

The Informer

Christ in us .. the hope of Glory

Since the last edition of *The Informer*, we have passed through the Easter season and once again reflected on and rejoiced in Christ's victory over death and sin.

The *Untangled* series, through the book of Hebrews, written to second generation messianic Jews, we gain insight into many facets of who Jesus is and what this means for us. A summary of the Crucifixion and the reconciliation between man and God is found in Chapter 2:

But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. [Heb 2:9-11].

Understanding who Jesus is and his mission helps us to understand who we are in Christ – we are made holy and all of one family and brothers and sisters, not just of other Christians, but of Jesus. We share his mission to bring many sons to glory as the great commission tells us.

We find out more about ourselves as we move into chapter 3; another dimension is added with the comparisons between Moses and Jesus., with the assurance *now we are part of his house if we continue courageously to hold firmly to our bold confidence and our victorious hope [Heb 3:6b]* followed by and with warnings illustrated by incidents from the 40 years in the wilderness.

Two **heart conditions** are mentioned: wandering ,which happens little by little and hardening ,which is usually rebellion and has a definite trigger.

Unbelief ,that caused some not to enter the rest, is not simply doubt but a deliberate choice not to trust God despite the many signs and wonders they experienced.

Today, if you hear his voice—the moment of decision

Many rest upon the fact that they have been baptized, confirmed, or accepted as members of a church, as the sign that they belong to God. Paul says that is useless and worthless, if something has not happened **in the heart.** (Romans 2:28-29)

As only God can look on the heart, we are only able to say

we know who is, or is not, a Christian if we have ever asked the question:

"Do you have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and have you received the gift of righteousness which God gives to those who do not deserve it, cannot earn it, but receive it by his love and grace?"

Paul also explains that only those who have heard the gospel will be judged by whether they have accepted it.

We have an important role to make sure that in our individual and corporate church lives we are not switching people off from hearing

We live in a mission field.

Special points of interest:

- > Salvation is a heart matter
- > Our daily lives are in our mission field
- > Annual Assembly—Carried motions not in accord with our Constitution
- > Op Shop in urgent need of more volunteers

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Agreement with Position Statements now included in the Association Constitution as requirements for Affiliation.

Process for churches affiliated before the introduction of Position Statements and/or the current Objects, Values and to come to Assembly in May 2024.

2023 Annual Assembly—5 and 6 May 2023—Insights

The Annual Assembly was held on 5 and 6 May 2023.

Canberra Baptist Church withdrew their motions to rescind the decisions from the November 2022 gathering..

CBC's Motions for changes to the constitution that provided for a 2/3 majority to be required for a decision to Disaffiliate a Church or for Changes to the Constitution were tabled by means of a Procedural Motion from the Assembly Council.

As a consequence these major

matters can be decided by 51% even though election of the Direction of Ministries , the Principal of Morning College and require the 2/3 majority.

Proposers of the CBC motions and those who spoke in favour ranked the matters of Disaffiliating Churches and Constitutional Changes with at least the same importance.

It is of note that Motions to the Special Assembly on 2020 and associated Forums which specifically and repeatedly emphasized that they were

about the Values of the Association, Focus has now switched as the Marriage values has become one of the new Position Statements to the Same-Sex marriage—a matter on which there has not been full discussion.

Our church constitution is not in accord with the [Position Statements](#) and our autonomy is limited by them.

We will need to wait another year to see what is proposed for all existing affiliated churches.

Electronic Giving preferred)

Direct Deposit to: BSB 704 922,

Account: 100 014 987

Name: Tuggeranong Baptist Church

Credit Card

Use [iGive](#) service.

Cash Deposits

Cash offerings may be placed in the Offering Containers at the doors to the Auditorium when you arrive or leave.



Finance—expenses more than income

Our budget estimates that weekly offerings of \$5528.85 are required to meet our expenses for the year 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023.

Our total offerings since the last Issue of The Informer were – March \$17,140.50 , April \$13,217.00 and weekly averages were March \$ and April \$

Our income for March was \$20,150.13 and for April \$16,038.00

Our outgoings for the months

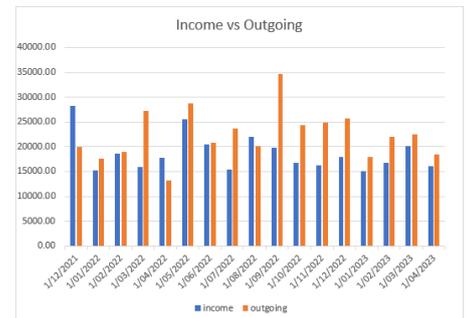
were \$22,520.46 and \$18,526.05 including building loan repayments of \$1,868.67 and \$1,386.00

Financial Benefits

We received a refund from the ATO as the GST paid during the quarter Jan-March was \$347.00 more than the our PAYG obligation.

CO for Kids' Church \$20.00.

Operations Team Cleaning Crew



The financial value of the work done in the building on the first Wednesday in May was approximately. \$500.00 that we would have had to pay domestic cleaners to do the same work.

Thanks Team!

Op Shop- Volunteers needed urgently

At our Sunday service on 30 April, Brenda White was introduced to the wider congregation. Brenda said that we need more volunteers. The Op Shop was closed for several days recently when volunteers experienced health and family emergencies.

The shop needs a minimum of 3 volunteers to be on duty in the shop at all times.

The shop opens on 3 days from 9:30 to 2:00 pm, a total of 4 and a half hours each day.

The total volunteers hours needed to cover the minimum requirement is 13.5 hours x 3 volunteers in attendance = 40.5 hours.

Volunteers do not have to commit for the full day or every week. It's useful to have some volunteers who are able to be on

call in case of emergencies.

If you are able to volunteer for an hour or two each week or fortnight, please let us know. If you have already a **General Volunteer or serving in another team**, you will be able to start immediately.

Roles in the Op Shop are not gender-specific, and a job can be design a job to match the skills of anyone who volunteers.



Contact Branda about donations and other Op Shop matters

Assembly Council Summary -The way forward motion

On Saturday significant time was given to the ongoing challenging matters of Affiliation, Baptist Values and Marriage. A way forward recommended by Assembly Council in its paper released prior to Assembly was presented, following its significant processes of listening, discussion and reflection since the November Assembly. There were also significant motions proposed to Assembly by Canberra Baptist and Newtown/Chatswood Baptist Churches.

After considerable discussion, Assembly Council's recommended way forward motion was amended, and then resolved by Assembly with a majority of 80%. The motion as passed was:

That Assembly Council:

- communicate to the churches at least 4 months prior to the 2024 Annual Assembly a relational process for engaging with and where necessary facilitating the withdrawal of already affiliated Churches and removal of already Accredited (and/or Recognised) Pastors who do not support the Association's position on Marriage; and,
- bring to a vote of that assembly any amendments to the constitution and the affirmation of ministry guidelines required for implementing this process. Any changes to other policy documents integral to this process should also be reported at this Assembly

This process will clarify any potential ongoing relationship between such a church or pastor and the Association where they are unable to continue to be affiliated or accredited with the Association.

Assembly Council will now move forward with this process in the months ahead. The first steps, in light of the listening processes so far undertaken, will be to identify the various matters that need to be worked through in such a relational to address these.

Read the Association's full summary of the Gathering and Annual Assembly [here](#).



Upcoming Events

RSVP Now:

[Special Congregational Meeting](#) to seek membership endorsement to allow us to proceed to the sale of the property at 33 Jenke Circuit.

[Winter Warmer—Soup and Rolls](#) 16 July. If you would like to join the team of soup-makers, Read the [General Volunteer Role Description](#), complete the [General Volunteer Application form](#).



[Mini Conference for Women](#) Saturday 21 October 2023. Ps Mandy Gray has agreed to be our keynote speaker. The theme this year will be Here . your calendars now! More details to come.

[CAP Money Course](#) via Zoom will be run over 3 Tuesday evenings at your own computer in your own home on June 6, 13 and 20 from 7pm to 9pm.

This course allows you to consider how to budget, save and spend your money and, as the cost of living increases and as we head into winter may be a great tool to help you and your friends and acquaintances.



In our mailbox—In our App and Website

Trinity College are advertising a number of [vacancies for teaching positions](#) beginning in Semester 3.

SIM Australia have issued an invitation for all interested in global missions to a free [May Mission Breakfast](#) at Hugh Baptist Church on Saturday 20 May.

May Newsletter from [David and Janene Hay](#) advising us that

they intend to move back to Australia live and will continue to work with SIM.

Our App has a **Notifications** function that allows us to send messages to you very quickly and for you to receive them instantaneously on your mobile phone or tablet.

For this to work efficiently you need to [create an account](#) and

stay logged in.

[Prayer Requests](#) use the Notifications function.

[NCLS Research eNews](#) May edition celebrates the service of Volunteers in the church and in the wider community and includes a link to a survey of Baptist Women in Leadership which closes soon.

Stay logged into your profile to receive notifications



Communications

The Informer

The official communications channels of Tuggeranong Baptist Church are:

- App
- Website
- YouTube channel
- Sunday Notices
- Notices published on boards
- Facebook (temporarily not in use)
- Emails to our distribution/ mailing list.

Mailing List

You provide us with your email address when you complete the [Request to have personal details recorded](#). You also provide us with some of your personal details when you Create and Account in our App or Email or RSVP to attend an event.

Changes for our database of personal details should be notified to tbchurch@internode.on.net. Have moved house or changed email address?

Prayer Requests

Compose your request in the App or on the website Follow these [guidelines](#)

Tuggeranong Baptist Church

Love God Love People



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The Last Word

We continue to enjoy the miracle of change of season which is one of the great blessings of living in Canberra.

It is a joy to be part of a worshipping community where we encourage and support each other through all of the seasons of our experiences.

Please continue to pray for those recently bereaved, others undergoing complex medical treatments, dealing with difficult diagnoses and walking through rehabilitation and recovery.

Pray for the family of Patrick Britten as they mourn the loss of Patrick. Patrick and Kaye faithfully trimmed our hedge at Jenke Cct for a number before it needed to be removed and were then major players in the

planting of the garden beds. Since our move to the Garratt Street Centre, Patrick installed the irrigation system and, with Mona and Kaye did the initial planting of the garden beds facing Garratt Street. He and Kaye have maintained our indoor plants so we see the works of his hands on a very regular basis.

Give thanks for visitors and newcomers at our Sunday services, at our Op Shop and regular attendances at Kids' Church and the Connect for Craft group.

Our attendances numbers are consistently more than 80 each week and have reached just over 100 twice since Easter.

Our monthly financial outgoings

continue to be in excess of our income from offerings. Please prayerfully review your regular giving as the church is dependent upon each person giving as the Lord directs.

You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." 2 Cor 9:17 (NLT)

Recently, we officially acknowledged the contribution to Girls' Brigade of Marian Ashford, over the last 20 years. Marian currently leads our Children's Ministry and is on our Safe Church Team.

Alf Jonas will encourage us to stand steadfast in our faith when he preaches on Sunday 28 May.

Please pray for wisdom for our team as we assess offers for the Jenke Circuit land, for favour with the various government departments we must deal with and for the timely finalisation of its sale.

Please make attendance at the Special Meeting on 11 June a priority.

In the current economic climate, I am receiving more calls from single parent families asking for financial help. As we go into winter, we will be offering increased support to our regular families to help with heating.

Ian Reid
Lead Pastor, Tuggeranong Baptist Church
for the Leadership Team