**2019 ANNUAL REPORT
ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING 11th AUGUST 2019**

**Church Secretary report**

This past year has been amazing and it has gone so quickly. In brief, some of the highlights we have seen are a:

* Very successful Church Camp
* Church Leaders yearly retreat
* completion of the Revisioning project and associated strategies, which we're now in the process of deploying

Throughout the year we have seen members come and go. Our current membership number is 156.

As part of the membership review this year, we say farewell for a variety of reasons to:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sarita Hales | John Kidson | Jeremy Copeland |
| Cassandra Gruel | Emily Taylor | Christian Miller |
| Sungjung Hwang | Kyungsook Kim | Paul Jones |
| Joan McDonald | Paul and Jenny Carritt |  |

It is with heavy hearts we also said our goodbyes at the passing of:

* Rob Hatton
* Lloyd Pringle
* Joy Craik and
* Roy Moore

I formally thank our elders Betty Moore, Patsy Lees, Alan Worsley, Karl Hochstetter and Jason Xiao for their ongoing support this year.

Please join with me as I formally thank the members of the Pastoral Team and Church Team Leads for their contributions and support of our Church Council. Specifically, I pass a vote of thanks to Sylvia as she steps down from 6 years as Missions Team Lead.

This coming year I feel brings many opportunities and challenges for us as we all work toward the implementation of the revised Vision and Supporting Strategies.

Yours in Christ,
Ian Read

**Senior Pastor’s Report**

1. Strategic Priorities for 2019-2021 affirmed. Get involved!
2. Prayer plans including workshops planned for 25/8 and 27/10.
3. Updates on community engagement, the new cross-cultural and cross-generational weekly Sunday gathering, and hospitality and social opportunities.
4. The special event Vision Dinner planned for November.
5. Preaching has been *Revelation,* with *Jonah* the next major series.
6. Other miscellaneous updates including leadership, consultancy ministry and family.

*Revelation 5:12 (NIV) In a loud voice they were saying: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”*

Can you even begin to imagine 10,000 times 10,000 angels worshipping Jesus like this – and doing it at full volume? Is there anyone we would praise in any way even remotely like this? No-one is worthy of this kind of praise – except the slain lamb. This is an amazing picture of the wonder of Christ whose power is so unlike worldly power, and whose victory looks so unlike any victory we might have expected from God’s glorious King. Self-giving, humble, weak and defeated; and yet worthy of our praise, glorious, strong and victorious. As we reflect on this heavenly vision, may we grow in our ability to see life and it’s challenges from God’s perspective.

At our last Church Meeting in June we reaffirmed our Purpose, Values and Vision before warmly and enthusiastically affirming our new **Strategic Priorities** for 2019-2021. If you haven’t had a chance to review them recently, check them out on our web-site or in the foyer and remind yourself of the exciting work that God has put before us. These strategies are not insignificant. They encourage us forward into God’s loving purposes in, through and around our church. They are worthy of our personal and sacrificial investment in terms of time, money, energy and prayer. Of course we can talk about these things, but unless we do invest ourselves into them as the body of Christ that’s all they will be – talk! So please if you haven’t already, prayerfully consider where God may be prompting you to get involved. Where do you have gifts or a passion that can be used for this kingdom work? Don’t let the opportunity pass without letting myself or one of the other pastors know what God has placed on your heart.

Of course we recognise that neither will any of this come to anything unless we build on a foundation of **prayer**. To this end a small prayer team has been dreaming up ways to help us engage more in our prayerful dependence on God together. Our heart is for us to grow in our unity as a church as we pray together more. We don’t want prayer to be something that is just ‘tacked on’ to our meetings, but deeply embedded in all we are and do – as fundamental to us as breathing. To encourage us along you have probably already noticed the appearance of ‘practical tips’ for prayer in our weekly notices, and we’re hoping to make encouraging stories of prayer a regular occurrence in our Sunday meetings. Two prayer workshops planned for 25th August and 27th October will hopefully provide a focus that will equip and inspire us to pray more fully and freely together.

In terms of our **community engagement** priority, I recently met with Trevor Wight who is the Manager of Church Relationships with BaptistCare who reported that the Social and Affordable Housing development planned for Carlingford has been delayed to 2021/22. However, he was able to share with me some further exciting ideas for community engagement that can start now, and also be valuable when the development eventually does happen. If community engagement is your heart, talk to me about it so we can see where God leads.

In terms of the new **cross-cultural and cross-generational weekly Sunday gathering** that will soon replace the existing 10.15am English service, discussions have been taking place with the 8.30am community to explore whether God is leading them to join it. The plan is that once this is established we can form a co-ordination team and a music team and soon after launch the new service.

In terms of growing our **hospitality and social opportunities** across our diverse church communities, we enjoyed a picnic on the June long weekend, and at the time of writing a ‘Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner’ is being planned. Later this year we are planning a very special Vision Dinner.

The **Vision Dinner** aims to celebrate the Vision and Strategies that God has put before us, and to put the spotlight on the connection between money and ministry to help us all see the importance of our giving. There will be a financial cost to attend, however it includes a nice meal and is all about making this a special occasion where for once we don’t need anyone to be the catering team. It’s about creating a context where we are thankful for God’s abundance rather than emphasising scarcity. We don’t want anyone to miss out if the cost is prohibitive, so let us know as there are sure to be sponsors who want to make sure all can attend. We want everyone to be there! There’s no church camp this year, but like the church camp it will be a special time for all the church to come together – a landmark event.

**Preaching** since June has focused on the book of *Revelation,* with Celebration services hosted by the Children and the Youth and Young Adults. By September we will commence a series on the book of *Jonah* which will be followed by the gospel of *Matthew* which we plan to commence in the lead up to Christmas. Upcoming *Celebration Services* include the possibility of a Traditional Celebration and one hosted by our Mandarin community at the start of October.

Please continue to keep our **Elders** and **Church Council**, as well as our **Pastors** and **Support Staff** in your prayers. Many unpaid hours are spent in service of God on behalf of our church by many of our leaders. They are a quality group who most definitely don’t do it for money or glory, and I thank God for them all the time! I particularly want to thank and honour Sylvia Collinson as she steps down this year after serving with passion and wisdom as our Missions leader as long as I’ve been here. It has been a real pleasure to serve with Sylvia on the team.

It’s been great this year to have David Tan and Ian Read join me in the **Consultancy** ministry, and benefitting from the opportunity to be further trained and equipped for ministry both at Carlingford and in our partnership with other Baptist churches. It’s keeping me busy but I enjoy the challenge and God is growing me through it.

Jasmine has begun a course to grow her gifting in floristry. We’re enjoying watching Sarita and Jono settle into their lives together. Erica is still looking forward to the day when her Music teaching job isn’t so crazy busy. By the time this report is received I will most likely have had minor surgery to help prevent the problems with my voice recurring. I hope this won’t be too disruptive and appreciate the warm support and encouragement constantly offered. God is at work among us!

Yours in Christ,

Steve

 **Elders Report 2019**

At last year’s AGM we farewelled David Tan and Craig Kayes and welcomed Karl Hochstetter and Alan Worsley into the Eldership. We also welcomed Jason Xiao, who is helping with the liaison with the Mandarin congregation. Together we continue to support and encourage our Senior Pastor and concern ourselves with the spiritual direction of the church and any governance issues which arise. We monitored the Senior Pastor’s Quarterly Strategic Reports and spent time doing his Annual Competency Review. The outcomes from this Review are very encouraging, highlighting strengths in all seven areas which were reviewed. We commend Steve for his exceptional ability to keep us all focussed on our Vision for the church and his total commitment to raising the awareness of our need for discipleship and commitment wherever we serve. We also monitor Steve’s task of reviewing the church staff. We have continued with our own roles of mentoring various members of the CBC staff, which is always a privilege. We have invested time in the Revision process, and have discussed and approved the strategies for ensuring that the Vision is moving forward in the coming year. We spent a weekend at the Leaders Retreat in October and a morning at the Planning meeting in July, which provided opportunities for us to relate to the Mission Team Leaders and the staff at CBC. During the year we have discussed various governance issues covering areas like the prayer life of the church, and the budget difficulties, which we will continue to monitor. It has again been a privilege to serve the church in this way and we are always delighted to have any of you come to discuss any matters with us.

 **Korean Congregation Quarterly Report**

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Rome 8:28

1. **KC (Korean Congregation) preparing the prayer conference**.

Many people asked about the prayer conference for their spiritual growth. Also Many small Korean church felt necessary of deep prayer time in church life. So 6-7 churches gathered for this prayer meeting and we decided do this on 30 Aug to 1 Sep. We are keeping pray to know that what God want to us for his kingdom and nation and next generation ministry.

1. **Finished the Ephesians preaching series** .I preached Ephesians for realise and learn what mean that church and christian life while 16 weeks. It was very challengable to us in terms of understanding what church meaning and direction toward His good way. Love and serve one in another was a main theme.
2. **Nominate for Pastral care supporting team.** Mrs Jinsook Yang and Mr Jungbae Won nominated as a Pastral care supporing team in Korean congregation.They are more than 3years in this church and showed very wonderful mind and heart to church through their Love and care. I could talk many hard pastral issues and encouraged from their lovely supporting.

Yours in Christ

David

 **Mandarin Ministry Report**

**Philippians 2:1-5 (NIV)：**If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.

1. The Mandarin Working Committee held a special meeting on 20th June to analyze the strengths of our church and the Mandarin ministry and started discussion about some priorities for 2020. We will continue to develop our strength in being loving and passionate in service. We will develop more leaders, strengthen small group ministry, and attract more people to join our spiritual family at CBC.
2. We had a successful Dragon Boat Festival Gospel Evening on 9th June. More than 100 people attended the event, including several brothers and sisters from the English services, the playgroup ministry, ESL classes and the community. The evangelistic party achieved the goal of sharing the gospel and introducing our church.
3. The Mandarin Prayer Ministry Team issues prayer items every morning and evening in a prayer chat group to encourage people to pray. The Mandarin prayer meeting continues to run from 7:30-9:00 every Thursday night. On July 11th during the school holiday, a special prayer meeting was held to pray for the children.
4. We are very grateful that in June, one couple decided to believe in the Lord, and two other brothers wished to be baptized.
5. A new Bible study cell group consisting mainly young working families started in June. They meet for Bible study in the first and the third week of each month at Pastor Nick’s home.
6. The current regular attendance at the Mandarin service is slightly above 60 people.

Mandarin Pastor: Nick Song

**Children’s Ministry & Safe Church Report**

 **Children’s Ministry**

At the **Children’s Celebration** in July, the children choose the story of the Holy Spirit coming at Pentecost (Acts 2) and shared what has been happening in **Kids Church** this year, including our **Big Story of the Bible** theme, and some of the ways we worship and learn together. Thank you to everyone who was involved in helping this celebration come together. It was also an opportunity for the children to minister to our church community, through various elements of the service and preparation. Opportunities to serve, and to be part of a wider multigenerational community are both important pillars for lifelong faith formation. (See <https://here2stay.org.au/>).

To develop our children’s sense of belonging to the wider church community (especially our corporate worship time) we are encouraging our children to join the celebration services each month. A worksheet to encourage engagement in the service will be available. As this is a big transition for our kids, we’ll continue to run a ‘mini’ kids church during the sermon.

Initial discussions are underway to look at how the children’s, youth and wider church community can partner together in working towards our Strategic Priority of **Investing in the Next Generation**. Thank you to those who have indicated their willingness to be involved through our **Expressions of Interest** form. (Get yours in soon if you haven’t already!)

Our **Kids Church Families Morning Tea**, went well in Term 2. This was a lovely opportunity for families to get together and engage further with the Kids Church team, program and faith development of our kids. We have started at WhatsApp group to assist in communication, and to encourage each other. During the morning tea we looked at a new resource for families – **The Kitchen Table Project’s “*10 things we can all easily do at home*”** to inspire lifelong faith in our kids. See <https://kitchentable.org.uk/> or grab a bookmark from the Children’s Ministry board in the foyer. We are planning our next morning tea on 15th September.

In August we will also be starting a **parenting workshop** series, using the **Circle of Security** resource. Please be in prayer for this workshop that families will find it helpful, and that it would be a good opportunity to build connections between families attending CBC and our playgroup and brigade families.

 **Safe Church Update**

The CSS Safe Church Certification is being developed into a **Safe Church Health Check**. The Safe Church Health Check is developed by the Baptist Association of NSW & ACT and will provide resource and information to assist churches in meeting insurance and legislative requirements, including the minimum standards set by the Royal Commission.

CBC is currently working through the Certification checklist, which will assist us in completing the Safe Church Health Check when it is finalised.

**Safe Church Top Tip**:

CBC has a Safe Church Team – Steve Hales, Dan Waugh & Emma Ridley.

The Safe Church Team:

* Assists the church with safe church requirements
* Ensures reports of harm are reported appropriately

If you have a question about a safe church matter, or have ‘risk of harm’ concerns for a child – please contact a member of the Safe Church Team. If a risk of harm concern involves a member of the Safe Church Team the *Baptist Association Ministry Standards Manager* (1300 647 780) should be contacted. The church Elders are also available to assist in this process.

 **Youth & Young Adults Quarterly Report**

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

In summary:

* This term of Table saw about 15 youth come each week. For term 3 we are talking about ways of sharing faith. Pray for growth.
* Two more non-Christians have agreed to read the Bible with our young adults one-on-one to learn more about it. Pray that God speaks to them.

Term 2 of The Table youth program went well. Most weeks there are 15 youth attending and we had several visitors for our social week where we went ice-skating. We looked at 5 different purposes of prayer and sought to set goals to learn new prayer practices. For term 3 we will be talking about 5 ways in which we share faith. It is our hope that this will be empowering for the youth and it will lead to growth in numbers for The Table. Please be praying.

For our young adults, we continue to join the 10:15 Family service in the mornings awaiting the new multicultural and generational service. Our weekly Immerse meeting where we worship and study the Bible has transitioned into being held at different peoples homes and so far this has been encouraging.

A key strategy for our young adults in sharing our faith is to use Friday night as a social space to welcome and encourage our non-Christian friends. This is good but often practically challenging. God has also answered prayer recently with another of the young adults having asked two friends to read the Bible with him, and both said yes! Please pray that this will go well and that we might find more people willing to read the Bible with us in the hope that by doing so God will work in their hearts.

Yours in Christ,
Dan Waugh

 **Mission Report**

There have been a number of mission foci during the past 3 months.  We have welcomed a number of visitors to speak at services telling of their work and matters for prayer.  Our May Mission Month appeal for the team retreat of the Global Interaction ethnic Thai team was warmly supported by our people and the target amount of $6000 was exceeded.

Missions whose work have been publicised include:

* HELP Bangladesh with David Halder interviewed at morning services
* Global Interaction with videos and promotion by mission committee and visit of Rev Paul Gravitis who preached at our morning services
* Sydney Refugee Team's Karl & Caroline Hochstetter spoke about their important work among refugees
* Tanilba Bay Scripture Union Family Mission team leaders and members gave us an encouraging report of their work each summer
* Shayne & Melissa Hamilton & family visited.  Shayne outlined their ministry among young people and was joined by Dan Waugh contributing concerning his involvement in Carlingford High.
* We were pleased to hear of the birth of Jenny & Ian Finnan’s daughter

Our regular church prayer bulletin has encouraged prayers for these folk and others whose letters we regularly receive.  The church bulletin Mission Spot has outlined matters of information and interest for our people.

I have been involved with the Bible Shop ministry in Alice Springs for the past month, selling Bible products for indigenous language speakers from many of the tribes in the Central Australian desert region and supporting 4 of their long term translators and literacy workers in Alyawarr, Anmatyer & Ngaanyatjarra languages.

Sylvia Collinson

##  **Justice**

## Baptist World Aid (BWA) are looking to send a small team to Cambodia, February 2020 on a short exposure trip, and want to bring 2 people from Carlingford Baptist. Contact Steve Hales for more info.

* The Catalyst team are hosting the next Prayer meeting – Sunday 18 August to pray for the teams in Cambodia our church supports
* BWA are urging churches to consider their patterns of consumption over the coming months and encouraging them to draw on the articles and resources of [www.consumed.org.au](http://www.consumed.org.au)
* Voices for Justice Conference has been announced for 30 Nov – 3 Dec this year

BWA have partners in Cambodia we support as a church, financially. BWA are looking to send a small group there next year, comprising people from a few churches including ours. Those taking this trip will see up close, what God is doing through these ministries, and gain a bigger sense of God’s call to cross cultural mission. The Catalyst group will be hosting the next church prayer meeting, and we’ll consider the needs of the teams in Cambodia, and celebrate what God has done through them.



 *This is a summary graphic of BWA’s projects across the world in 2018.*

[www.consumed.org.au](http://www.consumed.org.au) is a platform to help those of us across Baptist churches engage with the topic of Godly consumption, amidst a culture of consumerism. BWA and others have contributed to this project. Catalyst will be highlighting some recent findings regarding fair trade over the coming months.

Voices for justice is a very unique conference where Christians rally together and meet with members of parliament, to champion causes of justice, like our nation’s overseas development budget. This conference is two days of team building, then two days at parliament house in workshops and meetings. This is a great opportunity for Christians of all ages, and levels of experience, with an interest in speaking up for Justice.

Follow the facebook page [www.facebook.com/cbcdoingjusticeau](http://www.facebook.com/cbcdoingjusticeau) to stay informed, or send me an email… adrian.p.miller@gmail.com

Adrian

**Property Report for Church Meeting**

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 and AV 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:**

Over the past eighteen (18) months this location has had new water heaters, Hot plates and services on the Auto Dishwasher. Not to forget a new refrigerator.

A recent service requirement has been our “Quick Boil” Hot water Unit, which has to have elements replaced.

 Overall the kitchen works well with plenty of use by the various communities.

 **Cleanliness is a major consideration and requires constant attention by all users.**

 b) **Sewage Drainage System**

 Investigation of previous blockages has been followed up resulting in some major works required for the upgrade of the underground piping system.

Please take care of notices when this work is being undertaken. Timing to be advised in the Sunday CBC NEWS.

 c.) **Grounds & Yards Maintenance**

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

Our Yard team is always looking for more members. Ladies always welcome. Please contact the office or the writer of your interest.

 Rain would be appreciated on the gardens and lawns,

However our foyer roof is under investigation to eliminate the ingress of water. Particularly through our lighting.

 d.) **Electrical upgrades**

 New LED floodlights have been installed on the pole in the car park and “play area”. (A view to behold at night.)

 The incoming car park from Alamein Ave also is brighter operated by the outside lights at the “play area”. A timer is proposed for this lighting.

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 e.) **Outdoor Playground Area.**

Large trees cover this area. Please be aware of the continual need to watch for any loose branches. An area recently has been subject to a tree clearing of dead branches to

 ensure falling branches injure no person.

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

 f.) **Bus**

The bus is feeling neglected. It wants to be used. Any ministry group is requested to consider ways, if applicable, for it to assist your outreach to the community.

 Contact the Administration Office to book it as required. (T & C’s apply)

 All maintenance requirements should be referred to Don Hunt.

1. **Technology Upgrades**

The operation continues with recent advice of NBN, WiFi and Internet works to be carried out. The end result to have communications contact throughout all church buildings.

1. **Capital Works**

 REFRESH project has moved a step closer by submission of the Development Application (DA) to Parramatta Council. (As agreed at the Special Church Meeting on 23rd September 2018.)

 Like all such applications the council has responded with comments that has required clarification of our proposal to overcome some current usage interpretations. Our Planning Consultants have been working on this and the DA re-presented to council.

Timing for this is targeted to be by the time we have our Church Annual Meeting on 11th August 2109.

4. a.) **Work Health & Safety**

Committee members are yet to meet as this area of our responsibility has close connections to the church’s “Safe Churches” policy.

 b.) **Statutory Compliances**

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

 Certification Certificates are displayed in the church foyer. A legal requirement.

Yours in Christ,
Milton Purkiss

Mob: 0412 445 137