



Berwick
ANGLICAN CHURCH

**Berwick Anglican Church Annual Reports
For The Year Ended 30th September 2021**

*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God
in Christ Jesus for you."*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

www.berwickanglicanchurch.org.au

Growing in Christ
Growing in the Word
Growing in Prayer
Growing in Mission

Annual Meeting Christian Code of Conduct

The following are provided as guidelines to facilitate the conduct of an effective meeting:

1. The entire process should be conducted in a spirit of Christian love that encourages openness and the highest level of integrity.
2. People who wish to raise matters of detail at the meeting are encouraged to provide their question or statement in writing 7 days before the meeting to allow for clarity of thinking and better answers.
3. When asking a question or making a recommendation, the speaker should aim to be brief and to the point, using constructive comments and having regard to the unity of the body of Christ.
4. In the event that the previous points are not adhered to, then the chair will intervene to ensure that the appropriate level of proper order is maintained. The chair of the meeting has charge of the general conduct of the meeting and of the procedures to be adopted.

Adopted by Parish Council, March 2013.

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Click here for an online public archive of previous BAC Annual Meeting reports, vision documents and discussion papers.

Ministry Staff and Parish Council

Clergy + Ministry Staff:

Senior Minister:	Rev'd Wayne Schuller
Associate Minister:	Rev'd Reece Kelly
Assistant Minister:	Rev'd Sam Creek
Seniors' Minister:	Rev'd Canon Hugh Prentice
Parish Administrator:	Veronika Warren

PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2019/2020

Elected at the Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 17th November 2020

Churchwardens:

Stephanie McNeil (Vicar's warden)
Chris Ferreira
Nick Boatman

Members of Parish Council:

Russell Patterson (Honorary Treasurer)
Vasanth David (Honorary Secretary)
Darren Fitzpatrick
Randall Chu
Melanie Vinojit

Incumbency Committee:

Tim Warren
Darren Fitzpatrick

Parish Synod Representatives (elected during 2019):

Rohan David
Darren Fitzpatrick
Tim Warren

Synod representatives follow a three year term.

Agenda

The business of the annual meeting is to include, after prayers—

(a) The minutes of the previous annual meeting and of any subsequent statutory parish meeting;

(b) The reception of the parish electoral roll;

(c) The annual report by the vicar that includes the entries in the registers of the Parish for the financial year, including numbers of baptisms, persons received into communicant membership, confirmations, marriages, funerals, Sunday services, acts of communion and such other statistics from the registers as Archbishop in Council determines;

(d) An annual report on the proceedings of the parish council and together with a report by the parish council on the pastoral care, evangelism, social and ecumenical programmes of the parish and on future plans for the parish;

(e) A report by the churchwardens on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the worship centre and the vicarage and other buildings of the parish;

(f) The audited or independently examined accounts and financial statements of the parish and any accompanying papers required by the Act;

(g) The budget approved by the parish council for the year in which the meeting is held;

(h) Reports by other parish groups;

(i) The election of churchwardens and members of the parish council;

(j) The election of an auditor or independent examiner;

(k) The election of lay representatives to the parish incumbency committee;

(l) Any other matters of parochial or general church interest

Vicar's Report - Wayne Schuller

"If you think of this world as a place simply intended for our happiness, you find it quite intolerable: think of it as a place for training and correction and it's not so bad." C.S. Lewis

CS Lewis wrote these words in the midst of the chaos of World War 2. His call to trust God's goodness and adopt an eternal outlook has stuck with me all year. 2021 has proven to have more surprises, challenges and disruption that I ever would have predicted. The cumulative effect of two years of the pandemic has taken a toll on all of us individually and together as a society. I cannot predict what the coming year will bring. But I know that the Lord Jesus is seated on the throne, God is sovereign over all things, our salvation is secure in the blood of Jesus, and all things God is working for the good of those who love him. God is indeed training us to lean on him and live for eternity!

BAC had an excellent relaunch at the beginning of December 2020. We had one or two Sundays before density quotients were loosened. Then into early 2021 we even had mask requirements lifted for some of the time. Church was very joyful and not as onerous as we had anticipated. Every week for the first 2-3 months of our relaunch there were people coming back for the first time. I pray that our current relaunch will be similarly blessed by God.

I'm thankful that I was able to enjoy 7 weeks of Long Service Leave around Easter this year. I appreciated the rest and family time, and I also enjoyed visiting other churches around our city and being inspired by healthy growing ministries. More than once I was reminded at how blessed BAC is by faithfulness and fruitfulness in our various congregations and ministries.

This time last year I certainly did not expect to be plunged into another lockdown in the second half of 2021. This time it was different I think. Much harder. The challenges of separation and limited contact slowed the pace of pastoral ministry and was immensely frustrating to me. The burden of compliance and the complexity of rule changes has been

significantly higher this year. Time and time again I have found myself praying to God our heavenly Father for mercy, help and to overcome the external limitations and also my own personal limitations. The prospect of segregating society and church life based on vaccination status breaks my heart. I accept the short term value for the sake of protecting our hospital system, but I have written to our Premier pleading that it not be made permanent.

In his temptation Jesus paraphrased Deuteronomy 8:3 by saying: "*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.*" This year our church has feasted on God's Word in various ways. Major Bible expository teaching series included: John's Gospel chapter 5-7 ("*Look, Listen, Live*"), 1 Thessalonians ("*Pleasing God More and More*"), 2 Thessalonians ("*The Return of Christ*"), Amos ("*The Lord Roars*"), 1 Corinthians 15 ("*The Coming Advent of Jesus*"). We had a topical teaching series for Christmas and Easter as well as a long topical series on Christian identity under the banner "*Who God Says You Are*". Most of these messages are available as audio or video via the [BAC website](#) or the [BAC Youtube channel](#). Before lockdown the Thursday 10am congregation were in an expository series on the book of Acts. Visiting preachers have included some BAC lay preachers, our area bishop Paul Barker, and representatives from the Church Missionary Society (CMS), the Bush Church Aid society (BCA), the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students (AFES) and Australian Defence Force chaplaincy. Significant ministry of God's Word happens through our BAC volunteer Sunday school teachers, bible study group leaders, youth ministry volunteers, those who participate in courses and much more. It is a delight to know that in our midst we have hundreds of godly Christians who share Bible verses with each other and remind each other of promises of the gospel. We do not always see the fruit of doing this immediately, but the harvest to come will be one of our great joys in eternity.

For many years I have been dreaming, praying and having conversations about BAC planting a new Anglican church south of the freeway. There are already so many people and not enough Anglican churches in our region. BAC has a wide impact, but we are not geographically placed to serve the growth south of the freeway. It has

been encouraging to have our Bishop initiate conversations with the possibility that BAC partner with the Casey Anglican Dinka congregation in a church plant location. The diocese is paying for Reece Kelly to be trained in church planting and we are researching possibilities of a factory to be used as a church facility. If you would like to join the planting team, please let Reece know, especially if you live in Berwick South or Clyde North. Even before knowing the final outcome of this church planting vision, it is an honour that BAC is recognised as a model of fruitful and faithful evangelical Anglican ministry.

It is a huge privilege to have been serving as Vicar of BAC since August 2010. At some point in the next 18 months the Bishop will call for a license review for my position as incumbent of BAC. I appreciate your prayers for wisdom and any feedback. Please pray that God would provide whatever outcome that will most glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and serve the people and mission of this special parish.

I receive incredible encouragement and gain from the wisdom of our churchwardens and parish council. We are a carefully governed and well managed parish! I am also blessed to work with such a hardworking and united ministry staff team with Reece, Sam, Hugh and Veronika. I am also blessed by the support of my four children and most of all through my godly wife Helen who also serves our parish and supports me in this work of the gospel. Together let us all desire and live for the heavenly country and the city that God is preparing for us.

"If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world."

CS Lewis

Wayne Schuller

Vicar

Associate Minister's Report - Reece Kelly

"Why, I feel all thin, sort of stretched, if you know what I mean: like butter that has been scraped over too much bread."

- Bilbo Baggins. The Lord of the Rings, The Fellowship of the Ring

Above is a classic quote from J.R.R. Tolkien's fictional book, The Lord of the Rings, The Fellowship of the Ring. Though I'm not 111 years old (like Bilbo was turning), I certainly relate to this statement. Bilbo feels like he is taking on too much, and the problem isn't that he needs more to do, he needs less to do. The ministry team looks after our usual areas in a full time capacity (for me, this is the 5pm congregation and youth ministry, as well as studying and preparing for church planting). However, the pandemic has given us all more bread. We take on further responsibility through online services and maneuvering government and Diocesan rules. We feel the weight of the current segregation of people from regular services. We feel the weight of keeping the unity of the body of Christ. We feel the weight of rebuilding rosters. We feel the weight and pressure of getting things back up and running, and we are doing everything we can to serve you. As you would imagine, this is exhausting. I certainly feel it, and relate more than ever to Bilbo. Please God, may there be less bread in 2022!

I shared in last year's report that 2020 was personally a difficult year for our family. Hospital visits and surgery for our young boy Asher, and going in and out of lockdowns. When we finished the 2020 year, a vaccine was not produced yet. Now writing at the end of October 2021, it is plain to see that 2021 has been just as hard, if not more difficult, than 2020.

And yet, there has been so much real joy in my ministry over this year. In March and April of 2021 I was given the role of Acting Vicar in Wayne's absence. These were a good two months of learning and taking responsibility for decisions that I would not usually see. These two months were also a joy for our church. We were open and under a two square meter limit, but we had reintroduced morning and afternoon tea, and I had the pleasure of baptising 5 people into Christ's church. I

also had the privilege of marrying a lovely couple from our 10:30am congregation.

There has been real joy in having discussions with Bishop Paul Barker about planting a church in Clyde North. He is not only supportive, he also has been paving the way for this to become a reality. Over this year I have been training at Fuller Theological Seminary - California, studying church planting, with full support of the Diocese.

I have also been training with other planters across Australasia through Tim Keller's City to City Network. It is with joy that I am able to share that I have been accepted as a planter with City to City. I have just finished a two week intensive which is preparing our family to plant an Anglican church in Clyde North. Indeed, it is my prayer that these discussions with the Diocese, Berwick Anglican Church, and City to City would become a reality.

There has been real joy in leading a new young adults bible study, which is co-led with Randall Chu, and has a total of 14 regular members in attendance. This has been a personal encouragement for me to see young adults excited to be growing in the Word, encouraged to see and get to know each other, and allow God's Word to grow us.

There has been real joy seeing the Friday night Academy Youth group program keep growing, despite the challenges of meeting online. However, last year I wrote pleading for you to keep praying for our youth. I ask for the same plea. There are visible signs that young people are struggling with depression, anxiety, and many mental health problems. Lockdowns are hard, but for youth especially.

I am privileged in leading a wonderful group of dedicated youth leaders, who give their all despite how hard it is to keep up with restrictions, and devote their Friday nights to youth ministry. I am so thankful to Randall Chu, Rachael Egginton, Rebekah Anthony and Ruth Grant for how you serve weekly, in person and online. Youth ministry at Berwick Anglican Church would not run without you. I am also grateful to Chris Ferreira for his passionate leadership of youth ministry weekly in face to face context. Cath Treling and Jemima Schuller, we have appreciated your

leadership too, and have been grateful for every minute. We will be sad to lose you!

There has been real joy seeing young people lead from the front even though it has been difficult. Ashwin Arumanayagam and Kevin Alexander, your ministry to young people is so necessary, thank you. There has been real joy in leading Ashwin in a Christian leadership internship this year, and I pray that you are moulded and shaped so strongly to lead in churches for the rest of your life.

There has been real joy in serving with Wayne, Sam, Veronika and Hugh. Wayne has taught me a lot over the last 5 years, and I am so grateful for the wisdom I learn from him every day. How much Sam gives in his job can't be stressed enough. He has so much experience, wisdom and knowledge in many areas, and strengthens this church's vision and direction. Veronika must take credit for so many unseen things, too many to count. Hugh's pastoral leadership is incredible. I am very blessed to work with faithful, Godly, passionate people.

Next year holds many unknowns for my family. Despite the unknowns, what I do know is this, my family is an absolute blessing. Elise's prayers and support are a testament to her wisdom and faith and trust in God who makes all things possible. Xander's young faith warms my heart, he is eager to share his love and trust of Jesus with others, and challenges me personally to be as open to share faith with others like he is. Piper is keen to learn so much more about Jesus. Asher is strong, healthy, and we long for him to discover what church in person is like. My kids love The Beginner's Gospel Story Bible. I recommend it if you have young kids, to help them understand the gospel and develop a personal faith.

Pray that God would prepare and renew our family's heart for what is ahead. Would we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the city of Casey, and would the Holy Spirit transform people under His vision, for God's glory.

Keep Trusting Jesus,
Rev. Reece Kelly
Associate Minister

Assistant Minister's Report - Sam Creek

BAC 10:30am Congregation Pastor

In the first half of 2021 we enjoyed seven months of healthy congregational life (amidst three smaller lockdowns) with attendances averaging 140 people and children's and youth ministries thriving. I am so thankful to God for this season and for the chance to meet a number more people in person and grow into the role as 10:30am Congregation Pastor. Thank you to Veronika and the volunteers who recruited and filled rosters, enabling us to run services with Music, Sunday School, Foundations Youth Bible Study and Morning Tea at 10:30am throughout early 2021, it was a challenge met by some very faithful people.

After a number of changes in our music team in 2020, we were left with a smaller group, and so made a few changes to how the team operated, shifting to smaller weekly teams and changed practice times. I'm thankful for these volunteers' passion to glorify God and serve others through their musical gifts. Please pray for a few more musicians to join us next year.

Before July numbers at 10:30am were hitting upwards of 150 people, the building was full and buzzing, then we were hit by the successive snap lockdowns and this final extensive lockdown. These lockdowns really took the wind out of our sails, and we were thrust back into a solely online world as a BAC network. As we reopen once more before us all lies the task of rebuilding across the BAC network, including 10:30am, so that our public worship services might glorify God and edify his Church. Would you join me in making this possible, praying for one another and serving as you are able.

BAC Training, Discipleship and Evangelism

It's been an encouraging year running various pieces of training for different groups to help us grow as mature disciples of Jesus:

- To help equip us each term to get the most out of the preaching series and as a place to check in on what's coming up I organize our BAC Quarterly Bible Forums.
 - In our first quarter the QBF featured a keynote which I delivered on *John: Look, Listen, Live*. Afterwards I led some training for Bible Study Leaders and Reece ran some training in discipleship using the resource *Just for Starters*.

- In our second quarter the QBF Dr. Brian Rosner joined us to unpack questions of Identity with his keynote address: *Identity Angst: Where to Look to Find Yourself*, followed by a Q & A which was illuminating. I also ran some training for Bible Study Leaders on prayer and finishing on time.
- In our third quarter we opened up the evening for questions of the ministry team with *Grill the Ministry Team* with Wayne, Hugh, Helen and myself sharing significant moments in our Christian life and answering questions on Jesus, the Bible and the Christian life.
- Our final QBF looked at our preaching series on *Amos: the Lord Roars*, and Bp. Paul Barker unpacked the book for us and answered questions on the topic preparing us well to understand this challenging Old Testament book.
- We run courses through the year to equip us in the Christian life. We ran two courses this year:
 - In Term 2 over six weeks on Tuesdays we ran the evangelistic course *Introducing God*. We averaged 8 attendees and it was a great way to both share the gospel and sharpen our own understanding of the gospel. Thank you to Daniel Fokkens and Wayne Schuller for running this especially while I was on paternity leave, as well as all those who provided supper.
 - In Term 3 over six weeks on Wednesdays we ran an evangelism training course called *Six Steps to Talking About Jesus*. This course had to be adjusted over the lockdowns between Zoom and in person. It was a great encouragement to have on average 15 attendees, with some bible study groups joining up to grow in sharing Jesus with others.
- Towards the end of Term 3 I co-led a Confirmation Course with Reece, and a single Baptism Session with Wayne to help prepare people to publicly affirm their faith in Jesus (alongside this there were also some other one-to-one baptism enquiry follow up sessions earlier in the year).
- As a church we partner sometimes with like minded and strategic groups to offer training and teaching for our members and the broader church. As such I helped organize a couple of conferences: *Ridley Preachers Conference Hub* at BAC, and the

Gospel Coalition Australia National Conference Hub at BAC (the Hub part unfortunately couldn't go ahead as planned due to lockdown).

- I helped run some music training sessions for the music team to help equip and encourage them in their service. We learnt some new songs (some of which we were able to launch in BAC services), familiarized ourselves on the new equipment, talked through the changed music team settings, and laid some foundations of serving.
- I coordinate our Bible Study Groups where people can connect with a smaller group to grow to love Jesus more through reading the Bible together. In my role I provided Bible Study materials for the groups (I wrote most of the Term 1 Bible Studies on John, provided some options in Term 2, we used a *Matthias Media Pathway Bible Study Guide* on 1 Thessalonians in Term 3, and in Term 4 we are using some studies from gospel friend Steve Abbott on Amos), I also provided some training at our Quarterly Bible Forums in terms 1 & 2, and tried to offer pastoral support and care contacting our leaders throughout the year. I managed to visit some groups this year which was very encouraging. And it was great to have two new groups begin this year and continue on through a difficult season of lockdowns.
- I enjoyed meeting with some individuals one-to-one to read the bible and pray for their growth as Christians.
- It was good to be involved in training and feedback for some of our in-house preachers in Terms 2 and 3 to help them grow as preachers.

I'd love to hear your thoughts on training ideas for the coming year, and what you might appreciate.

Reflective and Practical Preparation to be A Future Vicar in the Diocese of Melbourne

- I preached 20 times this year and continue to grow in my preaching. I was grateful for the experience in preaching for both Christmas Eve and Good Friday this year. I've been involved in a preaching group led by Rev. Dr. Peter Adam which has been very beneficial and I've been reading some parts of Brian Chapple's *Christ Centred Preaching* which has benefitted my illustrations.

- I've assisted with the running of numerous Sunday and Thursday worship services through service leading, music, public prayers and leading the Lord's Supper.
- It has been a privilege to prepare and then baptise a few individuals this year (Oliver Bell, Peyton Jordan, Peter Coates) and am looking forward to our baptism and confirmation service whenever we may be able to run that in the future.
- I assisted in livestreaming the funeral of Mary Stephens and the wedding of Josh and Sarah Fries this year. It has been unusually quiet regarding funerals, and I believe COVID has been a significant factor here.
- I have received continued Diocesan Training this year focussing on Emotional Intelligence, Weddings, Reflective Practices and Wellbeing in Ministry.
- I continue to receive supervision from Wayne, as well as external supervision which have been very beneficial.

I'm continuing to learn and grow into my role and am very thankful for all the prayer, support, feedback and encouragement I receive from you all. I look forward to a different kind of year and learning more as we grow in Christ together.

Relaunching Church through a Global Pandemic

Who would have thought that the worst was yet to come? But a year on from last year's report and what a storm we've all been through. I never would have guessed we'd be about to relaunch things again after an even more traumatic lockdown than last year! Yet here we are.

Each time we locked down this year it was different, and affected our church differently. At times just to run a service has been a struggle, with restrictions and lack of volunteers placing immense pressure on the willing.

Each time we've had to think through the restrictions that the government gives, interpret them through the Diocese's regulations and then implement them in a way that is intelligible and practical, while bearing with differing opinions and preferences. It has not been easy, but at least it's been good learning.

I've taken part in lots of discussion over guidelines and implementation, assisted in helping communicate changes, run online services, make

pastoral phone calls, recruit and train people for roles with live-streamed services.

Please join me in praying for the end of lockdowns, the resumption of some normality and for public worship services to resume for the encouragement of us all.

Personal Joys

Throughout 2021 there have been lots of challenges, but for our family this time also brought with it some great joy. On the 12th May 2021 at 7:04pm our son Luka Ian Creek was born. He has been an abundant blessing through



lockdowns as we have watched with joy his growth, his cute giggles and chatter. Thankyou for all your support and care this year, we have felt very loved and welcomed by you all.

A final reflection

At the beginning of the year we taught through John 5–7. John 5:39–40 really struck me in preparation for those sermons:

“You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.”

There is a way of reading the scriptures that is wrong. We can read them as an academic exercise whereby we just increase in knowledge alone, we can approach them legalistically, reading them out of obligation rather than desire or love. Throughout the year I’ve been encouraged more and more to delve into scripture with the question *“what does this passage teach me that draws me closer to Jesus?”* Pray I continue to approach the Scriptures in this way, and grow in love for my life-giving Lord.

In Christ,
Sam Creek
Assistant Minister

Seniors' Minister Report - Hugh Prentice

MY DEEP GRATITUDE TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND TO HIS FAMILY IN THE BAC COMMUNITY:

In my current Pastoral Emails to the Thursday congregation, I am drawing on the Apostle Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. We recently reached chapter 4, in which we read that, among the gifts the Lord Jesus Christ gives are "the pastors and teachers." I thank the Lord Jesus for the privilege He has given me to be a pastor and teacher, and I seek to build up His body, the Church, in my BAC ministry. And I thank Wayne Schuller, our Vicar, for allowing me to continue to serve God in the fellowship of the Thursday congregation of this parish, and in the Nursing Homes and Retirement Villages here since December 2015. We have had real sadness at our being unable to meet in person, phone calls and other contacts can help keep our Christian fellowship going.

MY MINISTRY TO THE THURSDAY CONGREGATIONS

October 2020 started with the Covid restrictions still keeping us far away from most of our shared services of worshipping the Lord in our church. When they eased, the first the 10am service I led here was on 3rd December 2020. From then until 5th August 2021, I led that service almost every Thursday. But then my ministry changed from shared worship to what I call my "Big Five": Emails, Phone calls, Letters, Cards and Messages. Veronika printed the Aged Care Ministry Holy Communion services and I have been posting these with a card of encouragement to those in my pastoral care. Since Covid restrictions began, I also write a Pastoral Email each week. This has messages of encouragement, prayer and praise requests about our members, and an exposition of the Bible passage which I would have been preaching on if we had been able to meet. I know that for several members, this Email has been a means of grace in their lives, and I thank God for this ministry.

THREE GOOD FUNERALS

I use the word "good" to say how I love to take the funeral of a Christian, and to express God's wonderful promises to us in Christ regarding the joy and peace and wholeness of those who have died "in

Christ". In this past year, I have taken these BAC funerals: On 2nd February 2021 I led the service for Shirley Forrest in Le Pine, Berwick. Shirley had been an active member of the congregation that meets in Edrington Park every 4th Thursday. On 13th April, I led the service for Mary Stephens, who had been an active member of the congregation that meets in Melville Grange Nursing Home. Her daughters, Caroline and Hilary, I met through their supporting their mother there, and in our services in church. On 22nd September, I led the graveside service for David Jorgensen, the brother of Karen. I depended on Karen's assurance to me that David had saving faith in Christ, as I never met him.

RETIREMENT VILLAGES AND THE CRAIGCARE AND MELVILLE GRANGE NURSING HOMES

When restrictions permit, I lead a service in Edrington Park every month, and in Fiddler's Green and Melville Grange less often, plus Home Communion. Many active Christians there respond warmly to the Word and Sacrament. From 3rd December 2021 I was welcome to re-enter CraigCare, and to take our normal HC in Edrington Park. On 12th December, I led the Fiddler's Green service, but Melville Grange was shut to us. My normal schedule in these places was allowed until June 2021. Alan and Brenda Clark organise these services: Brenda makes the plans with the staff, and Alan cares for the Communion equipment. I thank them and Jim and Ruby Carson and others in the team.

MY THANKS TO ALL THE STAFF FOR YOUR EXCELLENT HELP TO ME

I am grateful to you all in the staff team, for all your help in setting up the microphones, checking the heating or cooling, and especially to Veronika, for handling administration and printing off worship material for me to use. God has given you great gifts; you are serving Him, using them for our good.

Yours in Jesus' fellowship and service,
Revd Canon **Hugh Prentice**, Seniors' Minister

Parish Administrator Report

From this day on I will bless you - Haggai 2:19c

Another year full of God's blessing upon us. Every day of blessing despite what goes around us in this world.

Aspect of my work commitment

Financial:

- monitoring of remuneration payments for centralised payroll,
- account receivable, account payable, bank reconciliations,
- entries into online accounting SW Quickbooks,
- payments for authorisation via Westpac online banking,
- ADF Term deposit,
- monthly financial reports for the parish council meetings,
- BAS statements and PAYG payment summary for the ATO,
- timesheet for Hugh Prentice,
- filing and archiving accounting and bookkeeping documents
- working in conjunction with Russell Patterson, our treasurer.

Administration:

- Liaising with the cleries, wardens and parish council members.
- Communication with the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne,
- Hall Hire - coordinating enquiries, preparing hall hire agreements and invoices, maintaining and updating room booking,
- Helping to set up funerals, weddings,
- BAC Kids: coordination of Sunday school materials, attendance lists,
- Processing BAC Communications Cards, update to the church database system,
- Helping people to set up Zoom (during Covid season),
- Preparing of Baptism and Thanksgiving certificates,
- Ordering stationery and supplies.

Compliance officer:

- maintaining a prescribed volunteer clearance register
- helping to obtain Police Checks and Working With Children check for volunteers

General:

- checking voice messages and taking appropriate actions,
- printing, scanning, photocopying,

Personal development:

I have been attending Community Bible Study International and a BAC Bible Study Group.

It was a great year with great workers on God's field. My thanks goes to the helpers in the office: Jenny Lane, Wendy Parker; our treasurer Russell Patterson; and the ministry team Wayne Schuller, Reece Kelly, Sam Creek and Hugh Prentice.

With blessing. **Veronika Warren**

Parish Statistics

	<i>1st Oct 2019 - 15 March 2020 This Year</i>	<i>1st Oct 2019 - 30th Sept 2020 Previous Year</i>
Baptisms	9	5
Confirmations	0	0
Marriages	2	1
Funerals	4	11
Number of Acts of Communion		3586
Average Sunday Attendance	N/A	310
Average Weekly Attendance	N/A	343

(I apologise, at the time of publishing I wasn't able to prepare audited attendance statistics for the in person gatherings in the last 12 months - WS)

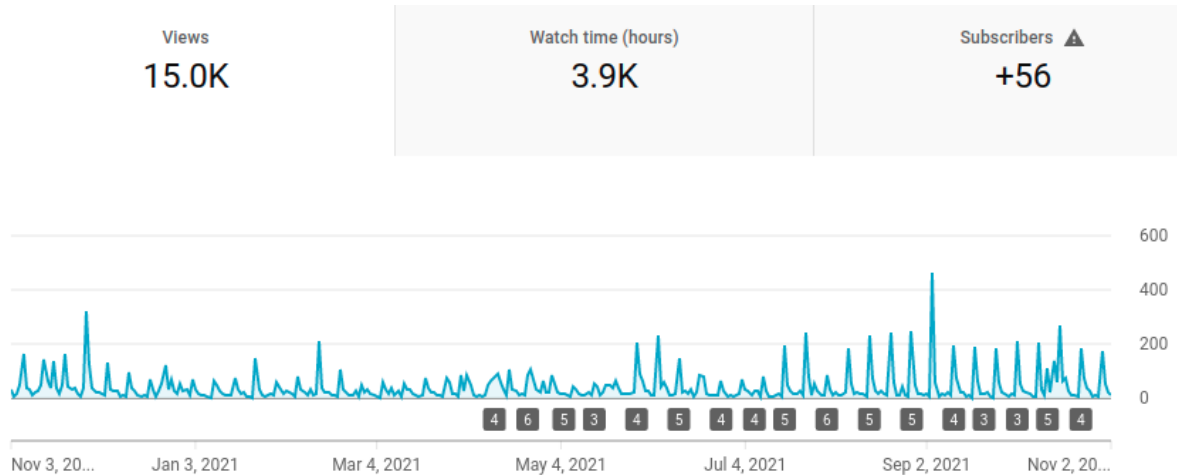
BAC Address Book Regulars Database:

628 regulars in our pastoral care

BAC Weekly Email List Subscribers:

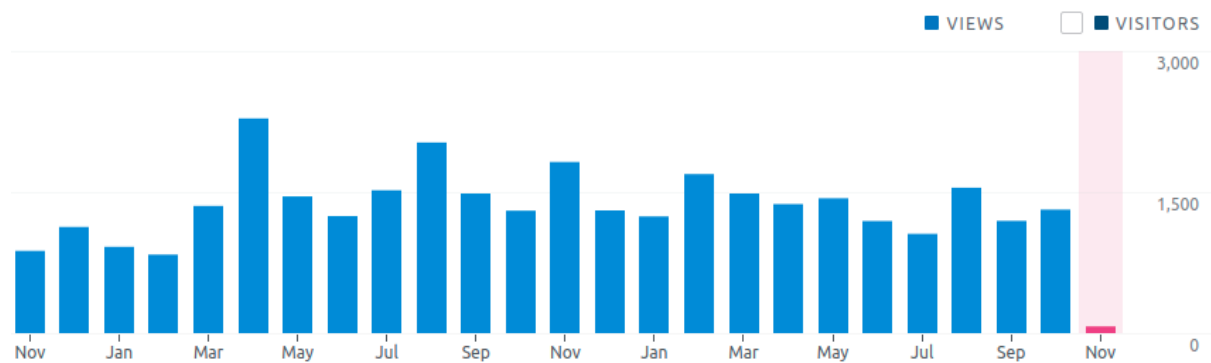
337 active subscribers

BAC Youtube Channel Analytics (as of 4/11/2021):

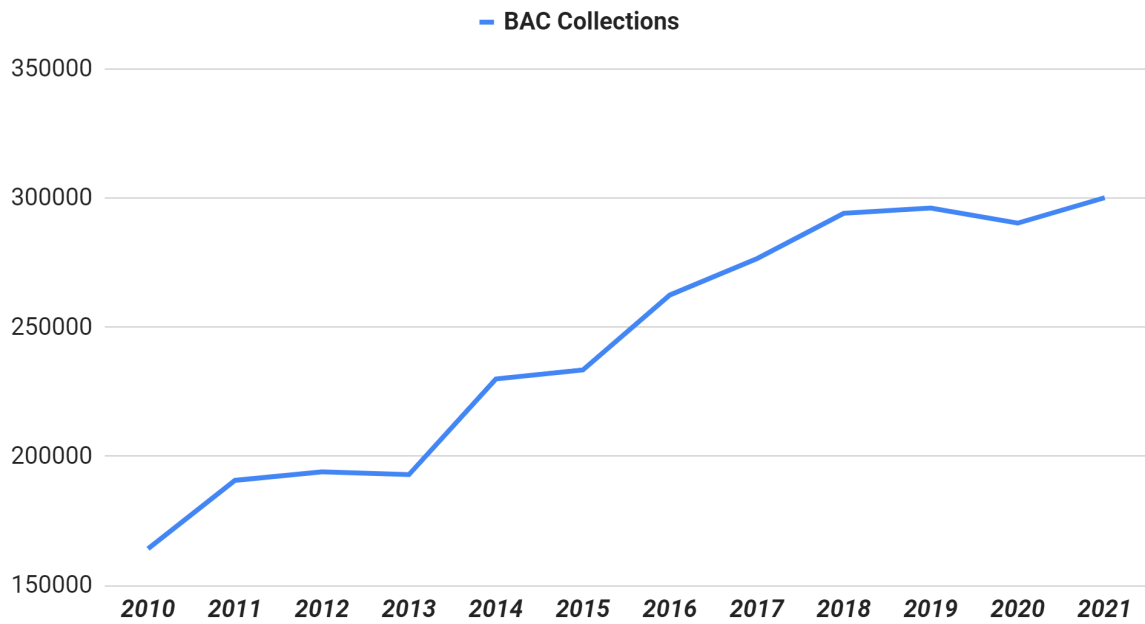


BAC Youtube Subscribers: 173

BAC Web Site Analytics (as of 4/11/2020):



Long Term Financial Giving/Collections Chart



Wardens' Report

After a rough 2020 brought us drastic changes to our way of life, the beginning of 2021 saw us hopeful of a return to something approaching normality, and for a while, things were looking that way, with successive months of zero Covid cases, mass vaccinations on the horizon, and for the BAC community, our three services able to run in house, at close to full capacity.

Through this period, applying the lessons learnt from last year, BAC continued to adapt and improve it's online delivery, and subsequently launched our live-stream services, leveraging the easy to use and ubiquitous Youtube platform - easily available to anyone with an online capable device. The streams have been consistently well supported since its inception and are planned to continue indefinitely.

It was this service which came to the fore when Delta caught up with us, and once more we were plunged into lock down. The ministry team, supported by the Audio/Visual volunteer crew and members of the bible reading and prayers roster did an amazing job to bring us the excellent services we have come to expect, where, even though we watched on from our lounge rooms, we were still able to worship together as a body of Christ. As per last year, we were also very fortunate to absorb extremely high quality sermon series such as 1 Thessalonians, 'Who God Says You Are' and more recently, Amos.

In other events, we saw Sam's ordination late last year, Wayne took some well earned long service leave earlier this year and Reece very ably took on the role of Acting Vicar for the time Wayne was on leave.

Despite the limitations that lockdowns enforced on us, some much needed major projects to improve interior aesthetics and comfort levels in the church building were completed, as well as the usual round of repairs and minor upgrades. As follows:

Church building

- Complete repaint of church building interior (work on auditorium to start soon)
- Installation of reverse cycle airconditioning/heating units in the foyer
- Purchase of a hospital grade air purifier for the foyer
- Removal of the large Eucalyptus tree at the front of the church after it was found to be unsafe and diseased
- The acquisition of a round table and chairs as part of a project transitioning office space to a resource/meeting room

- Upgrades to sound desk equipment to help facilitate live streams (streaming camera and mount, video switcher and wireless handheld mics)
- Minor electrical and plumbing works

Vicarage and Mustang Ave

- Substantial vegetation and tree removal along east side of Mustang Ave property to ease possibility of root damage to the house, remove chance of any wasp infestation, and to improve natural light on that side of the house
- Professional building inspection on both properties to enable effective management and upkeep
- Electrical and plumbing repairs

During the times out of lock-down, we ran services under, for the most part, heavy restrictions. Our level of compliance to these restrictions was outstanding, and to staff and volunteers who took part in activities such as sanitising, cleaning, etc, your work was much appreciated.

Over the last two years, our church has faced and with God's grace, withstood unprecedented trials. And now we move forward to a hopefully more settled future, with fresh challenges and continuing our mission of evangelising to our community.

Nick Boatman (also on behalf of **Chris Ferriera** and **Steph McNeil**)

Financial Statements

Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 30/09/2021

	Notes	2021	2020
Income			
Offertory Income	1	300,216	290,380
Missions Direct Donations		4,755	3,219
BAC Projects	2	7,354	10,324
Interest Income		465	461
Federal Jobkeeper Wage Subsidy		66,750	97,348
Victorian Govt Business Support		0	10,000
Other Income	3	47,115	57,626
Total Income		\$426,655	\$469,358
Expenses			
Ministry Staff Expenses		292,325	266,970
Parish Mission Giving	4	30,251	37,899
Diocesan Assessment		18,597	25,106
Administration		8,393	8,539
BAC Groups & Projects	5	8,453	10,646
Future Ministry Provisions	6	20,000	15,000
Future Strategic Asset Maintenance	7	0	40,616
Property Costs	8		
- Church (55 Peel St)		26,996	39,325
- Mustang Avenue		8,781	5,784
- Vicarage (6 Palmerston St)		4,094	5,355
- Offsite Property		2,773	2,653
Church Running Costs		8,163	8,534
Total Expenses		\$428,826	\$466,427
Operating Surplus (Deficit)		\$(2,171)	\$2,929
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) at the beginning of the Financial Year		\$48,264	\$45,335
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) at the end of the Financial Year		\$46,093	\$48,264

Note 1: Offertory income comprised Electronic giving \$275,544 (\$230,180)*, cash giving \$24,672 (\$60,200)*.

Note 2, 3, 4, 5 & 7: See treasurer's report for breakdown

Note 6: \$20,000 Future Ministry Provision (\$15,000)*

* Figures in brackets are for 2020

Balance Sheet for the Year Ended 30/09/2021

	Notes	2021	2020
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Cash		69,760	55,803
Short Term Deposit		50,719	50,380
Funds held by Diocese		0	32,921
Total Current Assets		\$120,479	\$139,104
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Payable - Missions		8,407	5,757
Provisions - BAC Groups & Projects	1	12,574	15,768
Provisions - Future Ministry Provision	2	50,000	30,000
Provisions - Future Strategic Asset Maintenance		3,627	40,616
Funds Awaiting Disbursement	3	2,782	2,581
Tax Payable (GST)		-3,004	-3,882
Total Current Liabilities		\$74,386	\$90,840
Nett Assets		\$46,093	\$48,264
<u>Berwick Anglican Church (BAC) Funds</u>			
Retained Earnings		48,264	45,335
Current Year's Surplus (Deficit)		(2,171)	2,929
Total Equity (BAC Funds)		\$46,093	\$48,264

Note 1: BAC Groups and Projects includes \$5,891 Playgroup, \$2,891 Youth Ministry, \$151 Community Craft & Activities

Note 2: 2021/2022: \$20,000 Future Ministry Provision (\$30,000)*. Budget approved by Parish Council.

Note 3: Funds awaiting disbursement are staff running costs payable.

* Figures in brackets are for 2020

Treasurer's Report

Recently Wayne asked us to reflect on the two great commandments that Jesus gave in Mathew 22 v 36-40:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment.

³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

These commandments were Jesus' response to questioning by the Pharisees who were experts in the law who were trying to trap Jesus. The Jews of Jesus time were subjected to a myriad of laws and customs that impacted the way they lived including hygiene related laws.

This year we have had a great number of laws imposed on us that have impacted how we live and how we do church at BAC. It is good to reflect on how all the laws we are faced with tie back to the commandments Jesus gave and ask the questions: Who is our neighbor, and what blessings we have received as a result of God's grace?

You will see as you read this report how much we need to be thankful to God for his many blessings on BAC, and also to you the members of our church for your continued unwavering support with the level of giving at an all-time record. The financial statements for the church's financial year are for the period 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

This year we have recorded a deficit of \$2,171. This is after Parish Council's decision to set aside \$20,000 Future Ministry provision for future use taking the balance of this provision to \$50,000.

INCOME

Our total income for 2020/21 was \$426,655. This is a decrease of \$42,703 from the previous year. The majority of our income is from collections, mission giving, BAC projects, Federal Government JobKeeper, and other income.

Offertory Income - Note 1

The offertory income for the year was \$300,216. This is an increase of \$9,836 on last year, and is the highest giving level ever. It was however, 2.6% under budget or \$8,045

Since the suspension of services BAC has been blessed, in the take-up of electronic giving which made up \$275,544 of all giving. This used to account for 60% of offertory income, however is now 92% of the total and is BAC's preferred method of giving.

Federal Govt. JobKeeper

The Melbourne Anglican Diocese applied for and received the Federal Government JobKeeper subsidy for all Anglican parishes. For this financial year BAC has received via the Diocese \$66,750 JobKeeper subsidy. Over the two years of the JobKeeper scheme BAC received a total of \$164,098. This subsidy ceased on 28 March 2021.

Missions

BAC received \$4,755 direct donations for our mission partners from parishioners, this is in addition to the 8.5% of offertory income committed by the Parish Council.

BAC Projects - Note 2

We received \$7,354 for BAC Projects and Activities which comprised of:

- \$2,768 Grants for Reconciliation
- \$2,175 Youth Ministry
- \$1,065 Playgroup
- \$929 Bible study materials, Book Stall
- \$417 Community Craft and Activities

Other Income - Note 3

BAC received from other income sources an amount of \$47,115 comprising:

- \$18,425 Long Service Leave Allowance
- \$14,231 Grants
 - \$2,500 From Diocese for Church Planting
 - \$2,000 Russell Foundation
 - \$9,731 Eumemmerring Trust
- \$7,000 Funerals
- \$4,181 Hire of premises
- \$280 Other

EXPENDITURE

Total expenditure for the year was \$428,826. This is a decrease of \$37,601 on the previous year. The major expenditure items are explained below.

Ministry Staff Expenses

Ministry staff payments to Wayne, Reece, Sam, Hugh and Veronika, our parish administrator, make up 68% of expenses and totaled \$292,325.

This includes \$4,034 for Workcover Insurance & Staff Professional Development & Training

Diocesan Assessment

BAC paid \$18,597 Diocesan Assessment which is a decrease of \$6,509 on last year.

Parish Mission Giving - Note 4

Again, this year 8.5%, \$25,496 of collections was allocated across the mission partners BAC supports. Total mission payments \$30,251 comprised the following.

- \$25,496 8.5% of Parish Offertory Income
- \$4,755 Parishioner Direct Donations

Administration & Church Running Costs

Total expenditure for church administration and operation was \$16,556.

BAC Groups & Projects - Note 5

A total of \$8,453 was spent with the main items being:

- \$2,917 Community Craft and Activities (\$2,500 from City of Casey grant)
- \$2,176 Youth ministry
- \$1,333 Playgroup (\$268 from City of Casey grant)
- \$936 Evangelism and Sunday School supplies
- \$792 Bible study materials

Future Ministry Provisions Expense - Note 6

An amount of \$20,000 has been added to the Future Ministry provision and recorded in the balance sheet as a Provisions - Future Ministry Provision liability.

This \$20,000 brings the total Future Ministry provision to \$50,000 as the existing \$15,000 set aside in 2019 and \$15,000 in 2020 has not been used and is carried forward. The expenditure of \$40,000 of these funds has been included in the 2021/22 budget.

Future Strategic Asset Maintenance Expense - Note 7

In 2020, \$33,000 was set aside for strategic asset maintenance, the majority of this was spent on the following:

- \$16,896 Internal painting of church buildings
- \$6,573 Air Conditioning units for foyer
- \$1,132 New notice boards
- \$3,189 Building inspection of church residences
- \$1,347 Air Purifier for foyer
- \$1,300 Arborist report and bee removal

Property Costs - Note 8

An amount of \$42,644 was spent on upgrades, maintenance and utilities to the three BAC properties, the Church \$26,996, the Vicarage \$4,094, Mustang Avenue \$8,781 and offsite residence \$2,773.

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 September 2021 BAC had cash assets totaling \$120,479 with current liabilities of \$74,386 of which \$50,000 is Future Ministry Provision and \$3,627 is the balance of the Future Strategic Asset Maintenance carried over from the previous year.

Conclusion

As everyone is aware, we have experienced unprecedented challenges during the 2020/21 year with the COVID crisis which has forced us to change the way we do church. Our ministry team has worked tirelessly to implement changes quickly to bring digitally produced BAC services into your home. We are now all familiar with live stream church and zoom morning tea chats.

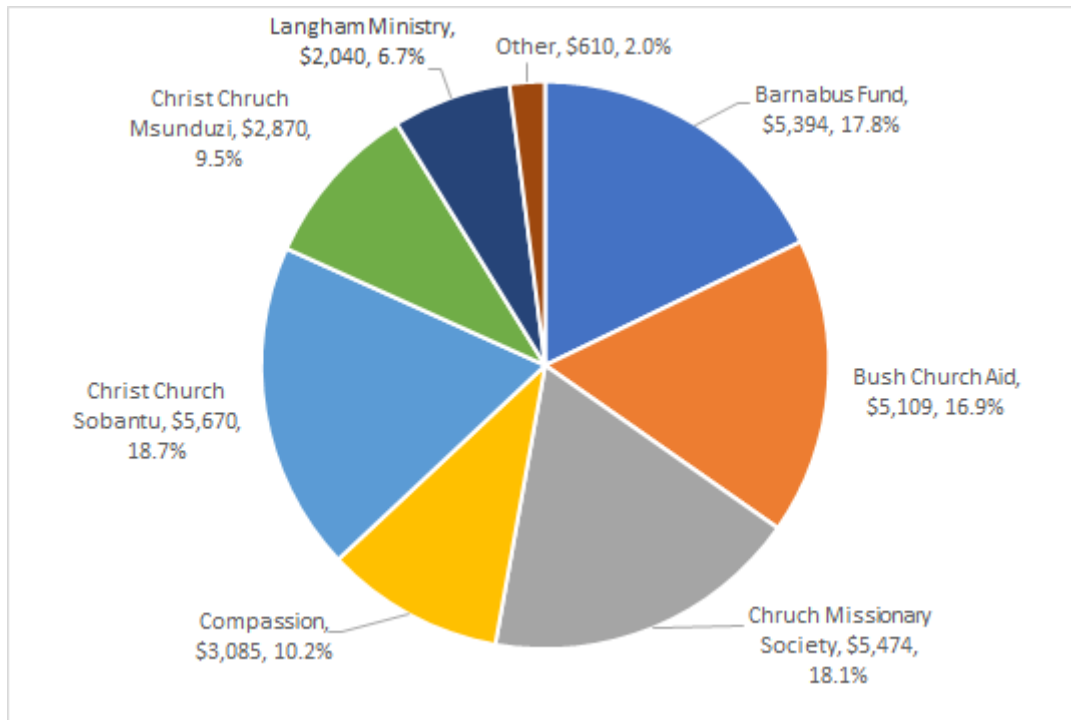
From the financial statements you can see BAC has a very healthy balance sheet which can be attributed to the continued support of BAC members and partly to JobKeeper subsidy. The 2021/2022 year will be financially challenging with no more government support which has underpinned the budget over the past two years.

Our Ministry team, our Bookkeeper, the Wardens and Parish Council have done a fantastic job of keeping the budget under control in extremely difficult and uncertain times. We give thanks to God for providing BAC with highly skilled staff and volunteers for the smooth running of our Church.

Russell Patterson
Honorary Treasurer

Missions Payments Summary 2020/2021

BAC mission spending for the year totaled \$30,251 including direct parishioner donations of \$4,755. The pie chart below shows how these funds have been disbursed.



Mission Funds Allocation

Mission Partner

Barnabas Fund - *Evangelism and aid for the persecuted church*

Bush Church Aid Society - *Reaching out people living in remote and regional Australia*

Church Missionary Society - *Chris & Julie Dean in Timor-Leste*

Compassion Australia - *Releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name*

Christ Church Sobantu - *Rev. Njabulo Sithole in South Africa*

Christ Church Msunduzi - *Rev. Mbongi Zuma in South Africa*

Langham Preaching - *Mission trip to Mongolia to train future pastors*

Auditors Report 2021



Collins Pike

Ph (03) 9707 5599 Fax (03) 9707 5399 Email: greg@collinspike.com.au
P O Box 518 Berwick 3806. Suite 5 1st Fl 86 High St Berwick 3806.

The Committee
Berwick Anglican Church
55 Peel Street
Berwick, Vic 3806

Re: Review for Year ended 30th September 2021

Audit clearance

We have completed our review of the special purpose financial reports of **Berwick Anglican Church** for the year ended 30 September 2021

Matters for trustee attention

As indicated in our engagement letter the scope of the review is substantially less than the scope of an audit and accordingly we are expressing an audit opinion.

We advise that as a result of our review, we have not encountered any matters during the course of our audit that we believe should be brought to your attention.

This does not mean that there are no matters of which you should be aware in meeting your responsibilities, nor does this report absolve you from taking appropriate action to meet these responsibilities.

Trustee action required

Please **return, after approving & signing**, our Engagement & Representation Letters.

Also enclosed is our fee account.

Yours faithfully,

Gregory Pike FIPA
Institute of Public Accountants
Public Practice Certificate No 13069

Date:

3/11/21

BAC Budget 2021/22

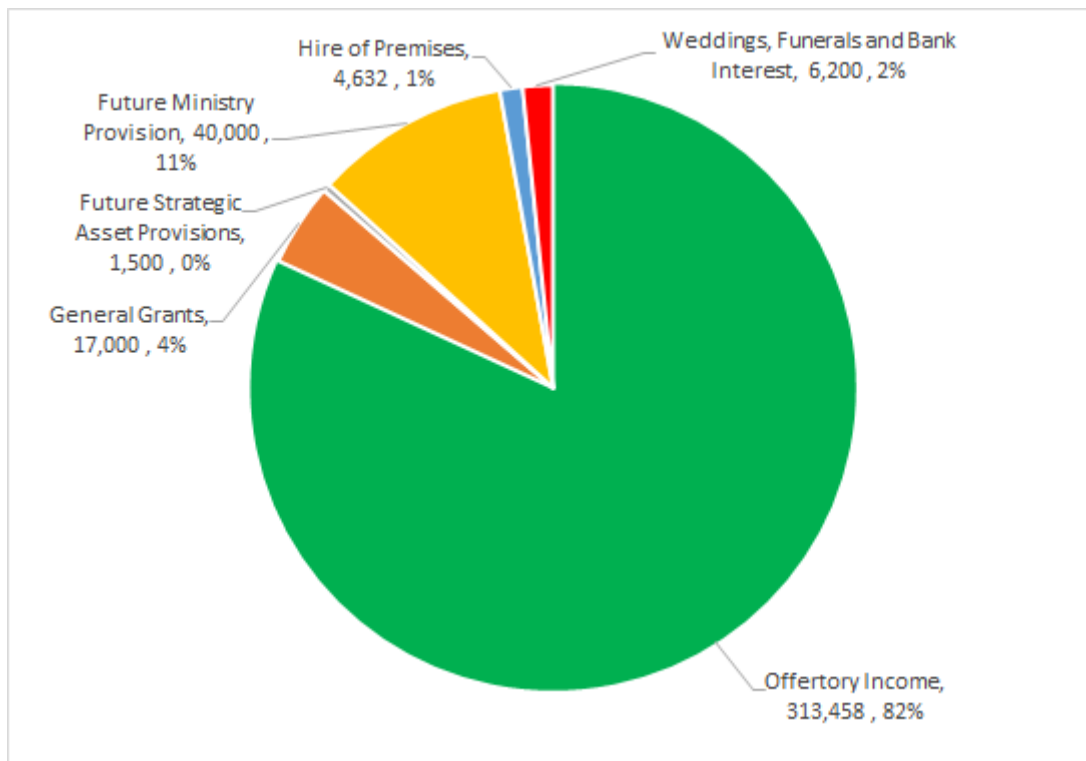
BAC 2021/2022 Budget (Approved by Parish Council September 2021)

<u>Income</u>	
<u>Offertory Income</u>	
Collections - Cash/Envelopes	\$40,000
Collections - Electronic Giving	\$273,458
<u>Other Income</u>	
General Grants	\$17,000
Future Ministry Provisions	\$40,000
Future Strategic Asset Provisions	\$1,500
Hire of Premises	\$4,632
Funeral + Wedding Donations	\$5,500
Sickness and Accident claim	\$0
Bank Interest	\$700
Total Income	\$382,790
<u>Expenses</u>	
<u>Staff and Mission Expenses</u>	
Ministry Staff Stipends and Allowances	\$280,945
Parish Missions Giving (8.5% of collections)	\$26,644
Diocesan Assessment	\$20,000
Clergy Professional Development & Training	\$2,550
Workcover Insurance Premium	\$3,250
<u>Property Costs</u>	
Church Buildings	\$20,260
Residence - Mustang Avenue	\$6,000
Residence - Palmerston St	\$5,200
Residence - Offsite	\$2,500
Financial Administration Expenses	\$7,205
Office Equipment and Running Costs	\$1,800
Church Activities Running Costs	\$5,220
Evangelistic Courses and Resources	\$1,200
Total Expenses	\$382,774
Surplus	\$16

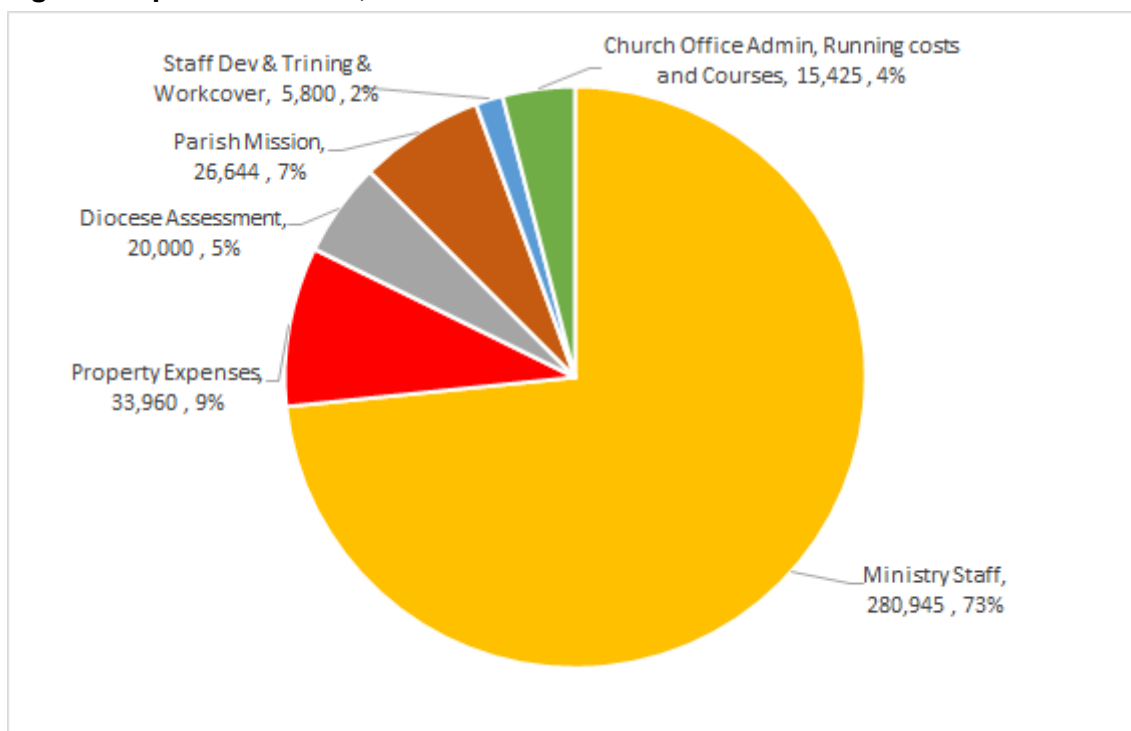
BAC Budget 2020/21 Charts

The following charts represent the 2021/22 budget that has been adopted by Parish Council on 15 September 2021.

Budgeted Income \$382,790



Budgeted Expenditure \$382,774



Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting Date: Tuesday 7:30pm November 17th 2020

Present: Streamed Online via both the BAC Youtube Channel and Zoom (with some office-bearers in the room).

The [2020 Annual Meeting can still be watched online](#) (if minutes are in doubt please refer to the actual content of the video of the meeting)

Chairperson: Rev. Wayne Schuller

Welcome: Wayne Schuller

Wayne opened the BAC AGM by welcoming the parish council members, those present in the room and everyone watching online.

Wayne then invited everyone to join in praising our wonderful God together.

Opening Song: It Is Well With My Soul

Opening Devotion and Prayer: Wayne Schuller

Wayne asked a question to reflect on: What is the tenor of Christianity? What is the vibe of being a Christian? What is the mood of the gospel?

Galatians 3:13-14 read on screen.

Paul's tenor in Galatians is positive and grace filled, because of the cross we are no longer under the burden of curse for our sins, but Christ has taken that away and the great Abrahamic blessing is ours.

The vibe or the tenor of being a Christian is the tenor of grace, redemption, liberation, of freedom in the Spirit through faith, and joy for everyone.

Galatians 5:22-23 read on screen.

Fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control, and, the opposite of a spirit of legalism and rule keeping. Wayne talks about keeping rules, and adhering to the common sense that keeps with the tenor of Christianity. Christianity is not a vibe of rules but a vibe of grace. How this relates to Coronavirus is that we are not a religion of legalism yet we have been living under very important temporary health regulations. As we plan to relaunch BAC public services we will continue willingly under many complicated and varied and very important health regulations, that we must carefully fulfill out of love for our neighbour.

We will be mindful of our neighbour, and the commitment to obey God.

Not looking forward to this aspect, even though he wants to do it.

Wayne wants to be the pastor of God's precious flock of BAC, not to be the rule enforcer.

Wayne wants people to find every blessing and the tenor of freedom of Christ, and does not want to spend Sundays measuring with the ruler the distance between the people in the pews. Wayne does not want to be the bad guy saying no to people and

do not do that.

Waynes' commitment publicly is -

God's word says to obey the human governing authority with the current Covid rules and regulations, and the Health Regulations which have a God given authority.

We are going to relaunch BAC carefully and wholeheartedly, following every regulation we can. We will be very glad to see each other soon. Some will bounce back quicker than others. Many of us are wounded and worn out because of 2020. Many of us are on edge.

So let us pray that we abound in the gospel tenor of grace, in the uplifting vibe of the gospel. May the vibe of Christ be with us, even as we are temporarily constrained by all sorts of rules for a season.

Wayne prayed for the City, the annual meeting, the church and the reopening to be filled with the vibe of Christ, the tenor of grace and the note of liberation and redemption that we have in Jesus and that BAC will be marked by the fruit of the Spirit.

AGENDA + REPORTS

Wayne mentioned that paper copies of the 2020 annual reports have been made available for pickup. Electronic copies have been made available on the church website and distributed through the BAC weekly email.

Previous Minutes

These are the last 20 or so pages of the annual reports.

Neil Lucas proposed amendment to the annual reports on bottom of page 54 to replace the word 'scaring' with the word 'caring.' So the motion becomes - "to move our ministry be thanked for their **caring** and faithful service to the BAC community over the past 12 months."

Motion: Previous minutes with amendment declared adopted by Wayne Schuller

Reception of the Parish Electoral Roll.

Names added to the electoral roll:

Randall Chu, Helen and Rob Loe, Sarah Creek, Josiah Schuller, Jemima Schuller.

Condolences: We give thanks to God for the lives of BAC parishioners who have died since the last annual meeting. These include: Olive King, Ben Onyaka, Brian Wakelam, Cheryl De Silva, Colin Greenwell, Shaveena Moore, Grace Pryor, John Moody. (Wayne asked for any other names to be added for the minutes)

The electoral roll is not the same as the Parish Directory of regular attendees which has about 600 regulars, about half are also on the electoral roll. No names removed for lack of attendance due to Covid.

The Parish Electoral roll was declared and accepted by Wayne Schuller.

Prayers - led by Rohan David - Parishioners and Everyone in the Church Family

The Annual Report by the Vicar - Wayne Schuller

I am assuming you have read the written Vicar and clergy reports. We have put our hearts into the stories we tell in them.

On pages 21-27 there are about 40 dot points summarising everything we did during COVID to serve our church. Our goal has been not just to do technology, although we did lots of tech. Our goal was to give options to everyone at BAC to connect in some way. It's been a very challenging year.

Praise and Growth points in 2020

Let me share some reflections in three areas that are points of praise. Also where I think God might be preparing BAC for the future through what he has done this year.

#1 Multiplying Mutual Care in the Body of Christ

For many years I have been encouraging that care at BAC doesn't just happen through clergy to others, but it happens one-to-another. Those great New Testament passages such as love one another, care for one another, pray for one another etc. The New Testament encourages organic mutual care.

We've done this not just through Bible study groups, but also through courses and groups, and also trying to be the kind of church where you have deep friendships where you encourage one another as followers of Jesus.

My hope is that everyone would find a friend at BAC that you could pray with, for example. Or that you could call them and ask them to pray for a specific challenge, and care for each other at that level.

We've been nurturing that kind of church culture then 2020 happened and we really needed that culture. This culture of care has been more needed than ever during lockdown.

So I wanted to say well done to all of Berwick Anglican Church. Well done for everyone who prayed for each other, who phoned people up, who made contact with others to check in on them. There is so much of that happening and so much that God alone sees.

I wanted to say well done for this care. As Hebrews 10:24-25 says:

'And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.'

And so we want to continue in this culture. Especially because in our phone directory we have about 624 people, a list that we carefully curate. We have three Full time clergy and Hugh who does 1 day a week for 3 weeks a month. And so we have about 200 regular attenders per one clergy. That's a lot of people per clergy.

Providentially, God is forcing us to decentralize spiritual care in a healthy Biblical way.

I do hope this continues post lockdown, that people will deepen their friendships or realize they need more friendships and better relationships at church. That you will

go the extra mile in the coming months, to invite people home for a meal or have coffee out. Or you will get involved in a ministry group where you may have been holding back.

Question submitted by Prem Arumanayagam - "How are we planning to grow the ministry staff team?"

Wayne replied that there is a financial budget allocation for this Future Ministry Provision to be deployed in the new year 2021. That is there to seed future ministry staff growth. In the short term it works as a buffer for our newly ordained pastors as they jump pay grades. Please keep giving.

New Announcement of staff roles to be deployed differently and more clearly. Sam Creek to be lead pastor for the 10.30 am congregation and responsible to courses and bible studies. Reece Kelly to be lead pastor for the 5 pm congregation and be responsible for youth ministry.

2. An Expanded Online Presence

We had digital readiness on a number of platforms: weekly church email list (begun 2016), modern website (redesigned Jan 2019), Youtube channel, member database, Facebook presence. All these digital online platforms blossomed in 2020.

Our staff team have strong skills in IT, Audio Visual, Digital Tech and more. Also ably helped by Nick Boatman's leadership and extra work. Veronika already skillfully runs BAC administration on a strong digital workflow, so it was easy for staff to adapt to working from home.

I also want to celebrate that last year (2019) we had a special financial appeal to upgrade the church audio system to a digital system, and that has positioned us perfectly to be online during the pandemic lockdown.

These days people looking for a new church expect to be able to watch a service online before attending in person. So I hope that our investment in digital platforms and online presence will draw more people to our doors. Or as you invite your friends to church, you can actually send them a link to check out a BAC service online before coming in person. So our digital presence enables personal invitation and evangelism. And I do like it when BAC members share BAC content on their social media.

3. Celebrating Generosity

BAC has promoted 10 years of electronic financial giving as the best way to show your commitment to the church that you belong to. In 2020, especially Veronika, has trained people to bring parishioners over to electronic giving. Where lots of churches had a massive drop in collections, at BAC our collections stayed steady. I thank God for the committed core of our church who do give very generously financially.

I want to say to everyone, please continue with electronic giving as collection bowls may not have a place in the future due to hygiene issues.

Please invest in our church if you are blessed by our church. As Paul says in 2 Corinthians 8:7

"But since you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you - see that you also excel in this grace of giving"

Three dreams for Post Covid BAC Impact

1) Families or Couples - who have now prayed, read the Bible and sang together at home for the first time, will keep doing so. (in addition to normal church). Even continuing to more listen to Christian music at home and let the aroma of Christ be a fragrance more in your homes.

2) Paradigm Shift Toward Deep Friendship at church. I dream that many will move forward in the paradigm shift toward deeper Christian relationships: being a disciple of Jesus means investing actively in deep Christian friendships.

It is not enough to just be a consumer or a spectator at BAC, who just turns up and goes away without knowing anyone. Take what you have learnt from the isolation of lockdown and build your Christian relationships at church.

3) I'm praying God will give BAC opportunities to grow our congregations beyond the "sardines" model. Previously our model for growth was to pack people into the room as thickly as we can to keep up with Casey growth. The previous model was broken - packing them in and adding pews. We planted the 5pm because the room felt full enough at 80% capacity. We need to pray that we can get whole new congregations and new spaces to meet. And not rely so heavily on our limited building in the wrong region of Casey for growth. Pray for a new location to start a congregation down in the growth area south of the freeway.

Wayne then invited Sam and Reece to share some brief highlights.

Sam Creek: With a shift to digital media, was still able to run 2 courses: Christianity Explored and the Alpha Marriage Course. Christianity Explored ran in Term 2 and provided an opportunity both to proclaim the gospel and to grow in our understanding of the gospel. It had to pivot to Zoom quickly, but this change enabled people to attend this course that normally couldn't, and it was a joy to see these people connect. Thanked Daniel Fokkens and Rohan & Vasantha David for their support and help. The Alpha Marriage course was run in Term 3 out of the recognition of the strain that Lockdown could put on marriages as well as the desire to support healthy marriages at BAC. It was a good opportunity to connect and enable people to spend time working on their marriages in an opportune time. Both courses were well attended, and the online space provided an opportunity for different people to take join a course.

Reece Kelly: Heartbreaking that many churches have had a halt on their youth ministry, but, at BAC the youth ministry was able to continue though not in the normal way. The timing of covid was untimely because of his son Asher being born at this time. Thankful to Tim Warren for his leadership in Foundations youth Bible study on Sunday mornings, for taking the initiative to put this online at the onset. Researched what the other churches were doing, many failed and stopped, and some were playing games to give the youth less academic time, however, the

leaders at BAC felt that the power of the gospel is in the Word, and they wanted to preach it. Set back for online pastoral care was the duty of care policies in the Anglican Diocese which are good but did not allow one on one private conversations with anyone under the age of 18. This made pastoral care very difficult.

Three pillars offered - Fellowship with each other - 10-15 mins to catch up and talk
- Hear the Gospel - prayer and reading the Bible as an anchor for their lives, following with Youth Alpha in the following terms to learn and relearn and be encouraged by the core foundations of faith in Christ. Youth could Pray for one another - virtual hangout rooms in zoom, to create space for youth could have peer pastoral care. Praise God for continually being encouraged in the gospel. God is at work, and thank the Lord for continually being encouraged in the gospel. Thank God for special times of prayer where people have had the opportunity to be open and honest, and say how they are going and ask for prayer

Wayne mentioned that you can read the ministry report from Rev. Hugh Prentice. We expect the nursing home ministry of BAC to recommence next year. Please pray for the BAC clergy team.

Thanked Veronika Warren for her work in the office and her amazing work, and that she will be a key person to go to for rosters as we relaunch rosters.

Wayne thanked the Church Wardens and the Parish Council for an excellent year 2020, and a very challenging year, but were a great team and a great support to the Vicar.

Prayer led by Stephanie McNeil for the ministry staff team.

Property, Building and Maintenance

Wayne encouraged people to read the wardens report. Nick Boatman was a last minute apology so Wayne shared some photo slides of various improvements to the buildings and plant in the last 12 months.

Financial Report and Statements - presented by Russell Patterson

The church financial year is from October 2019 to September 2020

There is a lot of detail in the booklet , mainly for transparency purposes and to give the members a full picture of how the finances are.

Exciting news about the Offertory income, which has transitioned from 50% of cash giving to 89% of electronic giving. A big Thank you to all the people who have switched and moved to electronic giving - just a fantastic effort!

Had a question before shutdown, services were suspended before 18th of March.

To that point, until the end of February 2020, the offertory income was \$123,000- and budget was \$128,000- and we were 3.8% under budget at that point.

At the 30th of September 2020 we are \$18325- under budget or 5.9%

Our budget for 2019-2020 year was \$308,000 or \$25,725- per month, that is shown on the dotted line on the chart.

There was a question on giving options.

Our preferred method is electronic giving. We implemented a second option on our website to enable the use of credit or debit cards, so that there is a link on the website for people who prefer to use a credit or debit card. Other options, we are trying to minimise the use of cash for obvious reasons, so we encourage people to use electronic means, and if you do have problems with that, please contact Veronika Warren or talk to your bank.

Moving onto Income Split -this chart shows the wagon wheel of the Income

Statement -showing the Total Income of \$469,358-, of which the offertory Income is \$290,000- is 62%.

This year with the Covid Grants from the Federal and State Governments we received via the Diocese -Jobkeeper Wage subsidy of \$97,000-, and we also received \$10,000- from the Victorian Government - the business support grant. We also applied for \$10,000- from the Federal Government Cash Boost, which was declined. The Diocese wrote to the Federal Treasurer about it, but the response was that - as the legislation was drafted and they were not going to change it.

\$10,000-from the State Second Business Extension Support Grant, which was also declined as the our pay roll is with the Diocese is centralized and our BAS statements do not have pay roll Pay as you go tax on it, so it was declined by an electronic means which the Diocese protested against but were unsuccessful.

Total Expenditure for the year was \$466,427-

Ministry Staff - \$266,957-

Payroll hassle as it was centralized in mid 2019 to the Diocese, and has not been a smooth process, with errors every month which Veronika Warren has been having to check and communicate the errors back to the Diocese, so it is back and forth and sometimes delays and confidence levels are not terribly high.

There is future provisions of \$55,616- includes \$15,000- set aside for the Future Ministry provision, which brings the Total Funds for the Future Ministry to \$30,000- which includes the \$15,000- set aside in 2019. This fund is a buffer fund, as Wayne mentioned, the future staffing will be possible met out of that.

We also set aside \$33,000- for Future Strategic Assets, which included digital streaming readiness provision, upgrade to the pew pulpit Bibles, provision for the internal and external painting of our facilities here to freshen the place up. The plan is to spend these funds in 2021.

Mission payments \$37,899- the chart show the wagon wheel which includes the \$3000-

of the direct parishioner donations and at the last Parish Council meeting it was decided to give St John's Anglican church and RAFT Anglican Church \$5000- out of our funds as they are really struggling with a massive debt on building loans, and it was felt that as we were blest with the funds we had, that it was only right that we share some of this with our fellow Anglicans. 8.5% of our giving is to our mission partners and you can see the split to the Barnabas Fund, Bush Church Aid, Church Missionary Society, Compassion and the South African Churches

Balance Sheet chart shows the cash position against our current liabilities.

As at 30 September 2020 our cash position was \$139,274- which included funds held by our Diocese, and the current liabilities are \$90841- which includes the funds set aside for the future provisions, so do not be alarmed by the increase in liabilities as it is money being targeted for the future use by BAC.

Budget was approved by the parish council for the year 2020.

Income is \$427,560- and the Expenditure is \$427,371- a balanced budget.

We are budgeting \$308,000 for our offertory income, that is 6% increase in our offertory income as we are executing growth from our online

presence and that people will be attracted to our beautiful church, and our gospel ministry.

On the Income side , we are told that we will receive jobkeeper wage subsidy 2.0 that is \$61,000-

Also on the income side there is \$33,000- money set aside for the strategic asset provision that will be expended.

In the expenditure side, ministry staff is 66% -\$292,000-, and the strategic asset provision of \$33,000-, and property expenditure of \$42,000-

The detailed budget and actual figures are in the reports, which concludes the Financial Reports.

Motion -That the Financial Reports be adopted - moved by Russell Patterson. Carried.

Prayer led by Darren Fitzpatrick - Thanksgiving for Finances and Generous Giving at BAC

Wayne Schuller:

The finances presented were fully audited and unconditionally approved and all in order, but Auditors Report did not make it on time for the booklet, and if copy required please email the office.

Motion to Appoint the same Auditor - Wayne Schuller - Mover, Veronika Warren - Seconder, Carried

The Election of Churchwardens and Members of the Parish Council:

Appointments:

Wardens - Nick Boatman, Chris Ferreira

Vicar's Warden- Stephanie Mcneil

Members of the Parish Council - Randall Chu, Melanie Vinojit, Darren Fitzpatrick

Russell Paterson, Vasantha David

The Election of the Parish Incumbency Committee:

Tim Warren

Darren Fitzpatrick

Outgoing Parish Council Members:

Cam Vinojit

Tim Warren

after serving for many faithful years

BAC REOPENING ROADMAP 2020

To Reopen - Based on Victorian Premier's announcements on the Sunday November 22 we need the rules to change toward:

1. We need Victorian regulations to allow the anticipated limit of 100 persons indoors
2. We need to get enthusiastic volunteers on the relaunch rosters
3. We need our BAC attendees to spread around a new set of church service times

Anticipated COVID settings: Three groups of 20 in the church and one group of 20 in the foyer (Sunday school in hall). This is for a density quotient of one person per 4 square metres. There may be other rules like partitions and boundaries.

As part of the relaunch another thing that will change is permanent new Sunday service times: 8am, 10:30am and 5pm.

Wayne displayed an old BAC services sign form 25 years ago - when the service times were different in the 1990s. This shows that churches can change service times once in a blue moon.

Wayne shared new permanent Sunday service times: 8.00am, 10.30am and 5.00pm. There are multiple important reasons to change the times including: time required for hygiene cleaning, full music rehearsals on Sunday mornings rather than during the week, time to allow car parks to completely empty to allow a new group to come in with no overlap as that is a contact and safety risk

These service times are much more sustainable and a permanent change.

The service styles will remain the same, same communion frequencies with minor changes because of hygiene rules.

All services will have to use the data projector and the screen, no hymn books and no order of service sheets.

Communion frequencies will remain the same as before -

Sunday 8am and Thursday 10 am service will be weekly communion

Sunday 10.30am will be 2nd and 4th Sundays

Sunday 5pm will be 2nd Sunday of every month.

Wafers or Bread will be the same as before but there will be individually pre filled cups with grape juice and the assistants will probably have to use hand sanitizers and also possibly use gloves (awaiting instructions on this).

Receive at stations in front of every isle.

No communion rails, cannot kneel and touch, so only to receive the bread and wine standing at the front of every aisle. All part of hygiene restrictions we think we can work with.

No morning tea initially. Straight after services finish, Wayne will have to ask us to leave, and to go out at the nearest door, and use the beautiful Berwick Anglican gardens and parklands to use the rules around the parks and gardens. We are blessed with a great gardening team.

Relaunch roster:

Please go online and fill up the roster tonight or call the BAC office tomorrow.

Wayne encourages everyone to complete this and volunteer. Please be generous.

We may not be able to start services without a full cohort of helpers.

New teams like the registration team, cleaning team, and may be required to do the working with childrens check. Please use the lanyards if one is made for you. It gives a good impression that we are a safe church to show our WWC checks.

Please be generous and flexible. Can you volunteer for different service times?

Spreading around a new set of church times - Wayne showed a pie chart presentation of recent average attendances across Sunday services. More than 80 in some and some are less than 80. But 80 is the anticipated limit. We may need some from 10:30am to find another service for a season.

We do not know how many people want to come back, maybe only a third of the church want to come back or maybe a lot of visitors or even maybe a tidal wave of people wanting to become Christians as they have been watching our videos in lockdown!

Could some 8am members move to Thursdays at 10am?
Could some 10.30am congregation move to 8am service or to the 5pm service?
Hopefully no one needs to be turned away due to attendance limits.
We will start with a 'free for all' without bookings required and then move to a ticketing roster if we encounter significant bottlenecks.

Possible timeline to BAC reopening:

Sunday November 22nd 2020 - last live Zoom service
Sunday 29th November is the last household worship DIY email.
Sunday 29th November livestream of the 5pm ordination of Sam Creek, with Bishop Paul Barker preaching, singing and communion to bring the bread and wine from home.
Thursday December 3rd 2020 10 am service to reopen
Sunday December 6th 2020 all services - 8:00am, 10.30am, and 5.00pm to resume and reopen to the public, and will continue weekly.
- 10.30 am will also live stream, and continue to do so into next year.

No plans sorted yet for Christmas, except that we have decided to have no outdoor "Carols on the Hill" in early December.

We have frequently asked questions on the website that will be kept up to date.
Presubmitted question: why don't we have an overflow seating outside? A: the Victorian government has made it very clear that you cannot mix the indoor and outdoor quota

Closing Prayer led by Bob Flavell - to close the AGM 2020 and special prayer to commit the entire reopening of BAC to our Lord Jesus

Final reminders by Wayne Schuller

BAC Weekly email to be sent out tomorrow with more updates, and more links to sign up for relaunch rosters. Keep praying for the church in the coming weeks.
Wednesday Zoom pastor connect will not be held anymore. Tuesday morning prayer meeting will reopen
If anyone would like to drop in to pray or just sit or look around, the church is open from
9am to lunch time -Monday to Thursday
29th November Sam's ordination live streamed
10.30 am on Sunday 6th if you think you will not get a seat, invite another family to your house and watch the livestream together
Church services will be much shorter and tighter. Masks to be worn while singing.
May have smaller music teams

9 pm - Wayne Schuller declared the annual meeting closed.