

Tuggeranong Baptist Church

Ian's Update— October 2022

RESOURCING THE KINGDOM

"Depend on it. God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply. He is too wise a God to frustrate His purposes for lack of funds, and He can just as easily supply them ahead of time as afterwards, and He much prefers doing so." This quote of Hudson Taylor (founder of the China Inland Missions now Overseas Missionary Fellowship, OMF) has encouraged many, many Christians and churches over the last 100 years, to begin and to continue in the good works He calls each of us to and in our corporate efforts as his local Baptist church at the Garratt St Centre.

The recent workshop facilitated by two of our Elders, Craig Leon and Rob James was concerned with forward planning. Any vision or plans that we have for the future and/or to maintain, needs the resources of people giving time, skills, and funds, exercising faith and continually seeking His guidance in prayer, study and fellowship.

We need to trust God and hear from Him about what part He is calling us to play to achieve:

- an increase in the offerings received .Offerings are now well below our expenses
- an increase in the number of volunteers who can serve in:
 - the General Volunteer Team (overseen by the Operations Team)
 - the Op Shop
 - the Children's Ministries—TBC Kids (on Sundays) and the Girls' and Boys' Brigades

My last *Update* included a section on *Becoming Eligible to be asked* and the App and Website both include a section under the heading [Safe Church and Volunteering](#). These documents may help you to determine what God wants of you in terms of resourcing the work of His local church at Tuggeranong Baptist Church and elsewhere.

Information on how to give is below and more about [giving](#) in the App and Website. Speak to the Administration Manager if you need further assistance.

Love God Love People

Tuggeranong Baptist Church

Contacts
 Ian Reid, Lead Pastor
 Phone: 0401 301 193
www.tbchurch.com.au
tbchurch@internode.on.net

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

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- Volunteers Safe Church workshop
- Faith Runs Deep sessions
- Steps of Faith series
- Brigades Parade
- Planning workshop
- CoG Christmas campaign
- Michele Black's visit
- Church picnic
- Christmas series
- Annual General Meeting
- Church On-line for 1, 8 and 15 January 2023
- Canberra Bible College

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Work through the Volunteering Process together — 30 October

Join others in the Community Room on 31 October so that we can work through the [Volunteering Process](#) together.

We will meet after Sunday service (11:30—1:00)

- 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 at home or at another time. Some people find this process is a bit tricky. You will need your own individual email address to create an account on the CSS Website.
- Apply for your [Working with Vulnerable people](#) registration.

Bring a packed lunch and drinks will be available.

RETIREMENT OF OP SHOP MANAGER AND OP SHOP NEWS

Sue Massen retired from her position as [Op Shop](#) Manager on 27 September 2022. Sue has managed the shop since its fledgling days and has seen in through many stages over the last 12 years.

We thank you for your faithful service to the church and in the name of the church to our wider community in the shop's three locations.

We do need new volunteers if the Op Shop is to be in a position to continue into 2023. Could we all pray for God to lead us and make it clear to those who may be in a position to serve.

All volunteers need to be people who are willing to serve under the Safe Church process as we are to under current legislation from our Government.

If you think that God is directing you towards volunteering at the Op Shop, please send an e-mail message to tbchurch@internode.on.net or an enquiry through the App and you will be sent the Op Shop Volunteer Role Description to give you an idea of what is expected.

COVID UPDATE

The ACT has stepped down from public health emergency settings to a more targeted COVID-19 Management Declaration. Places of worship are no longer required to have a COVID Safety Plan.

Consequently, we have removed most signage and other COVID Safety paraphernalia. We have left handsanitising, disinfectant wipes and masks in place as COVID and other infectious viruses have not gone away. We are learning to live with them. This includes all of us accepting responsibility for our own health and that of others in our church community.

PHYSICAL GREETINGS

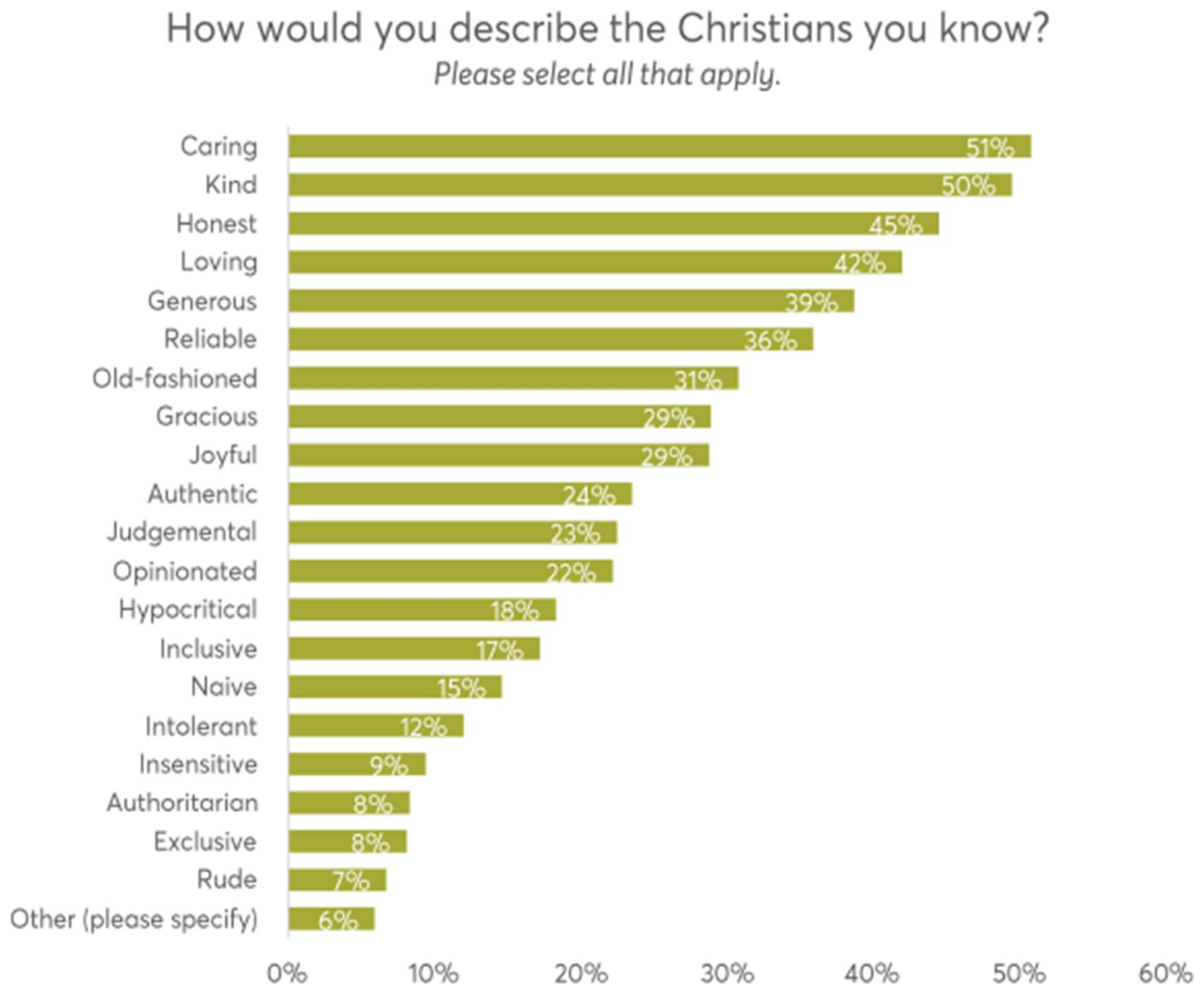
Greeting team members will not include physical contact as they meet you at the entry of the Auditorium each Sunday as this may spread any viruses throughout the congregation. The importance of this measure is increased by the removal of national mandatory isolation rules which may flow on to the ACT rules.

We ask that you not take offence if anyone prefers not to share a physical greeting with you and remember that they may be protecting you from becoming ill—an act of love, not an act of rejection.



Reputations—Christians and the Church

Olive Tree Media commissioned a survey conducted by McCrindle which offered 10 negative and 10 positive choices as answers to the question *How would you describe the Christians you know?* These are the results:



On the other hand, the media continues to paint a negative picture of the Church as a whole. The findings of the *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse* led to the establishment of national standards that are the foundations of the legislative requirements for our volunteers.

As we work together, through compliance with our volunteering processes, to achieve Safe Church status, we build the reputation of the Church.

At the recent Mini-Conference for Women, we looked at these two aspects:

1. We can give people in community the chance to know a Christian by joining in the good works that they are doing
2. We can change the reputation that people have of the Church by achieving Safe Church status which involves a little work on our part to comply with the standards required.

We invite you all to meet the requirements for staff and volunteers at Tuggeranong Baptist Church and offer the Group Process meeting on 30 October 2022 to help with this.



GATHERING AND ORDINARY ASSEMBLY 12 NOVEMBER 2022

Several of the Leadership Team were able to join the Association of Baptist Churches in NSW&ACT Discussion Forum on Saturday 3 September 2022. The Zoom sessions included presentations by individuals and a panel and we each attended different breakout groups to consider various aspects of being Baptist and the Draft Recommendations.

The Assembly Council has foreshadowed a motion to the 12 November 2022 Assembly that will, among other things, provide that churches will be expelled from the Association if they indicate that they do not (i) affirm that marriage is a covenant relationship ordained by God as a lifelong faithful union of one man and one woman and (ii) support the 1979 statement of beliefs. Similarly, accredited ministers who do not affirm that marriage is a covenant relationship ordained by God as a lifelong faithful union of one man and one woman or who change their views on the 1979 statement of beliefs will be discredited

The Leadership team will consider our position again as we are leading up to the Ordinary Assembly and when the motions, which we expect will be much like the draft motions discussed at the forum, are published.

This week, we have received this message from a group of concerned accredited pastors currently affiliated with the Association of Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT. The letter may be accessed [here](#).

The views expressed are grouped under these headings. That:

- *These motions will divide and damage our Association.*
- *These motions impact our mission — now and into the future.*
- *These motions hurt people in our churches.*
- *These motions will cause conflict in our churches.*
- *These motions make no effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

The contribution of Ps Belinda Groves of Canberra Baptist Church very closing aligns to the church Eldership's previously expressed views:

*I met a colleague, who – until recently – had worked in other denominations, and he said to me, “It’s great to be a Baptist again – part of such a broad church.” And – until recently – I would have agreed! Conservative Evangelicals, Charismatics, Progressives – each of these expressions of Baptist faith have enriched mine. But these motions rob us of that breadth. They ignore the gift of our Baptist heritage that equips us to have difficult conversations, as we have in the past, and remain in fellowship. **They disdain our unique Baptist witness that unity can exist without uniformity; that what ultimately unites us is faith in and commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.***

A call of the following action concludes the message of concern:

Unless Assembly Council brings a new motion to the 12 November Assembly, the only way to prevent the harm these motions will do to our Association, our churches, and our witness is to vote against them. If any of the views shared in this letter have raised your concern about Assembly making a decision of this magnitude, we urge you to send a full number of delegates to Assembly and to vote against it, because once the process is in place it will be almost impossible to revoke.

The document's **Appendix** summarises historical markers related to the issues and provides examples of how individuals and churches have been allowed to hold diverse positions without being expelled from the Association.

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](#).

Love God Love People



Coming Events

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2022 - NATIONAL COLLECT 17-31 OCTOBER



The 2022 Campaign is running now. Koorong bookstore, 26 Maryborough Street, Fyshwick, is the collection point in Canberra and filled shoeboxes can be taken there. Follow the [link](#) for full details.

Koorong also distributes empty shoeboxes for you to fill and return to them.

VOLUNTEERS—GROUP MEETING COMMUNITY 30 OCTOBER

An opportunity to work with others to complete steps towards volunteering. [RSVP](#) to help us with arrangements.

FAITH RUNS DEEP—KARL FAASE INTERVIEWS OTHERS—19 OCTOBER TO 9 NOVEMBER

Four sessions have now been discussed on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings and participants have agreed that they did not know or understand the various aspects of faith running deep in our history. Some of these are:



Transportation to Australia resulted from an act of mercy by magistrates in England who valued offences at one penny less than £2 that attracted a mandatory death penalty; that early pastors appointed to the settlement understood their work as fulfilling the command to take the gospel to the ends of the earth; that the emancipation of convicts who

completed their sentence is the origin of the *fair go* that is one of our nation's core values; that the depths of faith in creator and care and affinity with the creation was a core value of First Nations Australians long before colonisation; and that, according to the latest census, the percentage of First Nations Australians who identify themselves as Christians is 58% while the National figure is 52%.

To learn more of how *Faith Runs Deep* in our nation, you are invited to attend one or more of the sessions as the series continues and can RSVP here for either [Tuesday morning](#) or [Wednesday evening](#) or both.

After finalisation of the church campaign in November, we will be making arrangements for access to Olive Tree Media for those who request it.

STEPS OF FAITH TEACHING SERIES—OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2022



Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see *and* the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses]. Heb 1 [AMPC]

The series is based on Hebrews 11 and looks at some of the heroes of faith.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' BRIGADE—CHURCH PARADE—6 NOVEMBER

The Parade that was postponed when the COVID Health Emergency was extended will now take place on Sunday 6 November 2022.



Both boys and girls are polishing up their contributions for the day and we look forward to a great worship experience.



GATHERING AND ORDINARY ASSEMBLY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF BAPTIST CHURCHES OF NSW&ACT—12 NOVEMBER AT MOSAIC BAPTIST CHURCH PAGE

Our Delegates will vote on motions to disaffiliate certain churches and pastors from the Association if passed. Any church member may attend in a Non-voting Attendee and can register [here](#).

COMMUNION—13 NOVEMBER 2022



Our monthly Communion service moves to 13 November to accommodate the Brigade Parade.

FUTURE PLANNING FOCUS GROUP—26 NOVEMBER 2022

A workshop facilitated by elders Craig Leon and Rob James will be held in the Seminar and Board Rooms.

COMMUNITY OF GIVERS—CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION—BEGINS

I begin the Christmas distribution of COG vouchers in our community in plenty of time for families to make their Christmas preparation.



The gratitude of those receiving vouchers is overwhelming and I am privileged to be the face and hands of Tuggeranong Baptist Church in this ministry.

LAST MEETING FOR BOYS' AND GIRLS' BRIGADES—1 DECEMBER 2022

Brigades' final meeting on this evening.



Thanks to all leaders, brigaders and their parents and carers who have maintained the program this year and throughout the pandemic in various forms

No Australia-wide camps for this Christmas/January break. We look forward to them on the Agenda in the future.

MICHELE BLACK'S VISIT—4 DECEMBER 2022



We are delighted to announce that Michele and Flora will be our guests at our service on Sunday, 4 December, when she will give her final report. We have supported Michele, since 2017 and throughout her time in Rwanda.

CHURCH PICNIC—4 DECEMBER 2022



Pack your picnic lunch or grab take away and come to the church picnic at the Kambah Adventure Playground, Springbett Street, Kambah. Bring your own food, seating, blankets etc

The adventure playground is designed for all ages. It features junior and senior flying foxes, giant swings, space net, accessible liberty swing, accessible birds nest swing and mound slides. [RSVP](#) to let you know you are coming.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—11 DECEMBER 2022

If the Audit of our 2022 Financial Year which ended 30 September is completed we will hold the AGM after the service.

CHRISTMAS SERIES IN DECEMBER



But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons Galatians 4:4-5 [NIV]

Sunday 11 Christ above us
 Sunday 18 Christ with us
 Sunday 25 Christmas Day

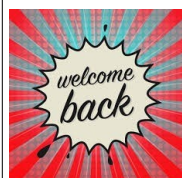
JANUARY 1, 8 AND 15—CHURCH ON LINE ONLY



We plan to hold online services only for Sundays on January 1st, 8th, 15th to provide a much-needed break for the many “weekly contributors” to Sunday services.

I will package the online services each week and release them each Sunday morning. This provides opportunity for others to step back and recharge for 2023.

JANUARY 22—FIRST IN PERSON CHURCH SERVICE AT GARRATT STREET



Join us back at Garratt Street for the first physical service of 2023.

CANBERRA BIBLE COLLEGE —23 MARCH 2023 START



The plan is to run the programme for 5 weeks in each term in the Seminar and Board Rooms. Further details will be published in the New Year and enrolments will be via the App and Web-site.

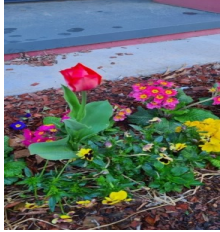
FINANCE—OFFERINGS TO THE END OF THE CHURCH FINANCIAL YEAR

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	
30/12/2021	\$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	\$19,219.00	\$16,694.00	\$1,225.00	\$1,330.00
30/09/2022	\$17,150.00	\$14,510.00	\$1,340.00	\$1,850.00
Totals	\$211,667.00	\$191,367.00	\$17,510.00	\$3,370.00

THE LAST WORD

The transition from a nation in the grip of a pandemic, to where we are now and the normal that is ahead of us can be seen around us. We experienced low attendances at services during the School Holidays because people are able to travel and enjoy meeting up with family members again. More people are staying at home with various infections. Some serious medical conditions have emerged with people more willing to visit their doctors,. Accidents happen and economic changes are biting.

At the same time, we have shared the joys of travel, re-united families, and additions to our families. Some of the women of the church were able to reconnect at the Mini Conference. We've enjoyed the regular blessing of Bible Study, Explorers, Craft and coming together to maintain our building and garden. Added to which we have the seasonal blessing of living in Canberra.



This shot of our garden at the Board Room windows says it all!

In our current Sunday series on *Faith*, we will look at some of the examples from Hebrews 11, sometimes referred to as the *Hall of Faith*, and hopefully, draw encouragement from this great crowd of witness who surround us and not lose hope or give up [Gal 6:9] but rather cultivate expectations and make preparations as we move into the seasons of Advent, Christmas and to the beginnings that 2023 will bring.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:1-3 [NIV]

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



