



Glen Waverley Anglican Church

ANNUAL MINISTRY UPDATE

2022

CONTENTS

MINISTRIES

Senior Minister's Report	2
Worship Services	6
Local & Global Mission	13
Nurture & Growth	15
Next Gen Ministry	23
Young Adults Ministry	29
Seniors Ministry	30
Operations	33
Property, Facilities & Grounds	34

SENIOR MINISTER'S REPORT

To the Mighty Saints of GWAC,

WE'RE BACK!

Coming out of Covid for churches everywhere has proven to be challenging. Sadly, congregations generally have declined by about a third and even more sadly some churches have not survived the challenges of the pandemic.

Return to 'in person' worship is the ideal that I desire for all people, but I acknowledge that for some people this is not possible for health and medical reasons. Accordingly, we have kept up with live streaming of our morning services to help all GWAC people and visitors feel connected as God's people. That said, it is with great thanks and praise to God that we have been able to worship together in person as the mighty people of GWAC this past year. The silver lining of the pandemic was that we were able to complete the refurbishment of the whole facility and it is a privilege to serve and lead as your senior minister.

As you read the reports of the ministries, I encourage you to stop and give thanks to God for the many volunteers who serve in the various capacities they do and next time you meet one of them, either at GWAC or somewhere else, thank them personally for their ministry.

STAFF TEAM

Late last year we said farewell to Chloe Hamilton and Kevin Eames who had youth internships throughout the course of 2021. We said welcome to Anthony Wheaton who commenced as our Youth Minister, 4 days a week in January 2022.

Gordon Li was ordained Priest and Brad Jackson was ordained Deacon in the Diocese of Melbourne. We welcomed Steve Giles as Property Manager for 2 days per week. Stephen takes over from Bob Barclay who has given years of service in the property management role. We thanked Kerrie Jones for her work as pastoral worker in June and welcomed Katherine Corr into the role as Wednesday Service coordinator and pastoral worker for this service.

Along with these newly appointed staff members we are also blessed with a wonderful staff team of John Harrower, Roger Nicholson, Julian Barnard, Diane Craig, and Ashish Roy. Each staff member has a particular role and responsibility that I trust enhances the overall mission and vision of GWAC. I would not be able to do my role without their generous support and talents.

DEVELOPING A DISCIPLE MAKING STRATEGY AT GWAC

2022 has largely been a year of seeking to equip the saints for gospel ministry. Our preaching this year has looked at ministry foundations from the life of Jesus (and therefore for the life of any Christian) using the acronym **HSPOWER**:

- **Holy Spirit** Dependence
- **Prayer** Dependence
- **Obedience** to a Kingdom Agenda
- **Word** (Scripture)
- **Exalting** God in our worship
- Intentional **Relationships**

We have been teaching from the book of Acts and many of our connect groups have been using the Swedish Bible Study method to have a deeper dive into the passage preached on the Sunday prior to their meeting.

Three core activities have been introduced/emphasised to help develop GWAC's mission:

1. Shift m2M – Making disciples who will make disciples

Our mission of being a caring community making, maturing and mobilising disciples of Jesus Christ locally and globally has been helped this year with some of the staff getting involved in "Shiftm2M". This is a disciple making framework based on the life and ministry of Jesus in the gospels. We have been working through this material and seeking to apply the learnings in our Children's, Youth and Young Adults ministries across the church. A key goal of any disciple making ministry is to equip an emerging generation of Christian leaders to serve here and to the ends of the earth.

2. My Friends

In August and September, we ran a My Friends course. My Friends is designed to help Christians everywhere intentionally pray, love, care, and share Jesus with their non-churched friends, family, and colleagues. GWAC would not be serving its purpose if we were not seeking to equip all the saints to share the greatest story ever told, a story that the world needs to know.

3. Connect Groups

Connect Groups are a key ministry at GWAC. They provide a level of care, Bible study and fellowship in small groups that our gathered worship cannot. Connect Groups are a great way to get to know other people at GWAC and to make wider community connections.

I mention each of the above groups to highlight a community wide engagement pathway that is evolving, and I pray will allow opportunities now and in years to come for all the people of GWAC to get involved by using each of our gifts and skills to serve and advance God's kingdom here on earth.

A further key new and evolving program is Hope for Monash.

HOPE FOR MONASH LTD.

We ran our second Hope for Monash food drive during Advent 2021. This food drive supported several agencies in the city of Monash with literally truckloads of food supporting people in need. This has led to Hope for Monash being incorporated this year, which will allow GWAC to seek donations from the wider community. We hope and pray that this will in time develop projects extending beyond the food drive and help to fulfill our vision and mission.

The missional strategy behind Hope for Monash Ltd. is not just to raise funds but rather as we run activities to get alongside people from all walks of life developing and strengthening relationships, and when prompted by the Holy Spirit to give a reason for the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

As Hope for Monash Ltd grows there will be further announcements of ways to get involved and I look forward to your support for this initiative.

OTHER MINISTRY MATTERS

- This year we concluded our partnership with Sent Collective who are now meeting regularly at St Philip's Mt Waverley under Bre Wilkinson's leadership.
- We began exploring a possible partnership with St Matthew's Wheelers Hill but have pulled back from this for the time being to focus on the above ministry plans.
- A Property Working Group was appointed by the Governance Board to look at the best future use of GWAC's land and property. We are working with the Diocese of Melbourne, Monash Council and an external consultant as we explore our options with a view to reporting back to the congregation in 2023.
- Surveys at the 10.30am and 5pm congregations were undertaken in May. We are still working on the information gathered as well as implementing some initial changes at the respective services. One such change has been the introduction of Creative Family Services at 10.30am on the 5th Sunday throughout the year.
- A weekly Friday Morning Prayer Breakfast was introduced in June. It has been great to pray regularly with people from GWAC with the occasional visitor as well. We meet for an hour on Fridays from 7am. All Welcome!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- My heartfelt thanks go to the staff team for the way each member has pulled together to help the mighty people of GWAC connect with one another and the wider community over this past year. Your partnership in gospel ministry is greatly appreciated.
- My thanks also go to Governance Board members completing their current terms- Tony Hickson (Churchwarden), Frank Gribi, Fiona Dunn and Katherine Canobi, for their contributions to the monthly board meetings and input over the years (I anticipate some of these people to return to Governance Board in 2023 😊)

- Val Fugill retired from 10am Wednesday Music ministry earlier this year and we are so grateful for her faithful service over many years.
- To each of these people, my grateful thanks for your faithful service and I look forward to our continued partnership in gospel ministry in new and creative ways in the coming year. There are many other people both up front and behind the scenes who do so very much in all our ministries. My heartfelt thanks to every one of you.

As we seek to be God's people here at GWAC the following Bible verse sums up the past year with a challenge for us all in a time where Christianity is increasingly marginalised in our society.

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect - 1 Peter 3:15

Blessings

Phil Meulman | Senior Minister

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY 8AM SERVICE – JOHN HARROWER & BOB BARCLAY

There is no doubt that 'Sunday 8amers' enjoy worship and fellowship, sharing time 'in person' with each other.

- Mandatory Government lockdowns and restrictions due to Covid have limited social activities and the return to face to face relating has been positive socially, mentally, and spiritually.
- The rich liturgy of the Prayer Book is valued in its nurture of our discipleship and the weekly celebration of the Lord's Supper strengthens us as a precious reminder of God's love for us in the death of Jesus Christ.
- Fellowship over a cuppa and via other parish activities and non-parish involvements are all important.

Highlights 2022

- The many people who have returned to worship, fellowship and other ministries, following the Covid pandemic and attendant lockdowns.
- Music ministry is a joy, especially returning to 'in person' worship. This year we welcomed pianist Narelle Walker to the music ministry team, and we thank Narelle, Lynn Pryor, Richard McNeill, Joanna Pillai and Lily Yeo for their contribution to our worship of God.
- One Sunday, we worshipped with parishioners' 'Favourite Hymns and Songs'. This was well received for the vibrant singing of double our usual number of hymns and for the reason given by each of the proponents for their favourite hymn.
- Livestreaming of the service is valued by our members who for reasons of health, travel or moving into aged care are unable to attend. Maintaining connection is important.

Plans 2023

- Build our fellowship and pastoral support through encouraging participation in Connect Groups and wider parish activities.
- Encourage parishioners to participate in the many roles that contribute to the worship service and fellowship.

Thanks & Acknowledgements

- Thanks go to the many members who welcome, provide hospitality, participate in leading worship, music ministry, the tech team, preachers, ushers, and all!
- For the staff in their support to the worship ministry, fellowship and pastoral care.
- Roger Nicholson for his guidance and direction with the music team, the IT team and providing onsite training. Roger has been instrumental in progressing the use of Elvanto and live streaming in our worship and pastoral ministries. Our funeral

ministry was strongly supported by the technical developments and training of staff and parishioners.

- Kerrie Jones entered a pastoral ministry with Eastern Health and relinquished her pastoral care role at GWAC. Thank you, Kerrie, for your attentive pastoral care of us.

Comments

We thank God for the many blessings received and in the words of the Letter to the Hebrews 10:23–25, Amplified Version:

“Let us seize and hold tightly the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is reliable and trustworthy and faithful [to His word]; and let us consider [thoughtfully] how we may encourage one another to love and to do good deeds, not forsaking our meeting together [as believers for worship and instruction], as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more [faithfully] as you see the day [of Christ’s return] approaching.” Amen

SUNDAY 10.30AM SERVICE – PHIL MEULMAN

The 10:30am service seeks to encourage the community that gathers to grow as disciples of Jesus through musical worship, prayer, and opening God’s word together. The community focuses on times of fellowship after the service, and occasional lunches. The service is often attended by new people, especially for baptism and other special event services

Highlights 2022

- Return to in person worship and maintaining livestream.
- Increased number of volunteers serving in ministries.
- A variety of guest speakers from GWAC and externally.
- A congregational survey to look at the needs of this worship service.
- New memberships.
- Introduction of the Creative Family Services.

Plans 2023

- Intentional follow-up process for unseen people.
- Continued development of Children’s Ministry.
- Strengthening the integration of Mandarin and English children’s teaching time.
- Implementation of congregational survey.
- Monthly lunches.

SUNDAY 5PM SERVICE – BRAD JACKSON

The 5pm service seeks to encourage the community to grow as disciples of Jesus through musical worship, prayer and the ministry of the Word. The after-service supper time is an important time for fellowship, and young adults often head out to share a meal after the service.

Highlights 2022

- Early in the year we saw more youth and young adults attending regularly. New families joined the service and the number of people attending increased steadily. Since September we have had a regular attendance of over 100 people.
- The hospitality after the service is tremendous. It is creating a welcoming atmosphere and many young people are hanging around to enjoy fellowship long after the service has ended.
- The “Hot Potatoes” series has generated a lot of interest and the feedback I receive is that people are enjoying the teaching.
- A larger volunteer team of people is serving during and after services. Particularly seeing the youth and young adults serving is positive.
- We have a variety of gifted preachers in our church, and it was great to have many contribute to the ministry of the Word.

Plans for 2023

- Regarding preaching, we will be returning to the Acts series in February, then do a Ten Commandments series. In fourth term we will do another “Hot Potatoes” series.
- Training of lay preachers, both men and women, through a Preachers’ Workshop in term 2.
- Development of a more effective welcoming ministry.

Comments

While attendance in raw numbers is improving, we experience the challenge of many people attending services sporadically. This is detrimental to the development of personal faith and spiritual gifts, and the mutual ministry of encouragement. We are striving to work against this cultural habit and continue to pray God will bring revival to his church.

WORSHIP MINISTRY & AUDIO-VISUAL– ROGER NICHOLSON

Helping people to worship God through song.

Highlights 2022

- Seeing the completion of the upgrades to the Stadium, i.e., new projector + screen, for use by Mandarin ministry, Youth ministry and others.
- Introducing backing-tracks to our contemporary worship Services; these complement our existing musicians onstage, helping to fill out the sound; this is particularly helpful when an instrument / musician is not available (or has yet to be recruited for that team).
- Serving alongside some of our Mandarin-speaking musicians for our Creative Family Services (on fifth Sundays).

Plans 2023

- Ongoing training for our musicians, including transitions between songs.
- Ongoing training for our audio-visual volunteers.

Acknowledgements

- Liz Folland
- Anne-Marie Ternes
- Alan Thomasz

New Members

- Ashley Abbott
- Hayden Batchelor
- Mailli Atkins
- Peter Cameron
- Will Banks
- Graham Churchill
- Tania Harding
- Eliza Hayes
- Mitze Ho
- Tim Huddleston
- Haeju Kim
- Bailey Jackson
- Caleb Jackson
- Shanley Pillai
- Kath Rozycki
- Cheryl Wheaton
- Anthony Wheaton
- Fraser Holt
(returned)

WEDNESDAY 10AM SERVICE – JOHN HARROWER & KATHERINE CORR

The 10am Wednesday Holy Communion Service deepens our discipleship and care for one another. It is a treasured time of gathering mid-week for teaching from God's Word, joining together in song and prayer and nurturing and encouraging one another in fellowship.

Oh, and did we say, it's soooo good to be back in three dimensions! – Yes, face-to-face is so much better than 'Zooming in'. Yet, we thank God for the online gatherings that enabled teaching and connection with one another during the Covid restrictions.

Highlights 2022

- What joy as we returned to worshipping together and sharing life in the fellowship area - warm conversations, fun filled celebrations and even home-grown produce returned onsite! Prayer ministry both during and following the service was a special gift.
- Sermons included a series through The Catechism: the Christians' Creed (Apostles' Creed – The God to whom we owe allegiance), Code of Conduct (the Ten Commandments), and Prayer (The Lord's Prayer). The livestreaming of the Bible reading and sermon each week continued to be accessed and appreciated.
- A significant occasion was the retirement of Val Fugill from the music ministry at GWAC. Her decades of faithful service, playing both the organ and piano at the 8am Sunday and 10am Wednesday services, funerals and weddings has been deeply appreciated church-wide and was specially recognised.
- Val's retirement signalled a new path for the Wednesday 10am music ministry – services with recorded music and services with live accompaniment on the organ and piano by Roger. With the support of Ashish, Roger and the volunteer team in establishing the recorded music, the transition has been smooth and the feedback encouraging. We sing along with musicians, soloists, and sometimes choirs from around the world (and await a visit from the BBC's 'Songs of Praise!').
- [A note from John](#): this report would be incomplete without an acknowledgement of the contribution that Katherine Corr is making to the 10am Wednesday Service

community. Katherine commenced her voluntary role as Pastoral Assistant and Service Coordinator during the year and her creativity and organisational skills are greatly appreciated.

Plans 2023

- Continue to enjoy our worship, friendships woven over the years and the embrace of newcomers: the welcome and hospitality of Jesus Christ.
- The teaching series on the Catechism was well received and we welcome suggestions for the new year. One idea - 'Bible Characters'.
- Continue to encourage and equip members in the various ministry opportunities available in the worship service, prayer ministry, hospitality and outreach. The support of volunteers from our wider church family, alongside 10am members on our roster, is greatly appreciated and also has potential to grow.
- Further develop our connections with the local community where God has placed us - neighbourhoods, retirement villages and various groups. Reaching out to those for whom the mid-week timing of this service is more accessible is a special opportunity.
- Continue to develop the recorded music ministry, service presentation via ProPresenter and coordination through Elvanto software.

Thanks & Acknowledgements

- As mentioned, our heartfelt thanks to Val Fugill for her wonderful music ministry at GWAC.
- We thank Lynn Pryor who retired from her role organising the orders of service, music selection and rosters at Wednesday 10am. Lynn's faithful service has been greatly appreciated.
- We also farewelled Kerrie Jones who undertook pastoral ministry to our Wednesday folk. Thank you, Kerrie, for your attentive care.
- The dedication, warmth and joy of the volunteers that provide the structure for our worship, fellowship and outreach. Thank you!

Comments

As a community we continue to grow in knowing God, sharing our experiences of God, enjoying God and one another. In the words of 1 John 1:1-4,

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete."

MANDARIN MINISTRY – GORDON LI

The long COVID lockdown from last August continues to pose ministry challenges for the newly established Mandarin ministry, especially how to continue providing spiritual care and services to our congregation both online and on-site. By God's gracious provision and guidance, the Mandarin congregation remained stable and closely connected during these changing and difficult times. The challenges have also prompted us to focus more on the spiritual growth of our believers, building intentional relationships with God and people through Sunday services, Bible studies, prayer and various fellowships, which we will continue to work on.

Highlights 2022

- Baptisms: Seven people from the Mandarin Congregation, including two children, were baptised on 2 January 2022, and one person was baptised on 24 July 2022.
- Evangelism: While the lockdown did make it more difficult to conduct the in-person seek class, the Mandarin Ministry's one-to-one evangelism using either the six-unit Gospel Exploration online classes or the ten-unit D2B (From Doubting to Believing) program has been fruitful. All new adult believers have completed the online course prior to baptism.
- Fellowship: For most of last year, brothers and sisters met fortnightly on Thursday evenings for fellowship via Zoom. Through sharing words, praying and mutual caring these fellowships helped to build stable and close connection between members. Two Connect Groups started since May 2022 fortnightly, in-person in member's homes or online, focusing on Bible studies and fellowship. A fortnightly online Mandarin congregation prayer meeting started in September 2022.
- Outreach Event: The Mandarin Congregation held a "Hope of Life" Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration on 11 Sept 2022 with contemporary worship and dancing, beautiful traditional opera dancing, folk songs, violins, Mandarin sermon, and a variety of food. This event was part of the Outreach Evangelism Program to reach out to the wider local community

Plans 2023

- To further develop the Mandarin Ministry teams, including worship, pastoral care, prayer team, next generation care, etc.
- To care for and nurture disciples through monthly fellowship among brothers and sisters, fortnightly Connect Group bible studies and one-to-one coaching.
- To build intentional relationships with God and people by encouraging one-to-one prayer partners, daily devotional prayer, intercessory group prayer, and fortnightly corporate prayer.
- To build intentional relationships among members and enhance the sense of belonging to the larger family in Christ by organising family retreats, independently or with other churches.

- To continue to equip and train individuals who are willing to commit to one-to-one evangelism through the D2B (From Doubting to Believing) program, which complements the Gospel Exploration Classes that rely on coaching team.
- To reach out to the wider local community by organising traditional Chinese Festival events, parenting course, dance classes etc.

LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

MISSION PARTNERS – PHIL MEULMAN

GWAC partners with a wide range of missionaries and mission agencies, locally and globally. The Governance Board allocates mission funds at the beginning of each church year to support our missionaries. Mission agencies supported in 2022 included: BCA, CMS, Compassion, Ridley College, Power To Change, Sent Collective, Anglican Overseas Aid and Mission of Truth Church.

Highlights 2022

- Successful transition and financial support of the Sent Collective church plant.
- Renewal of partnership between GWAC and GKRI Misi Aletheia Church in Surabaya.
- Visit of Kate and Tavis Beer giving thanks for their ministry with CMS and conclusion of mission partnership.
- Establishing partnership with new link missionaries Deb and John Sugars and Zoe Creelman through CMS.
- Framework established by Governance Board to review and develop GWAC's Missions support.

Plans 2023

- Missions review report back to congregation.
- Developing Missions Month to raise mission awareness across GWAC.
- Explore mission trip to Surabaya.

Acknowledgments

- Ruth Haites
- Don Reid
- David Mills
- Frank Gribi

Comments

We give thanks to God for the prayers and generosity of GWAC members who support our link missionaries and pray for continued generous support in the year ahead.

MISSION OF TRUTH CHURCH PARTNERSHIP – KERRIE JONES & TEAM

As mentioned in the 2021 Annual report by Phil Meulman, "GWAC's support, prayerfully and financially, at a time of crisis for the Mission of Truth Church (MOT), has been inspiring to both churches. With the appointment of a new Senior Minister, we can be confident in God's leading for MOT in the future." The team members have each contributed to this report for 2022.

Highlights 2022

- Church members continue to be generous in their giving towards Change4-Change, a way to directly support the education programs of the Mission of Truth Church, in Surabaya, Indonesia. In addition to the monthly collection of coins every first Sunday and direct mission donation, this year we introduced a new option

named, "Transfer 2 Transform". It is designed to assist those who rarely use cash to give by electronic means. Change 4 Change continues to support many in the Surabaya community, despite the sad passing of Pastor Sartono last year. Please be encouraged to remember that even small donations can have a big impact.

(Christopher Reid)

- We have walked alongside our sisters and brothers at Mission of Truth in their joys, sadnesses and challenges. We've been able to journey with many of their leaders, especially Pastor Devi, Mrs. Erna, Mrs. Retno and others (through WhatsApp messages and calls), encourage with words of Scripture and uphold in prayer. We rejoice that God continues to work in MOT and through them to their local community and their outreach to other regions, including the work of Ps Vikky Rai and family now planting a church in Bali.

(Margie & David Mills)

- Once a month or more frequently GWAC prayer/praise points are forwarded to Misi Aletheia, and a request is sent to Misi Aletheia for their prayer/praise points. Mrs. Erna and Mrs. Retno communicate either by email or WhatsApp. Gracious thanks to Mrs. Erna for her lead in this role considering her personal journey with the sad illness and then loss of her son Samuel during the past months. The Misi Aletheia prayer/praise points are distributed by group email to the GWAC and Misi Aletheia partnership mailing list. The feedback, comments and encouragement received from people time to time on the partnership mailing list is appreciated.

(Kathie & Pieter Thomasz)

- Each month MOT prayer/praise points are prepared and included in the GWAC Sunday intercessions. This is combined with prayer/praise points from the Bakara family which is messaged through by Ps. Devi on WhatsApp. *(Kerrie Jones)*
- In July a Mission Presentation visual of MOT ministries led by Ps. Reo was shared at each of the church services. This was an opportunity to see God at work among the MOT community in Surabaya.

Plans 2023

- In God we trust that in the coming months and year GWAC and MOT members may be led by the Holy Spirit to engage in different ways so that God continues to build his kingdom. Online opportunities might work well (for instant recent sessions on 'integrated mission' in Asia has been attended by both MOT and GWAC members.)

New Members

- Christopher Reid
- Kathie Thomasz
- Pieter Thomasz

Final Comments

We acknowledge the faithful service of Jafar and Yeny over many years at GWAC and Misi Aletheia. They helped Kathie and Pieter Thomasz in the process of taking over this ministry, and their contribution to the church partnership over the past several years has been invaluable. Thank you!

NURTURE & GROWTH

PASTORAL CARE – JOHN HARROWER

As a parish, we aim to be "a caring community making, maturing, and mobilising disciples of Jesus Christ locally and globally", and our pastoral work is a key contributor to this goal. Pastoral care is a ministry of all Christians, and we seek to encourage prayer and practical care, an openness to vulnerability in people asking for assistance, a heart of compassion and an ear and response of empathy. May the Spirit of Christ guide and heal our needy world. *1 John 4:19 'We love each other because (God) loved us first.'* (NLT)

Highlights 2022

- **The warmth of personal relationships and parishioners' care one for another remains a highlight.** This mutual care reflects Christ's abiding in us and our abiding in Christ - the Holy Spirit's powerful and gracious work in building the Body of Christ. What a privilege we share! People are in contact with one another, keen to care and add that special personal touch: a note of thanks, surprise gifts delivered to people's front door, smiling eyes over a facemask - the unexpected breaking in of grace.
- **Continued reconnecting face to face for worship and in connect groups and other church ministries as lockdowns ceased and restrictions eased.** Whilst technology enabled members to remain connected with worship services and zoom catch ups during the lockdowns, being reunited as a church family in person with much more continuity has been a blessing. We face the challenge of reduced frequency of attendance by parishioners at worship services. The latest Australian research suggests that "regular" attendance is now typically monthly. This makes pastoral care more difficult as there is less current personal contact. It also makes it more difficult to fulfill our mission of being a caring community making disciples.
- At the same time, for members unable to return on site, **the continuation of online services to support nurture and growth through worship and fellowship is significant.** We frequently hear, "Thank you for the sermon. I heard it online."
- **Pastoral visits in person were able to occur more easily and whilst restrictions have still been in place in certain settings e.g., hospitals, we thank God for creativity amongst our parish in their care for one another!** - e.g., Face Time calls to connect to members recovering in hospital! Home communion visits were also able to recommence.
- **Our ministry to those facing the death of a loved one** and the assistance given to the bereaved arranging a funeral service involves significant personal contact and shared emotional engagement. This is a sacred space of being present in the name of Christ. Again, this year with the opening up of government restrictions these times of pastoral support have been more possible.

- **Parishioners going through difficult health, relational, emotional, spiritual and grief issues** are also supported by the ministry team. A listening ear, support and prayer is part of giving pastoral care.
- **A review into pastoral care commenced and meetings were held to workshop ideas for pastoral care moving forward.** The interest and sharing of ideas at the meetings were encouraging and is acknowledged. We look forward to developments in this area.
- **Maintaining the currency of pastoral information and the follow up of members in congregations has been ongoing.** Alongside Phil Meulman and John Harrower, Veronica Barclay (for the 8am Sunday service) and Kerrie Jones (for the 8am and 10.30am Sunday and Wed 10am) played a key role in assisting with pastoral care this past year. In July, Katherine Corr took on the volunteer role of Pastoral Assistant for the 10am Wednesday congregation.

Plans 2023

- Continuing to improve pastoral care through the deepening of relationships with the return of parishioners to worship, fellowship and outreach at our ministry centre.
- Ensuring pastoral information is updated and needs of members followed through is ongoing, as is attention to attendance patterns at worship services.
- Further planning around pastoral care within our church and community. For example, the number of parishioners entering retirement villages and aged care extend the challenge of caring for our community and their families. We have unmet requests for Anglican services while we have fewer parishioners assisting in this ministry and almost no young people.

And in the words of APBA page 688, we continue in prayer for one another:

Father of all mercies, for your gifts of healing and forgiveness, for grace to love and care for one another, for your hidden blessings, and for all you have in store for us, we give you thanks, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thanks & Acknowledgements

- **Kerrie Jones** was the Pastoral Care Worker for the 8am, 10.30 Sunday and 10am Wednesday services. Over many years, Kerrie made special connections with members in her home visits, taking communion to people and more. May God bless her new ministry.
- **The care shown by members church-wide:** from the connections of individuals to the leaders and members of Connect Groups, to those serving in ministries and worship, livestream, fellowship gatherings... all enabling pastoral care. Thank you.

BAPTISMS & DEDICATIONS, CONFIRMATION, WEDDINGS, DEATHS

(1 October 2021-30 September 2022)

- Infant/ Child Baptism & Dedication: This year Jules ran a 4-week baptism course for parents who are interested in baptising or dedicating their children. We had 4 families attend the course and have celebrated 1 dedication and 1 baptism from this course, with another 3 baptisms this year for children. We also have upcoming dates for more dedications.
- Adult Baptism: 7
- Confirmations: 0
- Reception to Anglican Church: 5
- Weddings: 1
- Funerals: 11

TUESDAY PRAYER MINISTRY, PRAYER CHAIN, PRAISE IN SONG – PHYL AUSTIN

In Prayer Ministry, we are called to listen intently, love deeply and minister with care. We hold in confidence the deep sharing entrusted to us. We minister to all people both connected and not connected to GWAC.

Highlights 2022

We thank God for the year that has been and how He has touched lives. Some of the expressions of thanks from across the Prayer Ministries:

- Wednesday Prayer Ministry: *'We love to talk with you...so happy...to thank God we are there...comforts us so much. We come away with peace in our hearts.'*
- Prayer Chain: *'I could not have got through this time without your prayers and I was particularly touched by the generosity of the members of your Prayer Chain...'*
- Praise in Song:
 - *'I am grateful to be able to attend an hour of singing praise to God joining with the angels in heaven worshipping Him. What a gift. No better way I could spend an hour - I am blessed.'* (from a visitor)
 - *'The Praise in Song was another most beautiful service, truly inspired by God where people were invited to dwell in the peace and beauty of His presence.'*
 - *'Beautiful hymns, many take me back to my childhood...followed by a delicious lunch and warm fellowship. Many thanks to Diana and Martin for their dedication in providing this enjoyable meal.'*
 - *'I very much enjoy Praise in Song. To draw aside to a place of peace, to contemplate the words of and to sing familiar hymns is truly a blessing. The sessions are interesting and varied; I have appreciated the solos, the guided meditations, and a visiting harpist.'*

Plans 2023

- To continue into a new year bearing witness to the love of God with courage and inner peace.

Acknowledgement & Comments

To all involved in each of these ministries – prayer, hospitality, music and administration – a heartfelt THANK YOU! Pauline Lynch has retired from serving in the 8am Sunday Prayer Ministry. We acknowledge her faithful commitment over many years.

CONNECT GROUPS – BRAD JACKSON

The goal of Connect groups is to connect with God, connect with each other, and connect with our community. Connect Groups are a place to experience care and transformation as people meet to read the Bible, pray, share a meal, have fun and care for each other. These groups are central to our mission at GWAC to mature and mobilise disciples of Jesus Christ.

Highlights 2022

- Groups have emerged from a season of online meetings to meet in person once again.
- Three new Connect Groups have been established.
- All our congregations have multiple open Connect Groups, welcoming newcomers.
- Many groups reported growth in members and enjoyed the study resources provided to compliment the sermon series.
- The two leaders training events have equipped the Connect Groups for Bible study, prayer and mission engagement.

Plans 2023

- Our goal is to see all groups open to multiplying. In order to facilitate this, we will offer training for leaders using the One-to-One Bible Reading course in Term 1.
- Organise two Leaders' Gatherings for prayer, support, training and the sharing of ideas.
- An additional young adults Connect group being established.

Comments

One of the challenges that our GWAC family faces is that many of the Connect Groups are full to capacity. In order to fulfil our mission to be a welcoming church, we need more leaders and new groups established as new people come into our church family.

WAVERLEY VALLEY AGED CARE – NERIDAH PEIRCE

The Waverley Aged Care Team seeks to develop relationships with the residents and staff at Waverley bringing a monthly service to celebrate the Lord's Supper. We also liaise with other aged care teams working in other residences

Highlights 2022

- There were many challenges to continuing this ministry due to the later stages of Covid regulations. Despite this, we have been able to visit each month during 2022.
- We gratefully acknowledge the ongoing, cheerful assistance of the Lifestyle Staff at Waverley Valley Aged Care.
- Our prayers for guidance and enabling have been answered e.g., increasing the flexibility of team members which has been most valuable when we have experienced the unavailability of some at short notice due to illness.

Plans 2023

- To continue to hone our spiritual gifts to assist us in this ministry.
- To provide services that meet the needs and interests of residents.

Acknowledgements

- Renuka Jesudhason: We would like to record our appreciation of Renuka Jesudhason's contribution to this ministry in a number of different roles i.e., musical skills, presenting the message, preparing the service sheet. Thank you Renuka!

Comments

Thank you to each member of the team- Don, Kerri, Ian, Santhi and Judy for their willingness to always go the extra distance to get things happening.

HIGHVALE RETIREMENT VILLAGE – RENUKA JESUDHASON

We conduct a service of worship, including the Lord's Supper, at the Highvale Retirement Village. This service is attended by residents of the Manor and the Village. Our ministry with them uplifts them spiritually as they continue their journey of faith. The ministry team is also uplifted and blessed by this time of fellowship and the relationships we build with the residents.

Highlights 2022

- Praying together with residents, listening to their concerns and encouraging them in their faith has encouraged and uplifted all those who attend our services.
- A couple of months this year, we were unable to conduct our service due to the village being in lockdown with an outbreak of covid. We sent cards to all the residents who attend our services, assuring them of our prayers, and received grateful thanks from a couple of residents who had been enduring difficult situations. They were uplifted and encouraged by our prayers and reaching out to them in their time of need.

Plans 2023

- To trial displaying the service sheet on a TV screen instead of printing out hard copies, in an effort to save paper.

- To investigate opportunities to increase the number of residents attending the service.

New Members

- David Spitteler
- Yvonne Spitteler

OAK TREE HILL RETIREMENT VILLAGE – DON MAHAFFY

Devotion Services are held monthly on every third Wednesday in the Village's Community Centre. Our service comprises prayer, hymns and a message that is delivered by an invited guest. At the completion of our service all present are invited to enjoy a cuppa and fellowship in the Centre's café.

Highlights 2022

- Invited Speakers are normally from neighbouring churches. We have been blessed this year in having Rev Phil Meuleman and Bishop John Harrower from Glen Waverley Anglican Church on separate occasions to deliver important messages assisting us to appreciate more the love and blessings of our saviour Jesus Christ.

NELLIE MELBA RETIREMENT VILLAGE – HILARY ROATH

We give thanks to God for the return of the monthly Holy Communion service at Nellie Melba Retirement Village after the COVID lockdowns. We meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 3pm, in the 'George' area on level-I. During 2022, the service was moved from the chapel on the ground level to the Assisted Living area on level-I. This move has enabled many more residents to attend, as it does not require staff to be in attendance on a 'one-to-one' basis. Approximately 25 residents attend each month and enjoy a time of worship, prayer, Holy Communion, and fellowship together.

Highlights 2022

- The move from the chapel on the ground floor to the assisted living area on level-I. The provision of a microphone and speaker, provided by the Village staff.
- The welcome addition of two new volunteers: Gayelene Harrower and her therapy dog 'Emmy.' Gayelene and Emmy provide pastoral care before & after the service.
- The coming together of residents from ALL denominations to share in worship and fellowship with God and with each other.
- Fellowship at the conclusion of the service, where the residents share their faith, experience of church, and their favourite hymns.

Plans 2023

- To consolidate the Holy Communion service at the facility.

- Improve the way in which we provide music for hymn singing. We plan to do this by utilising GWAC recordings of the choir made during lockdown. Many thanks to Roger for his assistance in making this happen.

New Members

- Gayelene Harrower & Emmy the therapy dog.

Comments

Many thanks go to Veronica Barclay and Lily Yeo for their pastoral care of the residents and their faithfulness in supporting this ministry, especially thanking them for their ongoing communication with the staff of Nellie Melba, enabling the smooth running of the service. Many thanks again to Gayelene and Emmy, who bring an extra dimension of pastoral care to our monthly service.

FRIDAY NIGHT CRAFT GROUP – FIONA DUNN

Friday Night Craft Group builds community within GWAC through craft and creates a space to reach out and invite friends who don't yet know God into a nurturing environment creating space for spiritual conversations.

Highlights 2022

- Care packages: we sent 15 crafty care packages to members with food and crafty activities to do during the last lockdown Melbourne had.
- Post lockdown, all our non-Christian friends came back to Friday Night Craft Group which was so encouraging as they must feel God's presence – even if they don't acknowledge it yet.
- Post lockdown the numbers of people regularly attending is just as strong as before COVID. Having Craft Group over Zoom over lockdown has made the group stronger.
- We are loving preparing for GWACs Christmas Makers Market 2022- woo hoo!!

Plans 2023

- Play a leading role in the GWAC Christmas Makers Market.
- Proactively encourage new people to join Friday Night Craft Group and pray for God to open up opportunities to have spiritual conversations.
- Care for each other to show God's love and looking for small ways to support and care for each other.
- Look for opportunities to start a Bible Discovery Group and invite people to join Alpha and other GWAC initiatives.
- Organise a Craft Retreat over a weekend.

New Members

- Meagan

Comments

The last couple of years have been COVID challenging. I have been so blessed to be part of

Friday Night Craft Group right through our lockdowns. We have laughed together, commiserated and cared for each other – it has been such a lovely caring group even when we haven't been able to meet face to face.

HOPE FOR MONASH LTD: IAN NYHOLM

Hope for Monash Ltd commenced in 2020 with the distribution of shopping bags to parishioners asking for donations of food products to be distributed by local charity organisations. In 2022, GWAC created a Public Benevolent Institution to further the work begun in 2020. This corporation limited by guarantee is wholly owned by Glen Waverley Anglican Church.

Highlights 2021-22

- During the Christmas period of 2021, a large number of food products was donated and distributed. The total value of these donations exceeded \$1,000.

Plans for 2023

- During the coming year, work will commence to determine the needs for charity work with the local community and plans prepared to raise funds and address specific needs.

Thanks & Comments

- Thanks to our Senior Minister, Phil Meulman for his work in organising the food drive during 2021 and also to the many people who toiled to pack and distribute the donated food products.
- This is an exciting venture which will grow during 2022/23 and show the community that GWAC is “a caring community, making maturing and mobilising disciples of Jesus Christ, locally and globally.”

NEXT GEN MINISTRY

SPARK- JULES BARNARD

SPARK Kids is our Sunday School ministry at GWAC. SPARK Kids helps to engage our young people on their faith journey by helping them explore, question, and learn about God's word as well as fostering a relationship with God. Our AMAZING leaders help our young people to see God at work in our lives and in our world.

Highlights 2022

- We have LOVED reconnecting with people after covid this year, especially with our growing connection with the Mandarin Congregation.
- We have several young people joining the SPARK leadership team. It is a great joy to have them.
- We have been enjoying working our way through the GROW curriculum, which has been helpful for us as a team.

Plans 2023

- We are looking forward to furthering our connection in the new year with the Mandarin ministry and congregation through further collaboration in the children's ministry
- We will be making adjustments to which services will be running Kids Ministry. Our plan for 2023 will be to run only 1 Sunday service with a kids' program. This service will be the 10:30am service which will focus our energy and resources on re-establishing our Children's and Families' ministry.
- In 2023, we will have a student placement person joining our team. Ginger will be joining as the Children's and Families Mandarin Worker. Our desire is to strength our connection between our established ministries and our new Mandarin families.
- It is our desire to be offering programs for two age groups at the 10:30am service. It is our prayer that this will be ready to launch in Term-1.

New members

- Katherine Corr
- Benzi Zapata
- Haeju Kim
- Cheryl Wheaton

PLAYGROUP – JULES BARNARD

Playgroup is our mid-week ministry for babies, toddlers, and pre-schoolers, along with their parents and carers. Playgroup is a great space for us to connect with local families who are willing to connect with a church, though many of them are not Christian.

Playgroup is a rich mission field with us connecting with and journeying with many families each year.

Highlights 2022

- The leaders of Playgroup have been a massive highlight this year. They have been praying for new families when we started the year with 1 family in each session. They have been faithful in the way they have served, and this has seen a wonderful connection with almost 50 families this year.
- We have progressively grown our connection with the community and have seen more families staying at Playgroup. This has been so wonderful. As we have gotten to know these families, we have had increasing opportunities to link things that are happening in their lives to God, and also to pray for them.
- At the end of October 2022, Gymbaroo came under new management and the new owner has been seeking ways to connect with Playgroup and the GWAC community. This was a massive answer to prayer. We have seen many families from Playgroup and Gymbaroo coming to both, which helps with having multiple connection points in the week.
- Some of the Playgroup Leaders have completed the My Friends course, as we think about being more intentional with our relationships with our families and gently presenting God to them.

Plans 2023

- We are looking at developing a stronger connection with the Mandarin community with the support of the new Children & Families Mandarin worker who is on student placement with us in 2023. We hope to connect with many Mandarin speaking families who are local with us.
- We want to continue growing a connection with GWAC families and our community families through family gatherings, events, and training.
- We would love to have 20 regular families as part of Playgroup by the start of Term-3. We ask that you pray with us to see this happen.

New Members

- Clare Bilton-Roos

KIDS HOPE – JULES BARNARD, BARRY ROBERTS

Kids Hope has been running along in the background at Glen Waverley South Primary School. Kids Hope is a one-to-one mentoring program that partners a GWAC volunteer with a student at school who needs some extra support. Kids Hope is a great way for us to have a presence in our local school.

Highlights 2022

- We have been able to meet in person for over 11 months, Praise the Lord.
- We have a wonderful team of mentors that have been caring for the mentees and being a light to our community. Thank you!
- The Playgroup team have been donating handmade crafts to the Glen Waverley South Primary School (GWSPS) community for Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls to help foster a stronger connection between GWAC and the school community.

Plans 2023

- We would like to further our connection with the GWSPS school community. We would like to continue supplying items for the different stalls at the school.
- We are having a morning tea with the teachers to celebrate the year we have had.

Acknowledgements

- Jan Norton
- Lynn Pryor

My FRIENDS – JULES BARNARD

My Friends is a program that helps us think about simple ways we can share our faith with those that we know. It helps us be proactive with caring and praying for those in our lives, but also connecting God with the different events happening in people's lives.

Highlights 2022

- We have run the My Friends gathering that started in August. It has been a wonderful group thinking about how we build meaningful relationships in Playgroup but also other parts of our lives.
- We have seen people praying for each other's friends and for connections to be open to us sharing our own experiences of God and have heard that several God conversations have taken place.

Plans 2023

- Jules and Fiona Dunn are running a term 4 program that is going really well. This will be landing in the Christmas Market!
- There are plans in place for more groups to be running in 2023 as part of GWAC's wider vision to connect with our community. The staff team are looking forward to communicating more about our 2023 ministry plans.

IGNITE (YOUTH) – ANTHONY WHEATON

Ignite is for Grades 6-12, meeting weekly on Friday nights (7-9pm). Ignite's recent tagline is "Faith in Formation" which is the centre of our activities. Young adult leaders model the Christian walk and invite youth to ask their questions, while building community and acceptance among us.

We regularly split into smaller age-based groups to encourage beliefs to be explored and for deeper connection and belonging. Ignite has the energy & fun of being a large youth community that can be a first step of contact with GWAC, where activities are open to any school friends to join.

Highlights 2022

- Parents: In 2022, Ignite has re-connected youth AND the parent community. Together we've celebrated new freedom and enjoyed seeing youth engage in God's word. Parental support for events has been excellent, with many coordinating transport to help each other & others who've completed child safe training to participate, or HOST ignite in their homes.
- Worship band & Compass: Music is a strong interest of our community, so both leaders & youth have gained confidence playing songs together & expressing their praise to God. The high energy guest band COMPASS was a highlight twice for us, sharing the meaning behind their music & modelling how faith exists in other genres of song.
- Vulnerability: During Term 2 we focused our Community Group discussions on Christian practices, helping youth to normalise things like prayer. Throughout 2022 youth bravely showed more vulnerability in their group sharing, bringing important matters to light, allowing each other to drop the mask of 'things are fine / I'm ok'. Many comment that Ignite is their safe space for the week. It's been great to hear various leaders speak about their vulnerable feelings in short talks, pointing to how Jesus helps them.
- Discipleship: There are many examples of youth increasing their Bible reading habits. A few are meeting together to do this outside of Ignite, and a few are serving (as readers or otherwise) at GWAC services. A few engaged with the Junior Jets (sermon guide notes) & several youth attended the Bible study lunch in mid-year school holidays. Interest is growing around baptism & confirmation for the months ahead, while 3 youth are considering how to start discipleship groups at their schools through MUSTARD.
- Ignite Camp: The long awaited 5-day program in September was enjoyed by leaders & campers. A huge amount of community-building was achieved, with activities to suit all ages & interests. Starting the day together, sharing meals, practicing a Quiet Time with God, hearing excellent talks, discussing what they mean for each other, & daily worship all contributed to relationships with God & each other expanding greatly. Camp developed our leaders, in particular 2 new

co-directors. It also provided an opportunity for other young adults to design & present a wide game for youth to enjoy.

Plans 2023

- SUTS Youth 5-day camp: This January some senior Ignite youth & leaders are joining this CMS event, to grow in their understanding of Mission. Following this we'll debrief about actions youth can take with this fresh energy/passion for mission. This may link well with the Power to Change Shift m2M model for disciple-making & My Friends training. A new aspect to consider is Fundraising to assist our people attending such camps. A trivia night may be offered in early 2023.
- MAY '23 weekend away at VCYC (Victorian Christian Youth Convention): Their vision is "to see young people from around Victoria connected to God and each other, for His glory. Everything we do is based on God's living and active Word, and we aim to show how to live a life empowered by the Holy Spirit and grounded in the Scriptures." We will test this out at a 'taster' evening in November 2022.
- Work Experience at GWAC: After one student joined staff for a week in 2022, we see great potential for youth to explore ministry as part of their Grade 10 work experience component. Students will mix with various staff & provide input at various Bible studies & programs. It's a huge jumpstart in faith that fits their schedule neatly.
- Big Kids Table (BKT) (Dating & Gender topics): While the BKT program in early 2022 was not quite the right fit for all our youth, we do have some cool resources from them to still explore, which may assist in any future Hot Potato sermon series (quite popular so far).
- Expanding from FRIDAYS to SUNDAYS: to encourage more youth conversations about God, we may develop an Upper Primary discussion program that runs during certain 5pm services. This will also assist with kids moving through from SPARK, helping them with initial connections.

New Members

- Amelie Gifford
- Ash Abbott
- Daniela Lambrechts

Comments

- 2022 average attendance has been just under 30/wk.
- There are 12 young adult leaders.
- Group members who receive info about Ignite ~ 56.
- Of those attending in 2022:
 - about 13 do NOT attend church
 - about 4 attend another church
 - approx. 6 attend GWAC only occasionally
 - The rest we see on Sundays

- During 2022 we've had 4 or 5 newcomers, one from a non-practising Christian home.
- For camp we have approx. 30 coming but missing lots of Seniors/Yr12s who are studying.
- In 2023 I expect the member list to drop under 50. There is some concern about the pipeline of kids within the church for future years of ignite. Effort may be needed to create new connections such that the youth group list does not drop below 30.

YOUNG ADULTS

The ministry to young adults (YAs) seeks to grow YAs in their relationship with God and each other through the YAs Connect Group, special events, discipleship and church services. Our YAs are encouraged to be involved across all ministries of the church, using their talents according to their gifts and passions to bless the church family and glorify God.

Highlights 2022

- YAs Connect Groups: This year we added an additional YA Connect Group lead by Jules and Daisy Barnard to the ministry. Each week almost 30 young adults met for Bible study and fellowship. People in these groups are growing in faith together, and leadership is developing.
- YAs Retreats: In both summer and winter, young adults went away over weekends to enjoy connecting with each other and God.
- Passover meal: At Easter we celebrated a Christian-styled Passover meal together, connecting Jesus to the hope expressed in the OT Passover celebration.
- The one-on-one discipleship of YAs to grow godly character, ministry competence and Biblical wisdom.

Plans 2023

- Monthly gatherings, for community building and outreach.
- YAs retreats in February and July.
- YAs trained and equipped to lead Bible studies through the One-to-One Discipleship course offered in Term 1.
- YA lay preachers developed through Preachers Workshops in term 2.
- An additional YAs Connect Group adding to the two we already offer.

Comments

Almost every young adult in our church is attending a Connect Group. While this is exciting, we need to open up new groups if we are going to see this trend continue. Please pray that all the graduating, Year 12 students will make their way into Connect Groups, which are vital for our evangelism and our growth in spiritual maturity.

SENIORS

TRAIN YOUR BRAIN (TYB) – NERIDAH PEIRCE & THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Train Your Brain team runs a monthly event that welcomes all members of the community. In this community outreach, we seek the assistance of volunteers to help run the program. The team liaises with other Seniors' Ministries to produce a newsletter of events for distribution both within GWAC and the wider community.

Highlights 2022

- A highlight of this year has been the opportunity to meet again each month unlike just three events last year due to the Covid 19 lockdown regulations.
- The attendance numbers have gradually increased during the year to pre-Covid levels which is very encouraging.
- A wide range of topics have been covered in the "Topic of the Month" segment.
- There have been improvements in the way we have run the Exercise part of the program.

Plans 2023

- To increase outreach to the wider community, in an endeavour to have conversations with community members that bear fruit for God's kingdom.
- To further develop our newsletter "WOTSON4Seniors@GWAC."
- To continue to widen the scope of topics relevant to seniors in the Topic for the Month.
- To increase the number of volunteers to assist activity leaders.
- To continue developing links with Monash Council to increase outreach possibilities.

Comments

Thank you to each member of the TYB Team: Don, John, Julie, William and Judy for their willingness to always go the extra distance to get things happening. The Team looks forward to continuing to build the program in conjunction with other Seniors' Ministries within GWAC and the wider community.

EASY DOES IT (EDI) – WILL JERRAM

Easy Does It is designed to be a weekly exercise session (lasting for about an hour) for the benefit of Seniors with a wide range of physical needs and abilities. The participants include many GWAC attendees as well as other Seniors within the broader community.

Highlights 2022

- This year the attendance showed a pleasing increase following the impact of Covid-19 on the program over the previous two years.

- The smaller group of "chair-based" participants (ranging from 3 to 10 persons) usually followed the video presentations developed by "Arthritis Victoria" which are predominately "chair based".
- As proposed last year, we employed the services of a local physiotherapist who worked with our more "mobile group" in the Stadium. This resulted in a wider range of exercises which better provided for the needs of the participants. This was a very successful initiative.
- After each weekly session, participants enjoyed fellowship and the afternoon tea provided by our excellent Kitchen Team. This time provided the opportunity for community outreach.

Plans 2022

- We will continue to provide for two groups to accommodate the range of needs of those participating.
- We will continue to employ the services and skill of the local physiotherapist which added further scope to the range of exercises for the more mobile group.
- We plan to increase the range of equipment to provide an increase in the range of exercises e.g., stretch bands and additional videos.

Comments

We are most encouraged by the feedback from the participants in both groups and look forward to another successful year in 2023.

MATES PLUS – IAN NYHOLM

Allows men to meet in a Christian environment.

Highlights 2022

- Interesting talks by Senior Minister Phil Meulman and also Bp John Harrower.
- Visit to the Ambulance Museum.
- Address by Commander Karen Nyholm to a combined MU & Friends and Mates Plus gathering. Karen spoke on "Policing in the 21st Century".

Plans 2023

- Due to David Chamberlain having to step down from the leadership no specific plans have been made for 2023.

Acknowledgements

- David Chamberlain (passed away August 2022)

MU & FRIENDS – LYNN PRYOR

The monthly meetings of Mothers Union & Friends provide members with opportunity for fellowship through worship, reflection on God's word, and prayer. We encourage each other in our journey with Christ. Our program encourages members to invite friends to join us, especially when we have speakers of special interest

Highlights 2022

- A highly anticipated event this year was our celebration of 60 years of Mothers Union in the Glen Waverley area. Members & friends of other Deanery branches were invited to join our special service, in which Bishop John Harrower presided at the Holy Communion, and Rev. Anne Kennedy, National President of Mothers Union (Australia), was the guest speaker. Several members were presented with membership awards (of 60 & 50 years).
- Members enjoyed a trip to the city to visit the Mission to Seafarers, where we enjoyed lunch together. Again over 200 knitted beanies have been lovingly prepared and delivered for the seafarers who really appreciate them.
- Other events included the return of our fundraising stall in July, visits to Playgroup to encourage the parents, and lunch together at the Ferntree Gully Hotel.
- Caring for each other, neighbours and friends, is a significant component of our life together. Much appreciated are the Blessing Bags delivered to people with special needs – ill health, bereavement, or other stressful times.

Plans 2023

- As the worldwide theme of MU for this year has been "Transformation now!" we will continue to explore new ways to reach out with love and care to people in our community.
- Our annual Advent celebration (November) sets the tone for the program for the year ahead.

New members

- Susan Tucker

OPERATIONS

OPERATIONS – ASHISH ROY

We have a great team of volunteers who assist in various roles such as reception, communication, data entry, graphics, promotion, publication, proof reading and IT.

This ministry also trains leaders in the fields of data management and publication, and also supervises the logistics of events taking place at the church such as funerals, weddings, and external events. Some volunteers also assist us by working from home on our web-based church information system and website.

Highlights 2022

- We have an amazing team of volunteers who serve in various roles, onsite and offsite, and serve the Lord with their skills and time. Thank you all for your diligent work!
 - Office & Reception: Lynn Pryor, Chris Brassington, Kathie Clarke, Sue Lovegrove, John Butcher.
 - Publication & Proof-reading: Sue & Paul Collier, Lynn Pryor.
 - Elvanto (Church Mgt System): Sue Collier, Gillian Brohier, Christine Reid.
 - IT: Andrew Dunn, Sean Hsien, Glenn Batchelor
 - We thank God for all the audio-visual techs, Flower Ministry, and Kitchen Ministry who assist with special events taking place at GWAC, e.g., weddings, & funerals, conferences, school programs. Special thanks to Andrew Harding, Neridah Peirce, Richard Dennehy, Susan Tucker, for their audio-visual and livestream support. Special thanks to Christine Reid who manages voicemails received at Reception (from home), when needed.
- The church App was reorganised and relaunched this year with new features.

New members

- Kathie Clarke

PROPERTY, FACILITIES & GARDENS

PROPERTY, FACILITIES AND GROUNDS – STEPHEN GILES

I would like to thank the many people who have made me welcome since I started in late March of this year. It has been quite different for me after having worked for myself for 35 years and now to be working in the staff team. I am sure it will take a bit of time for parishioners to get used to having a Property Manager on staff also.

We are tasked with keeping the Property and Grounds maintained and in good condition. A lot of the work is done by volunteers, and we are always looking for new people to help with the various roles. If you would like to join us, please ask Stephen Giles or the Church office. The conditions are great, the morning teas are sensational, and the pay is heavenly!

Highlights 2022

- There have been many highlights this year and a lot has been achieved. We now have a new FOB entry system, and the alarm system has been updated at the same time.
- Did you know that we now have a new fire alarm and speaker system throughout the building?
- By now you would have seen the security cameras around the property.
- The new street sign is up and running and the old street sign has been given a new life at the Watson Road entrance.
- The back of the hill has been partially cleaned up and a lot of trees have been cleared from that area.
- I have been involved with many things and the main items are:
 - Road markings on site.
 - Children's playground fence, and the shed re organised with shelving and hanging space.
 - We changed the disabled toilet to a sliding door to try to make it easier to access.
 - It's great to see the Community Library being used.

Plans 2023

- The plan is for me to keep the maintenance of the site up to date and to help parishioners have a good experience when they come to site to help the Staff team in their roles.
- I will help to coordinate the repair and painting of the areas affected by water damage earlier this year.
- We will benefit from the Hot Water unit replacement in the prep room soon as it has come to its end after 20 odd years.
- While painting the carparks, we added 4 Pram spots near the East entrance and we will be creating a new pathway to allow Pram and Disabled access from that area as well.

Acknowledgements & Thanks

My role only goes so far, and I could never keep up with all the things going on at GWAC.

- I need to thank Bob Barclay for the hours and hours that he has faithfully put into the Maintenance and Property work at GWAC. I also need to thank him for his welcome and help as I settled into the new job.
- My sincere thanks also go to Glenn Batchelor for the many hours he has spent on the camera installations, the fob system and alarm upgrade, the fire alarm system and the boom gate installation.
- I have probably missed something, but your help and advice has been fantastic.
- And last but not least I need to thank David Mills for his welcome and help in the many tasks that he is involved in as head of the Working Bee team.

WORKING BEES –GLENN BATCHELOR, KYLE HAYES, DAVID MILLS

The beauty of God's creation is seen in the flowers, shrubs, trees and grass, and it is a privilege and necessity to care for them. Working bees, alongside those caring for gardens and lawn, help our property be a sign of God's care and creativity. They also provide great opportunities for fellowship in working together.

Highlights 2022

- People have happily joined in the five working bees this past year and had the satisfaction of seeing our property gradually become tidy and more beautiful.
- Everyone can join and make a contribution - a wide variety of tasks are always tackled, and special skills are not needed.
- People get to know others whom they may not know at all, or only from a distance. Conversations happen which bring a blessing.

Plans 2023

- Working bee will continue to respond to the many needs around our property, Obvious ones are mulching garden beds, managing the row of Lomandra (matt-rush) plants along Waverley Rd, and weed-proofing the courtyard pavers.
- Indoor tasks will be included in future. Gardens in the children's playground above the wall will need a small team to develop and oversee.

Acknowledgments

- Will Jerram
- Siva Sabapathy

(Working bee is an open group hence many may come and go).

GARDENS- DAVID MILLS

Our gardens bring joy and reflect God's glory. Thank you to those who regularly care for them:

- Russell and Patricia Mills (main front garden and Memorial Garden),
- Lynn Pryor (opposite front entrance and at 800A entrance),
- Graham Churchill and Bruce Clarke (cleared Lomandra, planted natives along eastern driveway, eastern entrance, near offices and in courtyard).
- Mandy Dennehy, Robin Hickson, Mary Riley, Katherine Corr and David McNeill have made a start on the gardens beside the chapel.

Acknowledgements & Comments

Will Jerram has recently stepped down from many years of weed-control spraying - thank you Will. Volunteers are needed for this and other regular tidying of grounds.

LAWN MOWING- DON REID

Having the lawns smartly cut shows that those involved wish to see the church looking smart

Highlights 2022

- On most occasions, those doing the mowing do the task on time, and to a high standard.
- Most people on the roster are willing to swap dates for duty to fill spots when a person is absent.

Plans 2023

- Having run the mowing for some years and having had quite a number of people leave the roster, this has always not been an easy task to manage. I would encourage more people to participate, especially women. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact the church office.

Acknowledgments

- Geoff Folland

FLOWER MINISTRY – ELISABETH MIGLIC

The Flower Ministry seeks to bring glory to God. Recognising the beauty in His creation, the arrangements are provided each week to assist the call to worship. The Ministry seeks to assist families and others when there are special services such as a wedding or memorial service. It is indeed a joy and privilege to serve in this ministry.

Highlights 2022

- Good and caring relationships exist between the members who work together in pairs.

- Fellowship with, and opportunities for discussion with those who are being supported at a special service.

Thanks

Heartfelt thanks to each member of the Flower Ministry for the lovely arrangements they have provided this year. These ladies are:

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| • Veronica Barclay | • Robin Hickson | • Alyson McNeill |
| • Helen Brown | • Fenella Jayawickreme | • Elisabeth Miglic |
| • Jyotika David | • Shirley Johns | • Sonia Paulett |
| • Judy Dixon | • Meredith Kirkland | • Frances Whitehurst |
| • Diana Graham | | |

KITCHEN – SONIA PAULETT

Keeping kitchen supplies up to date. Serving morning tea and/or refreshments after Sunday services and at other functions when church is used.

Highlights 2022

- Opportunities to meet and greet new worshippers and visitors to GWAC after services, without being "threatening" by a prolonged Q & A on their reasons for coming. It enables people to be directed to meet other parishioners or staff if wished.
- The annual BCA lunch is an example of the value of our kitchen to welcome those from outside our parish. The facilities at GWAC lend themselves to enabling groups such as these to hold a function in an area with its primary purpose being one to bring glory to God.
- By offering the kitchen and fellowship areas to be used following funerals, it gives us the opportunity to show hospitality to both Christians and non-Christians visiting GWAC.

Plans 2023

- To encourage members of the GWAC Mandarin community to join us in fellowship after the 10.30am service.
- To recruit more members to join the weekly rosters.

