**2018 ANNUAL REPORT
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 19TH AUGUST 2018**

**Church Secretary report**

This has been an exciting and a challenging year for me as I have stepped into the role of secretary, following in the quietly confident shoes of both Ria Follett and David Arnold. I'll take this moment to thank both of these folk and each of you here today for the patience and support you have continued to supply me with as I settle into this role.

Throughout this year we have welcomed some new members and have seen a number of current members move away to worship at other churches closer to their own domicile, following changes to these. We are currently conducting our membership audit and will be able to release these numbers in the very near future.

It was sad to see Robert Li moving on at the end of 2017. However, our search for a new Mandarin pastor has resulted in Nick Song joining us. It was tremendously exciting to be part of Nick’s induction earlier this month.

I feel very privileged this year to have participated in Seed 3, under facilitation from Steve Hales. A great experience as we approach the prospect of developing disciples. Steve has delivered this series now 3 times and it is proving a valuable platform in the redefining of discipling practices into our community.

There have been many times when the stewardship of our Elders team has been very supportive, and for this I would like to thank Betty Moore, Patsy Lees, David Tan and Craig Kayes. David and Craig are stepping down this year, having completed their terms of service, and Betty is standing for re election. In relation to replacements for those stepping down, we are confident that God has guided us to the candidates that we are able to commend to the Church Meeting.

There are detailed reports available from Senior Pastor - Steve Hales, Youth and Young Adults – Dan Waugh, Safe Churches and Children's Ministry – Emma Martin, Korean Ministry – David Choi, Mandarin Ministry – Nick Song, Missions – Sylvia Collinson, Property – Milton Purkiss and Finance and Business – Gary Dory. These are available both in hard copy in the church foyer and on the Church website.

I personally am looking forward to our Church camp at the end of this month and moving into the new year with many opportunities for discipling into our community through Carlingford Baptist Church.

Yours in Christ,

Ian Read
 **Senior Pastor’s Report**

1. Welcome Nick Song!
2. Church Camp next weekend, including special service 26/8 at the camp venue.
3. Seed Discipleship groups update. See Steve if you want to find out more about joining.
4. Preaching update including up-coming plan to preach on 1 Timothy.
5. Prayer as we approach the time to revisit our Vision and Strategic Plan.
6. Other miscellaneous updates including Steve’s surgery 10/8 & voice rest following that.

*Colossians 3:14a (NIV) “And over all these virtues put on love”*

It’s amazing to consider that as broken and imperfect as we are, we are the ‘body of Christ’, which means we are Jesus’ strategy for making himself known to the world. That’s why it’s so important for us to get busy loving each other and finding ways to show his love to those who don’t yet know him. When churches are filled with gossips and complainers, that’s going to repel people, but when our conversation is filled with gentleness, forgiveness, encouragement and compassion, people will be drawn to Christ through us. Love is our destiny. Jesus told us love is the law. May we be known for our love.

Welcome **Nick Song and Xiaomin**! Nick’s appointment to ‘Pastor – Mandarin Community’ was very strongly supported at our Special Meeting on 24/6, and he started the following Sunday, 1/7! Nick got off to a ‘running start’ and is working hard to get to know the Mandarin attenders, and how things work around here. He’s already demonstrated his strong commitment to build on our cross-cultural connections. By the time this report goes to the church, we will have celebrated Nick’s formal induction. We thank God for bringing Nick to lead our Mandarin community. Special thanks go to the Pastoral Search Team and the Mandarin Committee for all their work and support in recent months.

**Faith sharing** remains in view as we continue through 2018. The most important opportunity to grow in sharing our faith in the immediate future is actually next week at our **Church Camp**! We’ve met Belinda Lakelin now, so we’ve had a small taste of what lies ahead as Belinda leads us in sessions that aim to inspire and equip us to share our faith. A reminder we are encouraging everyone to join us for our **Special Service** on Sunday 26/8, 11am at the camp venue. No services will run at Carlingford that day. We are planning to run the bus across for this, and we encourage people to stay for lunch and enjoy a nice day out, getting a taste of the church camp experience. Church camp is a particularly important time for getting to know people we wouldn’t otherwise have the opportunity to know, including those of different cultures and ages. Please be in prayer over the coming week that God will use this time for his glory.

The 3rd**Seed ‘C’ Discipleship Group** has just completed their initial 6 month commitment and have now made plans for how we will continue the journey of being and making disciples. The Seed groups that have completed their first 6 months are now meeting just a few times a year to continue to encourage each other on in the journey. Being in a Seed group isn’t Biblically mandated, but being and making disciples is mandated, for every follower of Jesus. The Seed groups aim to help us on this journey. If you would like to be involved in the next Seed group, or if you would just like to find out more, please see Steve.

Since the last report, **preaching** has tackled *Lamentations,* and we’ve had some particularly encouraging messages from Rev Brendan Handel (Senior Pastor at Ryde Baptist who was nurtured into his faith at Carlingford), and from Muana and Villy (cross-cultural workers with GiA in Northern Thailand). You will have noticed that August has a lot of different things happening, with the special combined ‘Generations Celebration’ at Epping Baptist on 12/8 with Pastor Vee from the Asia-Pacific Baptist Federation and our Church Camp 24-26/8. We can look forward to our next Celebration service on 2/9, where the Children will share with us out of what they have been learning and God has been doing amongst our kids’ ministries. Our October Celebration will be hosted by the Mandarin community. Earlier plans to preach on *Zechariah* have been postponed to next year when a couple more weeks will be allocated to do it justice. The main series upcoming will be a trip through *1 Timothy* which (scarily) will take us up to Christmas.

When we get to the end of 2018, that will bring us to the end of the 3 year cycle for our **Strategic Plan**. Please be in prayer for myself, our Elders and Church Council, and for all of us, as we prepare to revisit our church Vision and seek again the future that God has for us. *What Strategic Priorities do we need to put in place for the next 3 years, in obedience to God’s call to be and make disciples in this place, at this time?* I’ve begun to put some thought and prayer into this, and my sense is that there are exciting times ahead in terms of continuing to grow in the multi-generational and cross-cultural shape of our life and ministry together and embracing the God-given opportunities this diversity and unity will bring. God is at work among us. Our job is to ensure our eyes are wide open to see what he is doing, and to be ready to join him in it.

Let me commend the work of the DAG (Development Action Group) to you, and in particular the **Project Refresh** proposal, which itself is another exciting development in our life together. I am planning to attend **Converge**, where a small group of leaders from our Baptist Movement will go to Canberra 10-12 Sep to speak with politicians about a social issue that matters to us – this year, Domestic and Family Violence. I am enjoying my role as a trainer with the **Consultancy Team** for the Baptist Association, finding it to be an important way that I can participate in ministry together with our family of churches.

By the time of this meeting I expect to have had **surgery** in the area of my vocal chords (10/8) and I thank you for your prayers and your understanding as I try my best to rest my voice over the coming weeks, in the hope of a full recovery. Our family are very excited and thankful to God on the announcement of **Sarita’s engagement** to Jono Barnett, planning to marry here on 2nd February. We hope Sarita will be home just in time for Christmas. **Jas** continues to make the most of the opportunity provided by Morling’s Plunge course and looks forward to a trip to Cambodia with Plunge in September (I wonder who they may visit?). **Erica** is well but has been super-busy with an advanced accreditation process she’s been undertaking for her teaching.

Yours in Christ,

Steve

**Korean Congregation Quarterly Report – August 2018**

“The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.1 Timothy 1:12”

1. I preaching about fruit of Holy spirits by the Galatians chapter 5:22-23. It’s very useful time for us to reflect our mature Christian life in recently. We could think about many things
about what changed and should change after decide believe Jesus Christ.
2. Finished the 10 weeks discipling course. 4 member attended during this time and very
challengable time together. Please be in prayer these people to grow more mature for
God’s glory and kingdom. Also another group doing this course continually.
3. Women group started regularly meeting for more deep relationship and encouraging to do work in church as member. They trying to share life story and testimony each life and enjoy the chat time. Men group showed good settlement and growing well ongoing recent.
4. Second evangelism project and training will be start soon. I expect the time between early September and October for starting and it will continue during 10 weeks with teaching and sharing of meaning of evangelism. This time will be very challengeable and meaningful to
our congregation.
5. Christmas Music night idea storming started by team of John and Esther. This event would be more exiting and great compare with last ones. We could see the more beautiful
harmony in generation to generation and in multicultural.

Yours in Christ

David **Mandarin Ministry report - July 2018**

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself to have attained this. Instead I am single-minded: Forgetting the things that are behind and reaching out for the things that are ahead, with this goal in mind, I strive toward the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.（Philippians3:13-14）

1. We had a wonderful Dragon Boat festival celebration with about 100 people (including children) attended. About 10 were from English congregation and a few from ESL classes.

2. The new pastor, Nick Song, joined the church's pastoral team to lead the mandarin ministry on July 1.

3. Pastor Nick is actively learning about the organizational framework and operation mode of the whole church and mandarin ministry. He hopes to integrate into the ministry of the church as soon as possible.

4. Pastor Nick is getting to know the brothers and sisters of the mandarin ministry and understanding their gifts. He hopes they can make full use of their gifts in church ministries.

5. Pastor Nick has participated in the three Mandarin bible study groups. He is collating feedbacks on the materials each group is using and is preparing bible study materials for next year.

6. The Mandarin ministry has a good leadership team and an efficient worship team. However, Nick will review and plan for more structured teachings from Exploring Christianity, New Believers class, to varying levels of Christian maturity. The initial plan is to begin cell group leaders training (4sessions) in September and discipleship training (24 sessions) in October in order to equip leaders for the growth of Mandarin ministry.

**7.** 3 people have applied for membership after the membership class on 15th Jul.

8. 10 from Mandarin congregation have attended the online module of the Creating Safe Churches training on 22nd Jul.

Yours in Christ,
Nick Song **Children’s Ministry & Safe Church Report August 2018**

In Summary

* Upcoming events – **Church Camp** (24-26 Aug) &**Children’s Celebration Service** (2nd Sept)
* New Kids Colour-in bookmarks for **Pray@1102 Campaign**
* Planning for utilising **Here2Stay discipleship pillars** resource in our children’s ministry
* Creating Safe Spaces Workshops well attended with translations in Korean & Mandarin.

**Children’s Ministry Update**

In term 3 we have some exciting upcoming events, as well as our usual children’s ministries which are up and running for another term. Our **church camp** is fast approaching. The theme for our church camp this year is Sharing Our Faith. The children will be engaging in the same material as the adults and there will be opportunities for the children to engage both in all-ages experiences and kids experiences. In September our children’s ministries will be hosting the **Celebration service** and our children are very excited to be leading our congregation in worship.

Recently the Baptist Association produced some **kids bookmarks** to encourage children to participate in the **Pray@1102 Campaign** (Based on Luke 11:2). The bookmarks list a prayer point for each day of the week (Mon-Fri) in child-friendly language based on the Pray@1102 prayer points. There are also two colouring designs to choose from. We have recently launched these bookmarks during the school holidays and they have proved popular with the children. We hope they will continue to support opportunities for our children develop regular prayer patterns. More bookmarks are available (for kids & adults) in the foyer on the Children’s Ministries noticeboard.

I have also been meeting up with some local children’s workers from other Baptist churches. So far this year we have spent timesharing about our ministries and sharing resources. For our future meetings we will be looking at the **Here2Stay discipleship pillars**, and how we can shape our ministries to include these elements. Here2Stay is an Australian initiative based on Australian and US research about why young people leave the church. The resource identifies key areas which support the development of lifelong faith. <http://here2stay.org.au/8pillars/>.I am also looking forward to attending the Baptist Children’s & Families Leaders Retreat in August.

 **Safe Church Update**

We have recently held two Creating Safe Spaces (CSS) workshop which were well attended. Many people were involved in helping to get these events running and assisting as many people as possible to access the material – particularly in translation for our Mandarin & Korean communities. Thank you for your support of this important training. Several members of our church council and elders also attended the CSS Leaders Consultation, which includes a self-audit for churches to practically implement safe church practices.

Yours in Christ

Emma Ridley **Youth & Young Adults Quarterly Report – August 2018**

 “On a mission to seek and disciple the lost in our generation and to play our part in
promoting His justice”

In summary:

* Our passion from bringing discipleship into all our work continues
* Our 24-hour youth camp went well – please pray for those considering baptism and that new youth will come along
* Our PM program evaluation was encouraging – please pray as we continue to find ways to reach out as a community without stretching ourselves too thin

The second quarter of 2018 has yet again been both exciting and challenging for our youth and young adults. For the main part, things continue as usual with **discipleship as our passion** within both our weekly programs (PM, Unearthed, Hub, Awaken youth) and our irregular programs (discipleship workshop, socials, combined church prayer meetings. However, there are some things worth noting.

At the end of June our Awaken youth leaders ran Beauty and the Beast **SOU1 NIGHT**. This was our 24-hour youth camp held on site. Along with this being an awesome opportunity to do things like play [A LOT] of playstation, and go on big scavenger hunts, we got to hear from Erin from Ryde Baptist. Erin spoke of God’s love for us despite our brokenness and gave the challenge to get serious about prayer and forgiveness. While multiple last-minute drop outs meant that there were much fewer youth present then we wished, we praise God that 3 of the youth present spoke of considering getting baptised. We seem to consistently be getting very small numbers at youth at the moment, but that doesn’t seem to be stopping God from working. Please pray for those considering baptism, and ask that God might bring us more youth to invest in.

This quarter our young adult coordinators also performed a formal **evaluation for our Sunday PM program**. The feedback was overwhelmingly supportive and encouraging. However, it did raise some important questions for us – please pray for this young adult leadership team as we continue to think toward our future. Two key issues for consideration are ways of making meetings as light-weight as possible and finding new avenues for community evangelism.

Yours in Christ,
Dan Waugh

Youth and Young Adults Pastor

 **Mission Report - July 2018**

1. May Mission Month promoted a number of our mission groups and families
	* 13th May Dan McPhee from **Open Doors** preached and launched our first mission appeal for support of their ministry to ***persecuted Christians from/in North Korea.*** This appeal was also generously supported by our Korean & Mandarin congregations and raised $9555.00.
	* 20th May Karl & Caroline Hochstetter, from **Sydney Refugee Team** spoke about their work and Karl preached
	* 27th May the work of **Wycliffe Bible Translators** was featured, with Martin Borrows speaking about their PNG trip, and the second appeal launched for thework of Wycliffe in ***PNG.*** (The earthquake appeal had been fully subscribed). This appeal raised $1351.00
2. Muana & Villy working among ethnic Thai, with **Global Interaction** had opportunity to tell us about their work on 1stJuly, both in the service and afterwards at our combined church lunch. We all enjoyed the additional time to talk with them and their family. Thanks to the many people involved in enabling the lunch to happen so successfully. $980.00 was given to them as a love offering from our people.
3. It was good for a number of us to chat with Natalie & James Nelson **Wycliffe PNG** for a short time at our missions lunch and to hear of their change of plans for the coming year.
4. We were delighted to hear of the engagements of Sarita Hales to Jono Barnett and Mark Halder to Anila Labonya Madhu. Our best wishes go to both these couples are they prepare for their married lives together.
5. Our mission giving which passed through the church’s books for the past financial year was $44,482.50. This is an encouraging figure, especially considering that many others of our people give directly to missions & other Christian organisations of their choice.
6. My thanks go again to the Missions Committee members for their support and assistance in decision making over the past few months.

Yours In Christ,

Sylvia Collinson **Property Report for Church Meeting dated 20180812**

 Areas covered:

 a.) Main Church buildings, b) The Centre, c) Admin. Office, d) Manse,

 e)Associated grounds, Bus.

 f.) Items of worship – eg, Piano, Organ, Sound system andAV equipment.

1. Maintenance of Buildings, Furnishings, Fittings, Gardens, Car park, and Drainage systems.

2. Provision of new/updating equipment used to promote the church’s vision statement.

3. Capital Works – Proposed property developments:

 Provision of new & modified property, internal & external.

4. Legal matters, new/updates:

 Work, Health & Safety, Fire Protection, Health Inspections etc.

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**1** a.)“The Church Kitchen:

 The original cook-top has been replaced with a ‘Ceramic” Four Burner elements. The larger element has two (2) elements 750Watt & 2200Watt capacity for larger utensils.

 Care of handling and cleaning is requested.

 b.)The Auto-Dishwasher has been serviced to keep it in good order for our events.

 c.) A 2-Door donated “fridge” is yet to be located and commissioned.

 d.) Maintenance in general continues with the behind the scenes work done by able volunteers. Many thanks to all Property Team members for your continuing time and effort to keep the properties in great order.

. e.) Outdoor Playground Area.

 The repaired and painted seating is being put to good use and pleasing to see.

 Any problems with this area should be reported to the Administration Office.

 f.) Bus

 Servicing of the bus has been done to ensure it is kept in good working order for our ministries. On this last occasion we were required to replace a damaged rear vision mirror. Coming up is registration time.

 g.) General Maintenance.

 The grounds have been kept manicured. The lack of rain has assisted us, but more natural water would be appreciated.

 h.) Manse

 Lighting replacements have been made to assist household operations and the laundry door required rework.

1. The upgraded sound system operation continues to be monitored.

1. The proposed REFRESH project has taken up much time recently to ensure that the whole church understands the requirements of our responsibilities. Provision of buildings which are classified “PUBLIC” are required to conform to governing bodies statutes. Our aim is to satisfy both our ministry and legal conformance requirements.

 You will soon be given the opportunity to vote on the presented proposal for implementation.

4. A Work Health & Safety Committee has been formed. This is another requirement we are to follow and all persons on the property are to adhere to the applicable directions.

 Regular inspections for Fire and Health (Pest) inspections continue throughout the year.

Yours in Christ,
Milton Purkiss

MTL – Property – 20180730

Mob: 0412 445 137