parking which was a fundraiser for them as parking fees went straight to them. The co-operation of all stallholders each year is outstanding, and we extend our thanks to all involved in making our Home Gardener's Expo such a huge success. The variety of stalls, wonderful atmosphere, great organization, and excellent keynote speakers were significant factors in making this event such a success. The speakers included Kate Wall, Claire Bickle, Paul Plant and Jerry Coleby-Williams. A huge thanks to David Murphy for the time and energy he invests in organising and co-ordinating this amazing event of several thousand people.

Wongawallan Coach Tour – April 13

Leaving the church car park at 7:15 am, the coach tour headed to Spectrum Plants at the little village of Wongawallan. This was a delightful tour which ended with Spectrum generously donating to each of our group a healthy hanging pot plant. Our next stop was John and Carol Kerkin's garden at Kingsholme where we had

lunch and wandered through their lush and peaceful garden where Carol's 30-year love affair with salvias is on radiant show.

Nambour Coach Tour – 13 July

On Saturday 13 July we enjoyed a coach tour to Nambour to visit Queensland Garden Expo which attracts over 40,000 visitors from all over Australia and New Zealand. We arrived back home at about 5:30 pm.

Local Coach Tour – October 14

This coach tour was a bit different – and greatly enjoyed by all. The first good omen was that we had some rain as we departed. Our first destination was Fernvale where we visited the nursery of Kevin and Coral Larsen. We enjoyed morning tea and an interesting talk from Coral on how they started in the nursery business and how to grow hippeastrums, before visiting their shade houses. Our next stop Trevellan Lifestyle Centre before we headed off to Queens Park for lunch and a royal tour of the glasshouse. Faye and Dot were our eloquent guides. Our final stop was Little Pee Dee Nursery at Kalbar which offers many well priced plants.

The Glasshouse

The Glasshouse Committee has continued its great work maintaining plants in the Queen's Park Glasshouse. In May Mavis Wakefield, for many years coordinator of the Glasshouse Committee, passed the baton on to Faye Wright who has ensured the high level of plant maintenance in the Glasshouse is continued. We appreciate the assistance of the Ipswich City Council and their co-operative staff, who look after the building. Visitors to the Glasshouse often remark on the striking quality and diversity of the plants. Credit goes to Faye and her team who look after the plants.

The Greenhouse

Thanks to Desleigh Murphy, the Greenhouse has had a successful year with excellent results in maintaining and propagating plants. This year the Greenhouse has supplied door prizes for our monthly club functions, plants for the Garden Expo, and plants to our representatives who visit other garden clubs and associations. This year we suffered two break-ins with the theft of significant quantities of plants and equipment. We have up graded the quality of the locks, but the Greenhouse remains vulnerable, and the Committee will continue considering further security measures.

The library

The Garden Club maintains a free library for members which contains many different gardening and horticultural magazines and books. We subscribe to select gardening magazines and we purchase publications our librarian, Kathy Ungerer, deems likely to be popular and useful.

Newsletter, Facebook & Website

Our monthly newsletter, edited by Del Harle, is a treasure trove of useful gardening information, updated almost daily with interesting news and links related to gardening, plants and horticultural activities. Our Facebook site is now our most successful advertising medium, such as for our Home Gardener's Expo. Our website is a powerful communication tool for connecting us to garden clubs, gardeners, and new members.

Community Donations

The Club is a generous donor to community organisations who are making a positive difference in the lives of others. This year the club donated \$2,500 to Wounded Heroes; \$2,500 to Frontier Services for drought-affected farmers; \$1,500 to the Church; \$1,000 to the Ipswich Special School, and \$600 to the QIMR Berghofer Cancer Research Centre. Also, the door takings from our December function were donated to Giving with Love, a local support program for foster children.

Special Thanks

I wish to express my personal thanks to each member of the Committee and all Garden Club members for their loyal support to the Club and the committee throughout the year. On behalf of the Glebe Garden Club I extend our gratitude to the army of volunteers from the Church and the Garden Club who made this year's Garden Expo such a success. Without their support, this event would not be possible.

Ian Muil, President

GLEBE GARDEN CLUB FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2019

OPENING CREDIT BALANCE 1st January 2019	Cheque A/c	\$5,005.51	
	Cash Reserve A/c	\$8,932.62	\$13,938.13

RECEIPTS:

Membership Fees	770.00	
Donations at Door	1,389.20	
Plant Sales	1,472.90	
Fares – Bus Trips	3,060.00	
Change re-banked	100.00	
		6,792.10

Garden Expo:

Stall Fees	2,925.00	
Takings	11,136.30	
ICC Sponsorship	2,500.00	
Change re-banked	2,000.00	
		18,561.30

Glasshouse Income	77.00	
Sale of Honey	68.00	
Sale of Diaries	160.00	
Insurance Claim re Greenhouse	605.00	
Sundry Income	62.20	
Bank Interest – Cheque A/c	7.71	
Bank Interest – Cash Reserve A/c	8.67	

26,341.98

40,280.11

PAYMENTS:

Meeting Expenses -

Contribution – GRUC	600.00	
Christmas Gift Plants	200.00	
Change for Meetings	100.00	
Donation – Giving with Love	200.00	
Speakers Expenses	235.00	
20th Anniversary	298.00	
Catering	64.90	

1,697.90

Glasshouse Expenses	478.65	
Greenhouse Expenses	1,172.97	

Garden Expo –

General Expenses	443.55	
Refund of Stall fees	150.00	
Advertising	2,181.03	
Expo Speakers	1,320.00	
Change	2,000.00	
ATM	400.00	
First Aid Services	437.00	
6 th Ipswich Boys Brigade	700.00	
Hire of Marquees	46.00	
Teardrop Flags	360.00	
Kitchen Expenses	774.12	
Plant Stall Expenses	312.66	
Renewal of Business Name	84.00	

9,208.36

Donations Expo Proceeds –

GRUC	1,000.00	
Fiddlers Inn	500.00	
Women’s Fellowship	700.00	
QIMR Berghoffer	600.00	
Frontier Services Assist Farmer	2,500.00	
Wounded Heroes	2,500.00	
Ipswich Special School	1,000.00	

8,800.00

Adopt-A-Hive Project	125.00	
Bus Trips	3,090.00	

Library Purchases	103.91	
QCGC Membership	25.00	
Web Domain Renewal	90.00	
Photocopying	395.30	
Bottles for Honey	78.00	
Stationery	374.86	
Renewal Office 365	115.20	
Promotional Diaries & Pens	774.50	
Gifts	412.00	
Business Case for Secretary	181.00	
Bank Fee – Cash Reserve A/c	5.00	
T'fer from Cash Res to Term Dep	5,000.00	
	10,769.77	
		32,127.65
	Cheque A/c	4,216.17
	Cash Reserve A/c	3,936.29
		8,152.46
	Term Deposit – Matures 30 th April 2020	5,090.70
	Mutual Support Scheme	3,000.00
TOTAL CLUB FUNDS		\$16,243.16
CASH RESERVE ACCOUNT		
Opening Balance 1 st January 2019		8,932.62
Plus Interest		8.67
		8,941.29
Less:		
Receipts:		
Transfers to Term Deposit	5,000.00	
Bank Fee	5.00	
		5,005.00
Closing Balance 31 st December 2019		3,936.29
TERM DEPOSIT		
Opening Deposit 30 th January 2019	5,000.00	
Interest	38.63	
Maturity 30 th April 2020	5,038.63	
Reinvested	5,038.63	
Interest	52.07	
Maturity 30 th November 2019	5,090.70	
Reinvested to mature - 30 th April 2020		

Faye Wright, Treasurer

SILKSTONE EISTEDDFOD

We thank God for another successful year for the Silkstone Eisteddfod – the 93rd. That success would not be possible without the support of our many donors and the many volunteers who assist in a variety of ways – as door keepers, being on the ‘back table, being a Scribe, working in the canteen, baking biscuits, preparing meals, compering sessions, marshalling bands and choirs, providing security, setting up the venues and offering prayer support. We value each and every one.

At the Annual General Meeting in February, Kim Mensforth was elected Treasurer as Anita Hunter had indicated that she could not stand for re-election. Anita was thanked for her two years of service as Treasurer.

The Eisteddfod Sessions began with the Piano and Instrumental Section in August. The Adjudicators were Helen-Therese Good for Strings and Dr Mark Kruger (a former Ipswich resident and competitor) for Piano, Bands and Instrumental. The Co- Convenors, Coral Myatt and Kathy Myatt reported that, for a variety of reasons, many competitors in the Piano and Instrumental Sections failed to report for their scheduled item and some students had problems when their Accompanist did not turn up. The Bands Section went well, with few non-attenders and we thank the schools for this. As Coral has indicated a desire to retire in the not too far distant future, the possibility of the Bands Section not continuing was considered. However, Alison Frances has indicated a willingness to step into the role and she will work with Coral during 2020 to ensure a smooth transition.

The Speech and Drama Section was held over 4 days in October with Mrs Helen Galea as the Adjudicator. The Convenors, Chris Lloyd and Di Johnston reported that 439 entries were received, a slight increase over the previous year. All sessions were held in the church. A Group item – Dramatization of a Poem has been introduced and it is hoped that it can be expanded in the future by introducing different age categories.

The Vocal Section followed Speech and Drama. The Convenor, Merle Mensforth, reported that it had been hard to find an Adjudicator with the time to fit 18 sessions into busy schedules. Gordon Harris again filled the role. There were 190 individual competitors and 56 choirs who appeared on stage. Competitor attendance was good in the 15 years and under items, but many adults were unable to perform due to life’s circumstances. The adult performers have indicated that they appreciate the opportunity to perform. Unfortunately, numbers in the Senior items were down. Trish Cole-Clarke was a very supportive Assistant Convenor.

Catering Convenor, Lola Milward, looked after the Canteen for the three sections of the Eisteddfod with support from Coral Myatt who took care of the day sessions for Speech and Drama. Lola reported that all went well. The home-made biscuits were very popular but keeping up the supply was a challenge at times!

Once again, the Eisteddfod finished with the Presentation Evening held on November 9th in the Church as the Fellowship Centre was getting a new roof. Attendance was down on previous years as many younger competitors were involved in a Concert and some of the awards were presented during the course of the Eisteddfod.

I express my grateful thanks to all the Convenors for their faithful dedication to their roles. They, along with all the volunteers, are the face, the hands and the ears of Christ in this ministry..... hard work but an enriching experience.

As we move into 2020, we know that there will be changes and challenges but are confident that God will sustain us for the days ahead.

Faye Weight, Secretary

SILKSTONE EISTEDDFOD ANNUAL STATEMENTS – 1/1/2019 – 31/12/2019

Income	2019	2018
Entry Fees Piano and Instrumental	2,072.00	2,185.00
Entry Fees Speech and Drama	2,854.00	2,491.00
Entry Fees Vocal	3,931.00	4,660.00
Total Entry Fees	8,857.00	9,336.00
Programme Piano and Instrumental	220.00	N/A
Programme Speech and Drama	126.00	N/A
Programme Vocal	562.00	N/A
Total Programme sales	908.00	1,304.00
Door Takings Piano and Instrumental	2,170.10	1,568.80
Door Takings Speech and Drama	849.50	922.60
Door Takings Vocal	3,121.60	2,517.00
Total Door Takings	6,141.20	5,008.40
Canteen Piano and Instrumental	554.25	608.55
Canteen Speech and Drama	702.30	777.80
Canteen Vocal	1,878.30	1,697.10
Canteen Other	160.95	50.00
Total Canteen Takings	3,295.80	3,133.45
Donations & Grants	7,500.75	9,319.00
Bank Interest	68.99	64.90
Total Other Incomes	7,569.74	9,383.90
Gross Profit	26,771.74	28,165.75
Expenses		
Printing Costs	656.43	275.92
Photocopying Costs	21.00	9.90
Stationery	0.00	89.10
Telephone Expenses	0.00	0.00
Postage Costs	390.99	462.00
Courier Fees	307.79	0.00
Petty Cash expenditures and Canteen Expenses	1,355.00	N/A
Canteen Expenses	N/A	1,255.94
Gifts	0.00	0.00
Total Operating Expenses	2,731.21	2,092.86
Adjudicator Piano and Instrumental	1,550.00	1,925.00
Adjudicator Speech and Drama	1,740.00	1,645.00
Adjudicator Vocal	3,255.00	3,200.00
Total Adjudicator Expenses	6,545.00	6,770.00
Prize Money Piano and Instrumental	1,455.00	605.00
Prize Money Speech and Drama	1,040.00	400.00
Prize Money Vocal	2,790.00	1540.00
Awards & Bursaries	0.00	2415.00
Trophies & Engraving	2,467.04	2178.27
Total Prize Expenses	7,752.04	7,138.27
Other Special Expenses & Donations	3,256.01	3,600.00
Total Other Expenses	3,256.01	3,600.00
Total Expenses	20,284.26	19,601.13
Net Profit	6,487.48	8,564.62
3. CAPITAL		
BANK BALANCES		
<i>Cheque Account</i>	18,693.96	
<i>Investment Account</i>	25,359.58	
<i>UCIS Account</i>	5,000.00	
Total Capital	49,053.54	

TEAM TIMOR

Lent Event

About 35 people participated in the UnitingWorld Lent Event studies which featured our partnership with Ekaristi IPTL. The studies promoted lively discussion and the videos illustrated life in Timor Leste.

Noel and Noela were invited to speak at St Stephens UC in Toowoomba, as they were doing Lent Event Studies, and they generously gifted \$500 for our partnership. Team Timor agreed to donate \$500 to UW Lent Event as UW are able to support IPTL in wider church mission, such as Same and Los Palos Clinics, church leadership and child protection.

Visit by Mr Isac de Jesus and Mrs Bevinda Pinto from 8th to 20th May 2019

For seven consecutive years Glebe Road UC as hosted a visit by members of Ekaristi IPTL congregation. During their visit, Isac and Bevinda participated in the activities of the congregation, including worship, Bible study, prayer groups, and other church community activities. They also visited local schools, met with the Moderator, the Presbytery Minister and the ministers of the Ipswich Uniting Churches. We were pleased to take them to the opening meeting of Qld Synod on the Sunshine Coast, where they met Dr Deidre Palmer, the President of the Australian UC Assembly. For the first time our visitors joined the Sausage Sizzle Team in the fundraising BBQ at Harvey Norman, Booval. As members of Glebe Road congregation and the wider Ipswich community meet with our friends from Timor, we build effective relationships and learn to share our gifts and resources.

Tetun Language Course

Our Timorese visitors attended the Tetun Language refresher classes conducted by our tutor, Mr David Lyon, and we thank him sincerely for his time. Members of the Dental Teams attended some of these classes and found it valuable as they planned to undertake dental work at Ekaristi. Our Timorese friends appreciate our efforts to learn their language so we can communicate with them and increase our understanding of their life and culture.

Fundraising

In 2019 we conducted monthly BBQs at Harvey Norman at Booval and a Farm Auction BBQ raising \$3581.55 to finance the annual visit by our Ekaristi friends. The Fun and Friendship group presented an excellent fundraising Trivia Morning, raising \$627.50, and the Indian Dinner raised \$1095. These events not only raise valuable funds, but they provide opportunities for building community within our own church and in the wider Ipswich community. Thanks to all those who work hard to make these events happen, and we are grateful for the generous support from our congregation.

Dental Project Report

This year, with the aid of an Australian Government Friendship Grant, we were able to send two complete teams to work with our partners in Ekaristi Church in Timor-Leste. A third team from Timor Children's Foundation, utilising some of the same equipment went to a town called Lospalos on the North Eastern tip of the country to provide much needed dental support to the IPTL Fusona Clinic there.

The dental teams were able to give a preventative treatment to all 720 students in the school. The children had to brush their teeth before the treatment could be applied and it was heartening to see these beautiful children brushing their teeth so diligently for at least two minutes. A few years ago, there was no understanding of the importance of brushing teeth (with toothpaste) but now it seems like it is becoming a more common practice. The dentists could see a slowing down in the rate of decay in the children's mouths and attribute that to better brushing of the teeth. Even though 314 teeth were necessarily extracted to relieve great pain, 466 teeth were able to have restorative treatments and be saved, a greater number than any previous year. This time we managed to shift from a more interventionist approach to a focus on prevention, introducing minimally invasive dental procedures, atraumatic restorative techniques (ART), and fluoride applications.

Ongoing oral health education is vitally important to encourage greater dental health and this year we were able to utilise the skills of two local Timorese trained dental nurses to assist us. Because there are very few dentists in Timor-Leste, it is very difficult for these hard working fully trained girls to find a job in the dental field. They were delighted to work with us and were invaluable in assisting in the treatment room. Ana also delivered oral health lessons to the teachers at the school and then extended those lessons to parents in the school community. She was able to teach in Tetun (the local language) and utilised resources in Tetun as well. This was much more effective than any oral health education we could provide.

Stumbling blocks and difficulties presented themselves with great regularity. At times we would question how things were going to be resolved. In our frustration, doubting and disbelief we learned a great lesson. God was in this project. He provided the resolutions. His love for the people of Timor-Leste suffering pain and swollen faces from their diseased teeth has been clearly shown to us. He made a way through challenging circumstances to allow this dental project to flourish. Thanks be to God. The total amount of treatment from the two Dental

teams working at the Marcelo O2 School in Dili this year was approximately \$230 000. It was such a joy to be able to be part of God's healing work in the lives of the children and wider community of our partner church in Timor-Leste.

Everything in Common

Team Timor hosted four *Everything in Common* stalls in December where Gift Cards and Christmas cards in support of UnitingWorld projects were made available for sale. The stalls were very well supported, and we raised \$1546.

September Friendship visit

A group of six visited Ekaristi in September 2019 – Paul, Luke and Stephen de Sauty, David Hunter and Noel and Noela Rothery. The group spent valuable time participating in church activities, attending worship, meetings, school, IPTL Synod, as well as sharing meals with members of the church. The Memorandum of Understand was updated and signed during a service of worship, and we confirmed our ongoing commitment to the partnership. They shared concerns about study and employment opportunities for their young people.

In Dili, we visited the Leprosy Mission Office, Alola Foundation, Chega Museum, Timor Resistance Archive and Museum, Dare Memorial Museum, as well as markets and other places of interest. We undertook a 2 day adventure south on rough roads in the mountains to visit Same Clinic. We met with the staff who took us to the home of the family who were featured in the Lent Event videos and saw firsthand the work the Clinic staff are doing in a remote village outside Same. It was a very moving experience to see the love and care shown to the people of the village as they help them with basic hygiene and healthcare. A spokeswoman for the village said: *"Since the clinic staff have been visiting our village, we have moved from darkness to light"*

Further visits

An invitation has been extended to Ekaristi Church to nominate two people to visit Glebe Road in 2020. Expressions of interest are sought from anyone who wishes to join the June/July 2020 Exposure Trip. Sincere thanks to the Team and to our congregation for your invaluable support and encouragement as we seek to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Timor Leste.

Noel Rothery

CAROLS IN THE PARK

2019 was another successful year for Carols in the Park. Once again, we managed to engage with the local community through a variety of activities, sausage sizzle and carols, it was amazing to see the people walking to the carols from the surrounding streets. This year we were fortunate enough to have the addition of some pre-carols performances from S-Troop, who were very entertaining, and our dancing girls Mikayla Bruce, Emily Green and Ella Bruce. A big thank you to all of you for sharing your gifts and talents with those who came early to get their spot on the grass.

As with previous years the Carols in the Park was funded through the generosity of our church community and several fundraising events that occurred throughout the year. Carols also received a Christmas Events grant from the Ipswich City Council that contributed to covering the costs of the event. This once again enabled us to provide the community with a free event. A huge thank you must go out to all the volunteers who served the community in many different ways from cooking and serving at the BBQ, engaging with children in the craft area, delivering flyers, setting up stage and sound, and to those that were a part of the performance side of the Carols. Carols in the Park would not have been such a success without the support, encouragement and prayers of the church community.

A special thank you must go to Peter Francis who again generously donated and arranged the production of the flyers. Also, a very special thanks to Paul Green and his sound team (including Tim Jackson) for all of the time they put in (the full day) and for the extremely low prices they were willing to give us to hire the sound and lighting gear. We should also acknowledge Woolworths Collingwood Park store who generously donated items towards the BBQ.

We look forward to another year of sharing God's love with the community at this year's Carols in the Park.

Jeremy Bruce

ANZAC DAY HOSPITALITY

Glebe Road Uniting again provided hospitality at the 8.00 am Cameron Park ANZAC Day Service on ANZAC Day 2019. This was made possible by the generous support of several GRUC volunteers who set up for the event, and served those attending with tea, coffee, and ANZAC biscuits. We were again very generously supported by Woolworths Booval who donated 15 boxes of ANZAC biscuits, which were supplemented by additional home-made batches donated by GRUC members.

A small donation for Ipswich Legacy resulted from gold coin donations by people on the day, and Ipswich Legacy were very grateful for the resulting donation of \$90.35 to their work. We missed the usual presence this year of Rev. Pete Arnett due to Sick Leave. Pete has traditionally preached at this service, but the Chaplain from Silkstone State School ably provided input to the 2019 Service. The attendance this year appeared to be far greater than previous years with hundreds of people of all ages in attendance.

Diane Box

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES MINISTRIES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The children's programs at Glebe Road provided opportunities to grow during 2019. Not necessarily in numbers but most certainly in depth. Each of these Ministries, along with Mainly Music, come under the umbrella of our Children, Youth & Family ministry team.

Sunday morning programs in both the 8.15 and Xtreme during the 10.15 Services allow a space for our children to grow in their faith whilst having fun and getting to know each other a little better. The opportunity to share their faith and pray for their family and friends remained an important part of their Sunday mornings. Our leaders and helpers put together meaningful and fun programs to cater to each age level from Creche to High School years.

Our children were involved in Church services during the year through leading prayers, singing and vibrant involvement in bringing the message on those days. It was such a blessing to honour the Women and Men of our Church at the Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day combined services

Rock was again a highlight giving the children a morning of worship and learning in their own space and directed at their respective ages with a dedicated message and activities to support the theme for the day. Our young leaders and helpers were excited to step and take on segments and we continue to look for the opportunities to encourage and develop our leadership team with the enthusiasm that they have in sharing God's word and work.

Family Fun day was held in Term 1 2019 and was a time for families to come together to experience a morning of fellowship and fun. Children and their parents enjoyed every aspect of the program. It was a great time to fellowship with families from our Mainly Music program and families who had brought their little ones for Baptism along with our Church family. Nyleta Bruce coordinated the planning and running of the day. Thank you Nylie for your heart for our Families and outreach at Glebe Rd. Thank you to all who helped on the day, your dedication to this outreach is highly valued and very much appreciated.

Kids Hope 2019 continued with 4 Mentors attending Silkstone State School for one hour each week of each of the 4 Terms. WE have been blessed and encouraged to hear the success stories from both the Mentors and Staff at the school. It has been a privilege to continue the relationship with the school through Claudean in her role as the school Chaplain.

Silkstone School remains an important partnership with Glebe Rd and through the Children Youth & Families ministry team we continue to look for ways to support the School community.

IGNITE Children's, Youth & Family Ministry Conference was held in March 2019 at Mueller College Rothwell. Nyleta Bruce and Judy Jackson attended a day filled with worship, fellowship and electives on a wide range of topics. We were blessed through the electives we chose to do and were encouraged to know that the path we are taking with Kids at Glebe Road is on track.

Thank you to Sarah Hirons for your heart for our youngest members of our Church. Sarah has coordinated the Creche program during the 10:15 service for the past 4 years and prior to that a valued part of the leadership team. Our kids were blessed by your heart for the youngest members of our congregation and pray God's richest blessings for the years ahead as she steps down from this role.

Thank you to each of the leaders and helpers who so faithfully prepare themselves each week to plant and nurture the seeds of faith in our children. Without you our Children's programs simply would not exist. Your time and commitment is valued and appreciated as you follow the calling God has placed upon your heart in this ministry.

Judy Jackson

FAMILY CONNEXIONS

2019, where did it go have you asked yourself that question?

The Silkstone School Breakkie Club on a Monday seemed to be a roaring success. This was organised by the Chaplain Claudine.

Kids Hope Program at Silkstone school is also a very positive way for our church to interact with the broader community. As volunteers we have a strong presence at the school and it really is a positive way of being part of that school community. Judy Jackson, as the coordinator of this program is always looking for more volunteers. Maybe you are looking to be a part of something. Talk to Judy or to Peter Arnett if you are interested.

There were a lot of ladies from our church who helped in this and well done to those volunteers who like me made mountains of toast over the year.

There were a lot of children who participated in this each and every Monday. It was really lovely that we could interact in a small and positive way every Monday morning. Thanks also must go to our Church family who gave donations to this cause. We did help out one family in real need when that family had to relocate and they needed assistance for the week to get things going again in their new house. There was one person who so generously lent their van and did many trips for this family on moving day. The mother was so very appreciative and started to bring her Children to Sunday School which was truly a blessing.

Another blessing was the donations of meat trays that are generously given to this congregation by one of the church members. These are then passed onto families in need. There are many needy families in this area and associated with our Church community. It is just wonderful to be able to reach out to these people from time to time with this gift.

Another blessing was when we had Rev Bruce as a Supply Minister, he touched a lot of Baptismal families in his short time here and did spend a lot of time with the families getting to know them and making them feel at ease with the Baptismal process.

I think another way our church reaches people in the community is the Remembrance Sunday which is once a year.

This service touches so many people's lives' it is truly a wonderful way for families to honour their loved ones who have passed. I had the pleasure of supporting one such family this year through that service and it was real blessing to myself. The mother told me later she felt good she did it because it helped her and her children in many ways.

There are many ways we can be a blessing to others, sometimes a smile or a hug is just enough.

Margaret Coghlin

MAINLY MUSIC

God's love is the lynchpin for mainly music - in the preparation and staging of the program, in the relationships and interaction amongst the families and between team and families.

It has been a real privilege to have the opportunity to offer this ministry to folk in our community and to make contact with former members of our group from time to time

Team Training: Fire safety and Safe Ministry with Children training is up to date and team members are current blue card holders.

Park Days: These are usually held when our normal venue is not available. The water park days in particular are a hit with the children, and we have, to date, had no incidents/accidents.

Theme days: Participation by the families and the teams make these events fun times. The stage is decorated, and most people enjoy dressing to the theme.

Father's Day: In an endeavour to accommodate busy families this combined celebration was held, for the first time, on a Sunday afternoon. The relatively small number of families who attended enjoyed the session.

Saying Goodbye is never easy. Once again Graduation days were held to farewell children who have turned five or are attending Kindy next year on their normal mainly music day. We pray that God will bless them as they move on to new adventures.

Sincere thanks: The contribution of team members has been invaluable. We are grateful to them for sharing their time and talents so generously.

A special blessing to those team members who are unable to work with us in the New Year.

Help! Just like sterling vintage cars some of our team members are of an age where they need some repairs and special attention. As a result, we are appealing for additional help so that this wonderful mainly music program can continue into the future. Are you available?

We appreciate and value your prayer support.

Karen Madders and Carole Edwardson

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

Our Youth & Young Adults Pastor, Mike McMillan, resigned in April and the Friday evening youth program ceased. A gathering of our youth and young adults took place in July with the view to meeting regularly, but my extended period of absence prevented that plan from being realised.

Peter Arnett, Lead Minister

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

MINUTES – ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 10TH MARCH 2019

Welcome

The Acting Chairperson of GRUC, Ruth Wilkins, opened the AGM at 11.00 am, and welcomed all in attendance.

Acknowledgement of Country

The Acting Chairperson offered the acknowledgement of country, and of past, present and emerging elders of the original indigenous inhabitants of this land on which we meet.

Opening Prayer

Rev. Bruce Raymond, offering supply during the illness of Rev. Peter Arnett, opened the meeting with prayer.

Attendance & Apologies

As per the Attendance/Apologies Register which was circulated.

Standing Orders

The congregation was reminded of the consensus voting method used at congregational meetings, with orange and blue cards used to indicate voting preferences.

It was determined that a quorum was present.

It was moved and seconded that the Acting Chair (Ruth Wilkins) and Acting Secretary (Diane Bos) for today's meeting be confirmed. Carried by consensus.

Correspondence None

Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting (March 2018) and Special Congregational Meeting (Sept. 2018) were presented and their reception and adoption were moved. Carried by consensus.

Business arising: None

Presentation of Annual Reports of the Congregation

The 2018 Annual Reports had been available for several weeks. They provided a summary of the life and activities undertaken by the congregation over the past year. It was noted that a further report regarding Venue Bookings was made available on the day.

Opportunity was provided for any questions, and Marg Coghlan noted that Page 30 of the report should have read 34 not 44 families as being on the roll, though that number has since risen to 37.

It was moved, (Jeremy Bruce), and seconded (Phil Holmes) that the reports be received and adopted. Carried by consensus.

Treasurer's Report & Auditor's Report

These reports were presented by GRUC Treasurer Derek Hirons. Derek noted that offerings for the year had been \$18,000 under budget. However, due to various savings, the congregation was left with a deficit of only \$2000. A decision had been made to go ahead with various roof repairs and replacement, to be funded by an extension of the loan currently held with the Mutual Support Scheme. GRUC is able to draw down on this loan due to being ahead on payments, and because the loan had been almost paid off.

There were no questions of this report.

Auditor's Report

Derek provided the auditor's report covering the three areas of (a) Glebe Garden Club (b) Women's Fellowship and (c) Church Council. The auditor remarks noted that a very good standard of reporting was maintained and that there were no concerns regarding the financial operations of these bodies. Colin Alexander moved, and seconded (Dave Hunter) a vote of thanks to the auditor R. W. Ramsey for the support offered to the congregation, and that a letter of thanks be sent to the auditor from the Secretary of the Congregation. Carried.

Presentation of Proposed 2019 Budget

The Treasurer tabled the proposed 2019 budget. It was noted that it was budgeting for offerings at \$200,000 and with an overall deficit of \$13,000. This was proposed on the basis of the average offering over the past year but does require a \$57 increase in giving per week. He noted that the congregation's Mission and Service Fund levy has decreased slightly. The Treasurer also made reference to the Redress Scheme, resulting from the Royal Commission into Institutional Sexual Abuse of Children, which is a Synod levy on all the congregations, with a

major contribution also from Uniting Care. The levy is based on a formula of income plus assets and exists to provide redress for those abused within the Uniting Church or its predecessor denominations. For the period 1/7/19 - 30/6/20, the GRUC levy will amount to \$3200.00 per year. The Treasurer also noted the desire to put \$12,000 into long term maintenance in view of the decrease in the MSF allocation.

Questions:

1. Phil Bailey expressed reservations regarding the GRUC contribution to the Redress Scheme and enquired if this might not be sought from any perpetrators identified. Pete Arnett responded to the question noting that current and historical cases of such behaviours might come to the attention of the Synod Sexual Misdemeanors Complaints Committee and/or the General Secretary. No cases stemming from activity at GRUC have been identified at this time. However, GRUC is part of the wider UCA and shares in the collective responsibility for abusive activity that has occurred in congregations as well as Uniting Care homes, whether in the past or more recently.
2. Lola Milward enquired as to whether the deficit might possibly be addressed via increased fees from property rentals. Derek noted that CPI is applied annually to these fees, and that GRUC needs to maintain a balance between supply and demand of properties, and between costs and preparedness to pay. Colin Alexander also noted that more school halls are now available for rental, increasing the supply of available venues. He noted that the U3A use of our buildings is a blessing, and that we need to prioritise keeping them as clients. Colin also expressed his appreciation of seeing, over the years, the Mutual Support Scheme loan decreasing from \$700,000 to \$16,000 today.

Derek noted his appreciation for Colin's faithfulness in attending to the banking each week.

It was moved, (Derek Hirons) and seconded (Robyn Kunde) that the 2019 Budget be received and adopted. Carried by consensus.

Appointment of Auditor

It was moved (Derek Hirons) and seconded (Faye Wright) that R. W. Ramsey be again appointed as Auditor. Carried by consensus.

Election of Presbytery Representatives

It was noted that currently Paul de Sauty & Janet White serve as our Presbytery representatives. Peter Arnett noted that discussions had been held with both Paul and Janet, and both were available and willing to continue in this capacity. No other nominations had been received. It was moved, (Phil Bailey) and seconded (Jeremy Bruce) that Paul and Janet be appointed as GRUC representatives to Bremer Brisbane Presbytery meetings. Carried by consensus.

It was also noted that Peter Arnett and Noel Rothery would attend the May Queensland Synod meeting on our behalf.

Election of Chairperson and Secretary of Congregation

It was noted that two nominations, (Phil Bailey and Nigel Lucas), had been received for the position of Chairperson of the congregation. One nomination, that of Noela Rothery, had been received for the Secretary of the congregation position.

Ballot papers were made available to members of the congregation, and Kent Wilkins, Daniel Francis and Rob Edwardson were accepted as scrutineers.

It was consequently announced that Nigel Lucas had been elected to the position of Chairperson of the Congregation, that Noela Rothery had been elected as Secretary, and that Paul de Sauty and Janet White were confirmed as Presbytery representatives.

Thanks were extended to all those offering themselves for service and it was noted that the ballots would be destroyed following the announcement of the ballot result.

Presentation of Vision & Strategic Plan "Growing Community"

Hannah Jackson presented this Plan noting that it was a rolling document and that copies were available at the rear of the church. The various Ministry Teams had recorded their proposed actions and plans for the coming year according to the overall strategic direction of the congregation. There is opportunity for people to become involved in areas that are of interest to them and members are encouraged to join in. The Strategic Plan was endorsed by consensus.

Presentation of Ipswich 2020 Update

Daniel Francis provided an update to the congregation on this initiative. Ipswich 2020 is the name given to the process of the various Uniting Churches across Ipswich meeting together to determine the UCA future in Ipswich. The Church Councils of the four Ipswich congregations have continued to meet during the past year, on

approximately a monthly basis, with a representative Facilitation Team meeting in between to plan for the larger meetings and to generally facilitate ongoing progress. A facilitator, Rob Duncan, was appointed and has been collecting information on all the churches, distributing demographic data and information about possible models of co-operation, and will bring some recommendations for consideration in the near future. The past year has seen some good collective and collaborative activities shared between the congregations. New ministry appointments have been made at Trinity Ipswich, (Peter Taubner), North Ipswich (Andrea Follett), and Ipswich City (Santina Waugh). These are Presbytery appointments. The idea is that the Ipswich 2020 process will work its way through till the new version of the UCA across Ipswich emerges and any new structure will determine the future ministry needs consequently. There were no questions of this report.

Any further business

Peter Arnett expressed his thanks for the prayers, cards and general support he had received during this time of leave due to ill-health. He noted that he was going back to the specialist on the coming Friday, and was hopeful of making progress, and being able to wear a boot. Pete expressed his appreciation to Bruce Raymond for offering supply during his absence and felt a sense of peace that the congregation was in such good hands.

Dave Hunter moved a vote of thanks to Ruth Wilkins and Diane Bos for stepping in as Acting Chairperson and Acting Secretary respectively. Carried.

Gwen Fisher was thanked in her absence for her role as immediate past Chairperson of the congregation. It was moved that a letter of thanks be sent to Gwen from the congregation by the Secretary of the congregation. Carried.

Date for future meeting

This date will be advised in due course.

Prayer & Close In the absence of Bruce Raymond, who had had to leave early for another commitment, Pete (Arnett) closed the meeting in prayer at approximately 11.50 am.

MINUTES – SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 23rd JUNE 2019

Welcome

The meeting was opened at 2.05 pm by the Chairperson of the Congregation, Nigel Lucas. Nigel welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the previous history of this congregation in facing the challenges of the past, just as the current congregation is called to face the challenges of the future.

Nigel also acknowledged that the meeting was being held on indigenous land and paid tribute to Elders past, present and emerging.

Standing Orders

The congregation was reminded of the consensus voting method used at congregational meetings, with orange and blue cards used to indicate voting preferences.

Attendance

Those present were asked to record their attendance and any apologies, on the list being circulated.

Opening Prayer Rev. Bruce Raymond opened the meeting with prayer.

Appointment of Secretary

In the absence of Congregational Secretary, Noela Rothery, Nigel noted that Diane Bos had volunteered in this capacity for the meeting.

Confirmation of a Quorum

The Acting Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present, and the meeting could go ahead.

Introduction of Process

Rev. Peter Arnett provided an introduction to the process of the meeting. He noted the two documents under discussion. Firstly, the Church Consultation Report – Glebe Road Uniting Church, which focuses on the congregational life at GRUC and asks us to look at the challenges facing us as a church and the changes we need to make to increase our vitality as a congregation, independently of the other UCA congregations in Ipswich. The second paper is the Uniting Churches of Ipswich Consultation Report 2019. In this paper, the focus is on how the UCA congregations might work more closely together into the future. The congregation is asked to consider the five options outlined in the paper and the Church Council will also be considering this in the meantime. A second congregational meeting will be called in the near future regarding our preferred option.

Questions & Answers Pete asked for questions from the floor, in response to this material.

- Colin Alexander asked about the definition of a disciple and their role, given discipleship was referred to frequently in the papers. Pete replied that some of the aspects of discipleship included being a committed follower of Jesus Christ, being a witness to the truth of the Gospel, and using ones skills and talents to serve the Kingdom and nurture the growth of others. Bruce Raymond added the imperative of going out and expanding the proclamation of the Gospel.
- Bev Bruce commented that there seemed to be a call to be evangelists implied in the way that the discipleship term was used.
- Ros Rooney commented that, as a congregation, we do this now – do we need to do more? Pete acknowledged that we do much of this activity at present, but perhaps we need to be more explicit. For example, small group involvement was crucial to forming disciples, but only a small percentage of the GRUC congregation was involved with small groups at present.
- Greg Seymour commented that the issue was more than just creating greater numbers. Twenty years ago, there was twice the number of members of GRUC, but that has not been enough to sustain the membership to the present day. Simply finding more members seems insufficient to address the problem.
- Colin Alexander noted that some of the activities of the past such as running Alpha/Bethel Courses, and having more visitation undertaken by the Elders, as was the practice then, seems to keep people involved. Peter Arnett affirmed the value of such courses within the life of the church.

The Chairperson asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the actual Options.

- Bev Bruce felt there was a lack of clarity regarding the differences between the Options and Pete Arnett then spent some time clarifying the descriptions of the 5. Bev asked how we thought these models were going to address challenges we face as a church and Pete noted that unless we have a focus on the issue of discipleship, and unless each congregation is committed to change, then nothing will change.
- Fay Wright asked for clarification on the question of a congregational “coach” that is referred to in the document. Pete noted that Rob Duncan is fulfilling this role at present as part of assisting congregations in their discernment process. This is being paid for by the Presbytery. Any future role is not locked in and each congregation will decide if they need further assistance into the future.
- Dave Murphy commented that he couldn’t understand how the suggestions in the Options would fix the problem. Dave saw the challenge as being an age issue – we are just not bringing in younger people. Pete enquired whether this reflected an unwillingness to change. GRUC has some young people, but Pete suggested that having the heart and willingness to undertake the changes needed to make congregational life vital again was crucial.
- Bev Bruce asked what the Church Council and Minister see as the blockages to change that we need to face. Pete replied that there may be many different issues. Perhaps we need to be more welcoming. We are not fully aware yet of blockage points and will continue to explore this.
- Margaret Bastin asked what the process was with each congregation. Pete noted that each Church Council decides what the process with their own congregation and would be pursuing this. Margaret noted the importance of more prayer and fasting, and Pete noted the initiative of a 24 hr prayer vigil with the involvement of all the UCA congregations across Ipswich, with Peter Taubner helping to facilitate this.
- Phil Bailey noted that within the Church Council about 20 years ago, the suggestion was made to contact all the people who had left the congregation with a view to finding out why they had left. Phil was not aware that this had ever been carried through.
- Colin Alexander enquired whether Rob Duncan had found any solutions to these problems - how do these ideas work out practically? Pete said he was not sure of Rob’s experience of this. He noted that Rob’s “language”, given he was from the Salvation Army, was perhaps not reflective of where we are as a congregation. Rob has been greatly influenced by the Shift MtoM course originating in Victoria. Pete has also signed up to do this course, with the direction reflecting a move from a programmatic church into more of an emphasis on making disciples.

- Ros Rooney asked if Rob Duncan could be looking at the Synod structure which tends to be top “heavy”. Pete noted that Rob’s work looked at congregations at the local level only. Ros also asked if there was a difference between the church running programs and doing mission work. Pete responded that a potential issue was that many things we do as a church may not align with each other, with making disciples as an outcome. We can probably be more strategic about our direction, being clear about what our mission is, and having all activities aligned to the missional outcome of disciple-making.
- Hannah Jackson noted that we can’t presume any longer that the people in the community we are relating to have a foundation in Christianity. This is very different from the past when most people were aware of the fundamentals of Christianity and the Church tended to be the centre of community life. We have limited awareness of what happens e.g. for millennials coming to church. Rob Duncan notes that the church rolling out programs is no longer relevant. The question is - how do we make Christianity relevant to people’s lives these days? Maureen Phillips asked what were the possible ways of doing this? Hannah suggested that we need to make conversations in different ways with people. Previous models need to be turned on their head, because they no longer work, and somehow our engagement with people needs to be meaningful to them. Phil Bailey agreed that this seems to be the nub of the matter.
- Nigel Lucas asked if our programs were bringing people to church? If not, then this may be the difference between running programs and making disciples.
- Jill Case noted that in earlier days, the church was the centre of the community, where people found their spiritual, social, and emotional needs met. There was little competition. It is a very different matter today, with people finding their meaning and purpose in a variety of other places and activities.
- Pete challenged the congregation with the question of what changes are we willing to make to enable people to come into the church?
- Fay Wright noted that she wants to see young people coming to church, but, as an older person, she does not want to feel excluded. Pete noted that the challenge is to make people from across the generations all feel welcome

Decisions Regarding the Reports

The Chairperson asked the meeting to move to considering the proposals. Pete spoke briefly to the proposals and noted that Option 5 was not seen as a viable option for GRUC, and the proposals were put to the vote.

- **Proposal 1**
That the Congregation receives the “Church Consultation Report – Glebe Road Uniting Church”.
Carried by consensus.
- **Proposal 2**
That the Congregation accepts Recommendations 1 to 5 and encourages the Church Council to commence work on the issues identified.
Carried by consensus.
- **Proposal 3**
That the Congregation receives the “Uniting Churches of Ipswich Consultation Report 2019”.
Carried by consensus.
- **Proposal 4**
That the Congregation determines, in light of Proposal 2 above, that Option 5 is not a viable plan for Glebe Road UC.
Lucie Brookes asked if our excluding Option 5 would have implications for other congregations, but Pete noted that they were free to pursue their own decisions, and congregations could talk to each other about a variety of options.
Carried by consensus.

It was noted that a further congregational meeting would be held in the near future. Coral noted that the date proposed i.e. 4 August, coincided with use of the church by the Eisteddfod. Given this, the earlier date of 28 July was proposed.

Closing Prayer

Pete thanked people for attending and for their contributions via questions or statements. Pete closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting was concluded at 3.00 pm.

MINUTES – SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 28th June 2019

Welcome

Nigel opened meeting at 2.05 pm, welcoming Rev Brian Hoole, Bremer Brisbane Presbytery Minister, in association for this meeting allowing him speaking rights.

Acknowledgement of Country

Nigel acknowledged that the meeting was being held on indigenous land and paid tribute to Elders past, present and emerging.

Standing Orders

Nigel asked if anyone preferred to use a Secret Ballot method for voting, rather than Consensus method. There was no support for Secret Ballot method.

The congregation was reminded of the consensus voting method used at congregational meetings, with orange and blue cards used to indicate voting preferences.

Opening Prayer by Rev Bruce Raymond

Record of those Present & Apologies

Those present were asked to record their attendance and any apologies, on the list being circulated.

Confirmation of a Quorum

Yes (10% of membership)

Minutes of last General meeting (June 2019) – Reception & Adoption

Accepted

Discussion of Proposals

The main discussion points for the meeting are on the **Glebe Road Uniting Church New Strategic Direction (prepared by Church Council)**: a 2-page document made available at worship services on Sunday 21 July, and at the door before the meeting. Minutes of last meeting were also available in the foyer.

Before outlining the discussion points, Hannah emphasised the challenges of this process for all, as well as the impact of the serious condition of Peter Arnett's health. Hannah read Romans 8, reminding us that God is with us in all of these situations.

Hannah outlined and explained the discussion points in the **New Strategic Direction**.

Proposal 1.1 relates to Ipswich Uniting Churches, and Proposals 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 – relate to Glebe Rd UC congregation

Proposal 1.1 Ipswich 2020 - That the Congregation adopt Option 1 (Simple Cluster Model: Four churches – One cause)

The Church Council recognises that the life stage of all four churches are different and at this stage we believe that maintaining autonomy of governance will enhance our capacity to fulfil our vision and mission.

There would be an overarching Mission Council for all 4 churches, including ministers and representatives of each church. Hannah explained why the CC chose Option 1.

Proposal 2.1 That the Congregation affirm the vision statement and adopt these four Priority Mission Areas.

Vision: Growing Community. Built on faith, immersed in love and empowered for action.

Priority Mission Areas:

Hannah expanded the priorities as follows:

1. Glebe Road Priorities

Children & Families – securing a place for the next generation of young children.

Life groups (cell groups) to create a place for people, a process which will take everyone's effort.

Worship – keep worship as a central part of our congregation

Stay grounded on the things which have made us what we are, just shift the focus.

2. Local priority

Silkstone SS – breakfast club, Kids Hope

3. Ipswich Priority

Engagement with Ipswich 2020

4. Global Priority

Timor Leste partnership

There are 3 processes that coincide with the setting of these priority areas:

1. Encouraging existing ministry groups to align with the new priority areas.
2. Allowing existing unsustainable ministries to finish well and to celebrate what they have accomplished.
3. Establish new ministries that are specifically aligned with and focused on one or more of the priority areas and grow out of the passion of church members.

All of this is a process of shared discernment.

Proposal 2.2 Endorse the aligning of ministries with the Priority Mission Areas

We acknowledge that discipleship is primarily about encouraging people in the journey of being a follower of Christ, which includes both personal faith and living life in a way that draws others into a life-transforming relationship with God.

This addresses Recommendation 2 of the Church Consultation Report – Glebe Road Uniting Church

The fulfillment of the priority mission areas will be enhanced by alignment of structure, enabling a shift from a programs focus to a discipleship focus. This ongoing work will include:

- and oversight, including in the areas of pastoral care, worship and group life. (e.g. Church Council structure and the role of elders)
- Working to create dynamic, inspiring and engaging worship services that are accessible to people of all stages of faith and focus on discipleship.
- A shift from an emphasis on programs, to an emphasis on relationships.
- Valuing the investment of people's giftedness, time and energy, into life giving experiences of leadership and service, rather than the treadmill of obligation and exhaustion.
- Developing and identifying training opportunities for each person to grow and flourish in roles of leadership and service.
- An assessment of leadership structures and ministry teams to ensure effective decision making This is a medium-term process. The next stage will be for a timeline of various steps to be drafted and actioned. Ongoing communication with the congregation will be an integral part of this process going forward.

Proposal 2.3 Affirm the work of the Resource Ministry Team and Church Council in the stewardship of the church's resources.

Encourage the Resource Ministry Team and Church Council to explore other avenues of resourcing the ministry and mission of the church, as suggested in the *Church Consultation Report – Glebe Road Uniting Church*.

Questions & Answers Bruce, Hannah, Ruth & Daniel formed a panel for the meeting was invited to ask questions regarding each proposal.

Some of the questions were:

Proposal 1.1 questions

Are the 3 other churches undertaking the same process, and what Options have they chosen? How do their choices impact on our choice?

Ruth said that if other churches choose Option 2, then we will have to go to Option 3.

With Option 1 the overarching Mission Council for all 4 churches, including ministers and representative members of each church. Our own governance will remain independent.

Proposal 2.1 & Proposal 2.2 questions

How is **Discipleship** to be done? What is it in practice? Aren't we already doing it?

- *Hannah highlighted Proposal 2.2: Discipleship is about encouraging people to come into their own faith, to grow, and then to evangelise. We need to move forward, finding new structures and ways.*
- *Bruce noted that Discipleship is already being done here, creating relationships, nurturing and encouraging children.*
- *Ruth said that Rob Duncan talks about training pathways – putting steps in place to help congregations work through the processes of discipleship. We need to make deliberate decisions to relate to people not programs.*
- *Brian Hoole said when Norma Spear was here there was energy – and some of that is now lost. There is a culture and history which can be recaptured - but not by reliving the past.*

Other comments from the floor were:

- The young ones need to take the lead now
- We need to change from the Australian protestant post war model of church
- Young people of this generation do not stay in our home society, so it does not necessarily mean that our church will increase in numbers in the future.
- Unless all churches wish to change then nothing will change.
- Where does **Pastoral care** and care for the elderly fit in the priorities?

Daniel said that CC is rethinking how we do Pastoral Care and has concern for care for elderly. Looking at the Eldership model? Life groups? CC still looking at how it can be best done.

Comment from Rob - Life groups are alive and well in older people in the church.

During the course of the questions, there was discussion and questions about the possibility of returning to one worship service.

As this is a matter which is not directly related to the proposals at hand, but attracted passionate and diverse positions, it was put to vote that a **recommendation be made to CC from the Congregation Meeting to consider the issue of having one service in the future.**

Lola Milward asked that any change consider the old as well as the young.

Carried by agreement

Decision Regarding the Reports

The Chairperson asked the meeting to move to considering the proposals.

Proposal 1.1 Ipswich 2020 - That the Congregation adopt Option 1 (Simple Cluster Model: Four churches – One cause) *Carried by agreement*

Proposal 2.1 That the Congregation affirm the vision statement and adopt these four Priority Mission Areas. *Carried by agreement*

Colin A. questioned why the Eisteddfod and Glebe Garden Club are not mentioned. Nigel explained that those groups come under Life Groups.

Proposal 2.2 Endorse the aligning of ministries with the Priority Mission Areas

Carried by agreement

Proposal 2.3 Affirm the work of the Resource Ministry Team and Church Council in the stewardship of the church's resources.

Carried by consensus

Closing Prayer 3:10 pm Rev Bruce Raymond

MINUTES – SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 27th October 2019

Welcome

Nigel opened the meeting at 9:15 am at the close of the 8:15 am service.

Record of those Present & Apologies

Those present were asked to record their attendance and any apologies on the list being circulated.

Confirmation of a Quorum

Yes

Election of Elders

Voting slips were distributed to members, and completed slips were collected by scrutineers, Peter Case and Kent Wilkins.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 am and continued following 10:15 am service.

Meeting Closed at 11.20 am