

Tuggeranong Baptist Church

Ian's Update— August 2022

BUILDING THE BODY

In the last issue, I drew your attention to how you might equip yourself, with a focus on

He joins and holds together the whole body with its ligaments providing the support needed so each part works to its proper design to form a healthy, growing, and mature body that builds itself up in love. Eph 4:16 [VOICE]

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spiritual disciplines. In this issue, I outline our individual responsibilities to participate in building the body of Christ, in the context of our local church.

The [NCLS Summary Profile](#) showed that 40% identified *Building a sense of community* and 31% identified *Encouraging people here to discover/use their gifts* as priorities for attention.

TBC serving and leading opportunities are open to all who call TBC their spiritual home (defined in our Constitution as *the Fellowship*.)

[Membership](#) is open to any of *the Fellowship*. If you are not yet a member, please read more and consider whether this is for you.

Eligibility to be selected to join our team of volunteers is in accordance with our [Safe Church Staff and Volunteer procedure](#). We are required by law to have and to implement our Safe Church policy by law and in order to be covered by insurance and to attain Safe Church status. This obligation is similar to the need to hold a Driver's Licence to be permitted to drive on Australian roads.

Descriptions have been prepared for staff and volunteer roles that include spiritual and other gifts that may be an appropriate for the role. A general volunteer description covers the many tasks that used to be undertaken at church working bees and on other ad hoc instances.

Love God Love People

Tuggeranong Baptist Church

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Electronic giving

Direct Deposit to: BSB 704 922,
Account: 100 014 987
Name: Tuggeranong Baptist Church

Elders/Corporation Committee

Ian Reid (President)
Rob James (Vice President)
Mike Ashford (Secretary)

Cash deposit to Westpac

Cash Deposit to: BSB: 032-636
Account: 125788
Account name - Tuggeranong Baptist Church
General Account

In the past, when we wanted something to be done or to form a team, we published an announcement like the one below.

We can't do this anymore!

We can now only allow people to join a working group like this who are **eligible to be asked.**

The [Safe Church and Volunteering](#) tab in our App and on the websites explains what you need to do to get your name included on the list of eligible people.

"We need to clean the glass or repair a wall. We think we will need 5 people who can come on Saturday morning. The job will take 5 people for 4 hours

This is a BIG change for us and we can all have a part of play in achieving eligible status and helping others to do so.

Building our team of volunteers—we're in this together

As you see, from my comments above, this is a challenge for all of us and we want to work together to get us through to where we want to be.

Having said this, it was encouraging to know that, when we completed our *NCLS Church Census*, we identified that the number of people volunteering at the time of the census was equal to about one-third of the number completing surveys. Many of these volunteers have completed or are well on the way to completing all of the requirements.

You will have heard me mention that I have recently been involved in the processes of one of my children becoming eligible to drive on our roads and there are now many steps involved in achieving this. It's not just a matter of mastering the workings of the car and learning the road rules.



And, as many of you know from your own experiences and the experiences of your friends, people learn to drive in different ways and from different people. Not every parent is the best person to teach their child to drive or master all the competencies now required in the [ACT](#).

Becoming eligible to be asked

Here are some ways that we plan to get us all through the [Volunteering Process](#).

1. Complete the process yourself following the [instructions and using the forms](#). Word versions of the documents can be requested by sending an Enquiry through the App or Website or sending an email to tbchurch@internode.on.net.
2. Group Process in the Community Room after Sunday service (11:30—1:00) probably in October.
 - Bring your laptop or other device or borrow one of ours, to complete forms with the assistance of the facilitators. We can also have hard copies for those who prefer to write.
 - Watch the Safe Church Training Videos together.
 - Log into the Creating Safe Spaces on-line module and get started so that you can finish. Some people find this process is a bit tricky.

Bring a packed lunch and drinks will be available.



3. Work with an individual coach

- Use the Enquiry Form in the App or on the Website to request a time with an individual coach.:
- Add your contact details and the best times for you to meet with the coach in your enquiry so that these can be passed on to the coach.

CURRENT COVID SAFETY MEASURES—IN PLACE UNTIL THE EMERGENCY ENDS—CURRENTLY DUE TO END 30 SEPTEMBER

It is very pleasing to see the number of new cases each day is falling. Thank you for doing your part.

Places of worship are required to have a [COVID Safety Plan](#) in place and ours can be found here.

The ACT Health Minister has urged us to wear masks whenever in indoor settings as the latest initiative to limit the spread of disease.

The [Auditorium](#) layout includes fixed allocation of seating for people who have been attending in-person on a regular basis. For these people there is no longer the need to book for each week's Sunday service. If you can't attend



use the [NO THANKS](#) event so that we may seat others in the seats vacated by your non-attendance.

If you are returning to in-person services for the first time, it would be helpful if you RSVP for the Sunday service Event in the App or on the Website but it's also fine if you attend without booking. We can find you a seat on the day.

The COVID Safety team will greet you on the day and help you to your seat.

Our plan encourages COVID Smart behaviours as we provide a sanitising stations, hygiene products and encourage the you to wear a mask where you cannot physically distance.

Handshaking and kissing can spread infection so team members will be not using them as a form of greeting when greeting you at the door.

Love God Love People



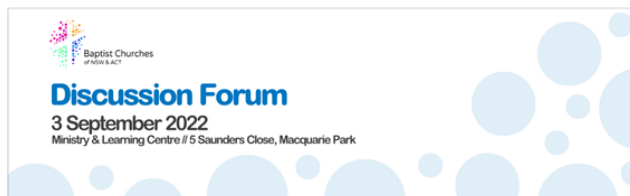
RISK MANAGEMENT

The way that we conduct our activities must comply with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and **Alan Mitchell** has recently been appointed as our WHS Officer to help us all to comply and make ours is a Safe Church. Alan has now joined the Operations Team and the Safe Church team as the risk management is integral to the work of each of these teams

During the pandemic, the COVID Safety Team and Operations (then named Transition) Team have managed our risks but, with the appointment of Alan, we are now making plans to revert to operating in accordance with WHS and to implement our Safe Church policies.

DISCUSSION FORUM—BAPTIST DISTINCTIVES AND DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOWING THE SPECIAL ASSEMBLY OF FEBRUARY 2021

On Saturday 3 September 2022 the Baptist Association of NSW & ACT will be holding a movement-wide Forum. This Forum is intended to provide time for more informal discussion of important matters pertaining to the current discernment process around affiliating together in our Association.



Registrations are required, with the option of attending in-person or online via Zoom. The Forum will be open to anyone who is an active member or attendee of a Baptist Church. If you register to attend online via Zoom you will receive a unique link that must not be shared or distributed to others.

It is anticipated the forum will consist of 2 major sections:

1. Input, reflection and discussion around matters of Baptist Distinctives identified in the affiliation discussion process so far.
2. Session(s) where Assembly Council will present draft recommendations following the Special Assembly in February 2021 and provide time for questions, prayer, reflection, discussion and feedback in a non-formal setting.

Register to attend [Discussion Forum September 2022 - Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT \(nswactbaptists.org.au\)](https://nswactbaptists.org.au)

Draft Recommendations [Microsoft Word - Forum Draft Recommendations from AC.docx \(mcusercontent.com\)](https://mcusercontent.com)

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 2021—RECAP

Prior to the assembly, we sent an email explaining why our Delegates to the assembly intended to vote against the motions proposed, as follows:



The TBC Leadership team considers the following points are relevant:

- *The proposing churches framed their motions in the context of their concerns about same-sex marriage, possibly to provide a basis for action in relation to the stated value of honouring marriage. However, the motion provides for a much broader range of criteria for disaffiliation as it is framed in terms of adherence to all doctrines, objects and beliefs.*

- *Different views on this value or any other value should not be used as the basis to remove ministers from accreditation, nor to withdraw the affiliation of individual churches.*
- *The Constitution of the Association of Baptist Churches in NSW&ACT already provides for withdrawal of affiliation (Para 17.5).*

The main issue for the church Eldership then, and now, is that implementation of the motions where a relatively small margin voted in the affirmative, is the threat to the autonomy of our church and other Baptist Churches currently affiliated with the Association of Baptist Churches in NSW & ACT.

You can read the full details [here](#).

The autonomy of each local is a key Baptist Distinctive and the Distinctives form part of the agenda for the Discussion Forum.

FOOD SERVICES

There is a close link between food and the sharing of the gospel and there are a number of examples in the gospels where Jesus combined teaching with food and several where he and the apostles supplied and served the food and did the clean up.

During the pandemic, food services have been suspended as the sharing of platters of food, serving dishes and utensils spread infection. We have seen, as we returned to in-person services that people are keen to socialise after services without the inducement of food services. However, as we move into the new normal, we plan to begin serving food as follows.

We plan this pattern of after-service events with food and fellowship:

1. Term 4 Spring Event on the Ground level—possibly sausage sizzle the Sunday before school starts in October or when the Health Emergency ends. This year we plan to run the Sausage Sizzle when we have the Brigades Parade.
2. Pre-Christmas event—picnic at the Adventure Playground, Kambah—first Sunday in December (4th in 2022)
3. Term 1 Summer Event on the Ground level— Sunday before school starts in January (29th in 2023)
4. Good Friday—Community Room—Morning Tea after the service serving Easter (Hot Cross) Buns
5. Term 3—Winter Warmer—Soup and Sandwiches—Community, Board and Seminar Rooms.

This is a very rough plan and subject to change in dates and menu.

Volunteer recruitment

If you are keen to get involved with any aspect of these events, please contact the Operations Team leader at tbchurch@internode.on.net to get started or submit an [enquiry](#) through the App or Website.

In addition to the events listed above, food services may be required to support events planned by various ministries.

We'd love to hear from you if you would like to be considered for one of these positions that are ideal for individuals with a hospitality gift including the pre-pandemic morning tea team.



FUTURE PLANNING WORKSHOP

A focus group will attend a workshop facilitated by elders Craig Leon and Rob James. They will be look at forward planning measures and will include the *NCLS Profile Summary for Tuggeranong Baptist Church* which is based on the information of 110 of our church family that identified areas that we need to be given attention

The *2021 Australian Community Survey (ACS)* that was conducted at the same time as our individual surveys looks **at** the attitudes, views and actions of the Australian community in the areas of spirituality, well-being, Christianity and the church. The [webinar](#) *What Australians really think about Jesus and the Church today* explains the implications of the results in our future planning.

Karl Faase commented the gap between perception and facts distilled by research and, on the analysis of the survey data states

- There's plenty of reason to hope
- There is a positive response towards Christianity from the younger demographic
- There is a positive response to Jesus (less so the church)

Karl also drew attention to Ruth's statement that it's the 50– 64 aged group, today's CEO and influencers (the people holding the microphone), who are also the group who are least involved (attendance, belief, practice and positivity were the measures) and this needs to be taken into account in our deliberations.

COMMUNITY OF GIVERS



I am receiving a steady stream of calls for help from the single parent families who are hit hard with the cost of living rising and energy bills now arriving .

We appreciate the ongoing work of the Op Shop volunteers and for your contributions of good quality goods and for all customers of the shop.

We also wish to thank the people who make regular direct donations via on-line banking.

PARTNERSHIP WITH OLIVE TREE MEDIA

As part of our commitment to contribute to the spread of the gospel outside of our local church community (commonly known as our missions partnership), we have decided to contribute to the work of *Olive Tree Media* each month.



Olive Tree Media Limited is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) with the purpose of advancing religion. Olive Tree Media supports the development and distribution of radio, television, DVD and other media products to assist with religious education and spiritual growth of individuals interested in the Christian faith.

An Annual Information Statement and the audited, annual financial statements of Olive Tree Media are lodged with the ACNC. Olive Tree Media is exempt from income tax and entitled to access GST and FBT tax concessions.

We are convinced that their products support evangelism, Christian maturity and church growth in our 21 Century context. Our contribution allows them to continue to develop these high quality tools.

We have used a number of *Olive Tree Media's* products over a number of years including *Towards Belief*



and *Jesus the Gamechanger 1 and 2* and the *Daily Nudge*. All of these help us to gain a broader understanding of our faith and the context in which we live it out and are suitable to share with our non-Christian friends and acquaintances.

As we are now partners, we have access to all of the products they have produced and can provide you with an access code so that you can watch it in the convenience of your home. Go to their website to view all of their resources and send a Enquiry via the TBC App or Website to request the access code.

Coming up

GUESTS GOD'S SQUAD



Local members of God's Squad Christian Motorcycle Club (GSCMC) will be our guests on 18 September and will take an active part in the service including preaching the message and bringing news from the Ukraine chapter of GSMC.

God's Squad has been in operation in Australia for 50 years, sharing the love of Jesus with other motorcycle riders.

GUEST PREACHER—KARL FAASE INTERVIEWS OTHERS



Olive Tree Media—*The Persecuted Church*. This presentation from the Jesus the Gamechanger 2 will be included in our service on 25 September when I will be out of town. The Interview with Karl Faase runs for 26 mins.

EXPLORING ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS



From 7:00 to 9:00pm on Wednesday evenings, 5 October to 23 November in our Seminar and Board Rooms on the Ground Level we will explore the Olive Media series *Faith runs Deep*. This entertaining documentary series follows Karl's journey in a Holden ute and provides information to help us get ready to share the gospel. The Tuesday morning Explorers will also showing and discussing this series

Make plans to attend one of all of the sessions on either Tuesday at 10:00 am or Wednesday at 7:00 pm or both. You'll find them adver-

tised in the App and on the Website. Light refreshments will be served.

Pray about who you might ask to join you, as the content is interesting and suitable to people not yet Christian.



BOYS' AND GIRLS' BRIGADE PARADE POSTPONED

In the last issue of the *Update*, we advertised this event to occur on 11 September.

After the announcement was made, the Public Health Emergency was extended until 30 September which means that the church is still operating under the provisions of our COVID Safety Plan.

Both BB and GB have been preparing a great experience for the day that would not work well under the current COVID constraints. We are sorry that the event has to be postponed until after the end of the Emergency. We are looking at dates in October.

MINI CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN—HERE TO HELP

This mini conference, following the theme *Here to Help*, will be held in the Seminar/Board and Community Rooms on Saturday 8 October and is being sponsored by the Operations Team and the Connect for Craft group.

The day will include:

1. Presentations and discussion on *Redeeming Passages that have been used against Women* from the *Safer Spaces Toolkit—Creating Safer Environments through Preaching* :
 - The Woman at the Well, 1 Corinthians 8, Matthew 5
 - Ephesians 5:22-23

It is God himself who has made us what we are and given us new lives from Christ Jesus; and long ages ago he planned that we should spend these lives in helping others. Eph 2:10 [TLB]

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do Eph 2:10 [NIV]

2. Presentations/demonstrations/displays from contacts of the Connect for Craft group and TBC connections.
3. Light refreshments.

Details yet to be finalised.

FINANCE—REVIEW

The Church's financial year of 30 September 2022 is now only a few weeks away. Our offerings for the year to 31 July are \$175,298. The budgeted figure for Offerings to meet our Annual Expenses is \$270,000.

In answering questions at the AGM, the Treasurer mentioned that our offerings have slowed a bit since the beginning of our financial year and the possibility of a loss this year of \$30,000.00. The loss for the year at 31 July is \$25,731. Our expenses in August and September are high as they include a number of quarterly payments and our annual insurance of about \$10,000.

Our expenditure exceeds the amount that we receive in offerings though our offerings have been much the same throughout the pandemic as most people switched to on-line giving.

We have recently authorised our fire protection service to replace some of the Emergency lights which failed to meet the required standard when last tested. This expense of \$6,000.00 was not in our budget for this financial year and the amount of our loss will increase by this amount before the end of the financial year.

In times of crisis, like the pandemic, you spend to survive and build up resources when the crisis passes. We have done better than this, in that we received grants for the Community Room Upgrade and Solar Panel installation as



well as meeting our business-as-usual commitments and upgrades to our lift and fire protection services.

God expects us to [give cheerfully](#) and does not expect you to give what you cannot.

We continue to trust God to provide for our financial needs as He has done in the past and to ask for his wisdom as we review our individual and church budget in light of the increases in the cost of living to determine that each of us is giving as He would have you do .

We trust that, with God' help, we can move into a season when our offerings cover our expenses and make provision for unforeseen emergencies. It's time to start building a reserve or sinking fund that we can draw on when future emergencies arise.

If you wish to join others who give their offering through internet banking, our [bank details](#) are on the front page or in the app and on our website. You may make a cash deposit at Westpac and the [different bank account details](#) are also on the front page.

Analysis of Offerings from 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022				
Date	Total Offering received	BFS direct transfer	Westpac direct transfer	Cash deposited at Bank
30/10/2021	\$14,291.00	\$12,951.00	\$1,340.00	
30/11/2021	\$15,004.00	\$13,029.00	\$1,975.00	
30/12/20201	\$26,016.00	\$24,676.00	\$1,340.00	
31/01/2022	\$14,535.00	\$12,570.00	\$1,965.00	
28/02/2022	\$17,909.00	\$16,579.00	\$1,140.00	\$190.00
28/03/2022	\$14,831.00	\$13,691.00	\$1,140.00	
30/04/2022	\$15,844.00	\$14,504.00	\$1,340.00	
31/05/2022	\$24,082.00	\$21,857.00	\$2,225.00	
30/06/2022	\$18,134.00	\$16,994.00	\$1,140.00	
31/07/2022	\$14,652.00	\$13,312.00	\$1,340.00	
31/08/2022				
30/09/2022				
Totals	\$175,298.00	\$160,163.00	\$14,945.00	\$190.00

THE LAST WORD

Much of this issue is about how we can ensure that we are operating within the bounds of various laws so that we might have the liberty to enjoy various financial benefits and freedom of religion that allow us to continue to worship openly, to spread the gospel and to serve the community.

Jesus is our example in complying with the law with the miraculous provision of the funds for paying the apostles' temple tax - a reminder to us that he can provide all that we need to do so. He will provide the energy, time and mutual support we need.

Obedying the law is not the same thing as the legalism that Jesus abhorred when the pharisees placed adherence to the (much expanded) law of Moses and the prophets as the ultimate priority. It was a form of idolatry.

Do not hesitate to contact me via email or phone to discuss membership or the Safe Church volunteering process or any other matter. My contact details are on the front page.

Blessings

Ian Reid,

Lead Pastor Tuggeranong Baptist Church

For the Leadership Team

