

WILLETTON UNITING CHURCH  
CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023

1. OPENING DEVOTIONS

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- Congregational Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023.
- Special Congregational Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Inwards :

- Letter from Rev Toby Keva accepting the call to be the Minister of the Word of the Willetton Uniting Church Congregation.

Outwards

- Letter to Rev Toby Keva issuing the call to be the Minister of the Word at Willetton Uniting Church.

5. ELECTIONS

- Office Bearers of the Congregation:
  - (a) Chairperson
  - (b) Secretary
- A nomination has been received by Vivienne Rowney to become a member of the Church Council as Minute Secretary. A vote by secret ballot will be held.

6. REPORTS:

- \* Church Council
- \* Minister
- \* Finance - Income and Expenditure to 31 October 2023
  - Projected Budget 2024
- \* Property
- \* Music Ministry
  - Outreach Concert
- \* Friendship Circle
- \* Ladies Evening Fellowship

- \* World Day of Prayer
- \* Non Perishable Groceries for Fremantle
- \* Youthcare
- \* Mission
- \* Newsletter
- \* Uniting WA (Verbal)

## 7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Close of Meeting:

**Membership of Church Council:**

**Elders:** Lesley Kenny, Deirdre Russell, Diane Boon, Chris Malan, John Boon (Chairperson), Barbara Bennewith (Treasurer), Bruce Read, Lynne Burking

**Councillors:** Julie Maddocks, Ed Kenny (co-opted: Congregational chairperson), Wilma Wilson (co-opted: Congregational secretary), Vicki Banks

Minute Secretary: Vivienne Rowney

**Minister in Supply: Samuel Annan**

**Purpose/Function of the Church Council:**

“The Church Council shall give priority in its life to building up the Congregation in faith and love, sustaining members in hope, and leading the Congregation to a fuller participation in Christ’s mission in the world. This priority shall be reflected in the agenda of its ordinary meetings”.

[Reg 3.1.2 (a)]

***(1) Elders and Pastoral Partners:***

There was a review of the pastoral care network by the Elders and Pastoral Carers in September. Again, Samuel provided important input into this time, and we also welcomed a new Pastoral Partner in Phyllis Muller to the team. She joins the team of Judy Rowson, Pauline Read, Judy Heath, Muriel Barron, Louise Riedel, Jenny Vermeer, Fran Ciupryk, Sue Heng, Ed Kenny and Pat Whipple.

***(2) Ministry:***

Since the departure of Rev Mark Bell, we have been blessed with the ministry of Samuel Annan. Samuel has fitted in very well to this congregation and we are appreciative of his work and effort in so many ways. He

has exercised his ministry across the wide range of ministerial responsibilities. Making himself available at the church for both private and small group activities, has been appreciated. His conduct of worship has been exemplary - covering hymns, prayers, reflections, and delightful video clips to make worship relevant and engaging.

Samuel uses the Ghanaian image of a hand holding an egg as a model of his leadership- 'when pressed too hard it may break and if not held well too, it may break on the ground'. I believe that this has been our experience with Samuel-both as a leader and also holding and nurturing us in prayer and practical support.

As his time with us is drawing to a close and the Advent and Christmas time approaches some community events have been planned -notably on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December, a Carol service for the community with some fun activities and a sausage sizzle as part of the time. There will also be a congregation Christmas party hosted by the Church Council at the church on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December. Lots of the specific details will be announced over the coming weeks.

Thanks also to Samuel's family (Rachel, Emelia and Samuel Jr) who have participated in congregational life during their time with us. We wish them all the best as Samuel takes up his role as the minister of the Rockingham Uniting Church.

The future: The Council has had a discussion with Rev Toby Keva who will commence his ministry on the 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2024. No date had been set yet for his induction by the Presbytery. It was agreed that Toby will continue to live at his house in Shoalwater and continue with his navy chaplaincy role for 1 day a week. He has indicated that the balance of his time will be mostly held at the Herald Avenue site. Again, more specific details of this will be announced over the coming weeks.

### **(3) Election**

Vivienne Rowney has graciously accepted the role of Minute Secretary of the Church Council and will be formally elected to the Church Council by the Congregation.

John Boon.

Chairperson, Willetton Church Council.

Proposal: That the report be received.



# The Uniting Church in Australia

## Willetton

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### Samuel Annan's Ministry Report Nov. 2023

#### *Preamble*

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#### Psalm 15

15 LORDS, who can live in your sacred tent?  
Who can stay on your holy mountain?

<sup>2</sup> Anyone who lives without blame  
and does what is right.

They speak the truth from their heart.

<sup>3</sup> They don't tell lies about other people.  
They don't do wrong to their neighbours.  
They don't say anything bad about them.

<sup>4</sup> They hate evil people.

But they honour those who have respect for the Lord.

They keep their promises even when it hurts.

They do not change their mind.

<sup>5</sup> They lend their money to poor people without charging interest.  
They don't accept money to harm those who aren't guilty.

Anyone who lives like that  
will always be secure.



I have been reflecting on Joshua's leadership and as I do, this psalm and the Ghanaian symbol of a hand holding an egg keeps resonating in my mind. It's a symbol which means that leadership is like a hand holding an egg, when pressed too hard it may break and if not held well too, it may slip and break on the ground. May the good Lord lead us as we serve God's people.

### Worship:

Our Sunday worship is based on the Revised Common Lectionary readings. I have been following the uniting church's order of service with combination of contemporary video and activities that is relevant and speak to the theme and the pastoral needs of our congregation. Moreover, in other to create a space for members to pray, I have involved lighting of candles after church, for those who wish to pray after the service to light it and pray for a situation or someone or themselves which has been well received. I usually send out the order of service on Thursdays to all who will be participating in worship: the readers, elder on duty, PowerPoint operators and some individuals their pastoral carers have requested they will need it before services. In addition, some members have requested a copy of my reflection after the service which I send them out on Tuesdays. I will be willing to send both the order of service and the reflection to anyone who may needing a copy as well.

I am very thankful for those who have been volunteering for service; the organists, PowerPoints operators, stewards, readers, elders on Sundays, kitchen team and all our congregation for coming along every Sunday for worship.

### Pastoral Care Ministry:

I have been working with the pastoral carers in prayerfully journeying alongside our members who may require such services. Moreover, I have been contacting members on phone upon their permission and willing for such conversations. In addition, I have been spending time on Sunday to check on members after worship and occasionally pray with those who may permit me to do so.

Our communion service is on every first Sunday of the month and I have offered to visit members who may miss the communion and want to be served at their homes.

The office is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, members with pastoral concerns, occasionally visit for a chat and a prayer and will like to encourage others to visit.

### Acknowledgement of the Country

Upon the feedback from our members, we resolved that this should be done every first Sunday of the month and it suggests to me that it has been well received by our members.

### Church and Office Opening

The Church is open on Thursdays from 10am to 12 noon for prayers. I would like to thank Lyn Muir who helped us to get a placard directing people to our church opening prayers on Thursdays.

The meditation group always light some candles for prayer after their meetings. Occasionally some members do turn up for prayers. At times some community members visit the church for a chat or wanting a specific need.

### CAFE Church and Mission

In recent times I have been prayerfully reflecting on the question: "why are we here as a church in Willetton? In what ways are we contributing to meeting the spiritual needs of our Willetton community?" In collaboration with the mission team, we had this service and had a conversation reflecting on our mission. The members contributed and their feedback are being discussed by the mission team. It is my prayer and hope that, God's Spirit would lead us as we consider these feedbacks together.

### Personal Suggestion

I have observed in some meetings relating to church's decision making that before and after the meetings, prayers are not said. I would like to suggest that we encourage prayers before and after meetings. More importantly in relation to seeking for opinions or making a significant decision for our church and on behalf of our members.

Concerning our hymn festival on 19<sup>th</sup> November, I have suggested to our organists to cancel it. This is because both of our organists who have been involved with the planning contracted COVID and due to the uncertainty of the complications afterwards, I wrote to them to cancel this to enable them to recover. I am planning to use our preparations to have a service of hymns and their meaning on my last worship with Willetton on 31<sup>st</sup> December if the church council would agree to that.

Personal:

[1 My ordination is scheduled for 25th November 2023 at 2 pm at Wesley Uniting Church in the City and will like to invite our congregation.

[1 I have a workshop on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Nov with the General Secretary on permission to officiate weddings, as a result of this the office would be open at 12pm.

 With Grace and Peace,

SAMUEL ANNAN

(0406346432)



**WILLETTON UNITING CHURCH**  
**Income & Expenditure to 31 October 2023**

<b>Balance from 2022</b>		\$179,479		\$179,479
	<b>BUDGET 10 MONTHS 2023</b>		<b>10 MONTH ACTUAL 2023</b>	
<b>Income</b>				
Offerings	\$63,333		\$75,841	19.75%
Facilities Use	\$6,666		\$4,748	-28.77%
Other	\$2,266		\$3,777	66.68%
Sub Total	<u>\$72,265</u>		<u>\$84,366</u>	16.75%
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Ministry	\$53,333		\$50,559	-5.20%
Parish Operating	\$5,083		\$13,402	163.66%
Property	\$21,166		\$27,357	29.25%
Chaplaincy	\$1,333		\$1,500	12.53%
Local Mission	\$0		\$0	0.00%
Mission & Service	\$3,333		\$4,200	26.01%
Sub Total	<u>\$84,248</u>		<u>\$97,018</u>	15.16%
<b>Net Operating Result</b>		-\$11,983		-\$12,652
<b>Operating Balance</b>		\$167,496		\$166,827
	\$0			\$0
<b>Balance at 30 June 2023</b>		\$167,496		\$166,827

**Equity Accounts for period to 31 October 2023**

	<b>Bal</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Exp</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Transfer Accounts	\$2,260	\$815	\$3,075	\$0
Group Accounts	\$1,605	\$609	\$390	\$1,824
Other Accounts	\$1,568	\$1,345		\$2,913
Fund Raising	\$10,606	\$300	\$273	\$10,633
Sub Total				
Total				\$15,370
<b>Final Balance all accounts @ 31 October 2023</b>				\$182,197
Represented by				
Cheque Account		\$ 22,689		
Fixed Deposit		\$ 30,000		
Bonus Saver A/c		\$ 129,390		
GST owed by ATO		\$ 118		\$182,197

**NOTES:**

**Income:** Offerings on a slight decline. Property use has not met expectations

**Expenses:**

**Stiipend** Due to not having a full time placement Stiipend down.  
Various works have been carried out on both properties.

**Property:** See property report.

## NOTES TO THE BUDGET – November 2023

### INCOME

**Offerings** - envelope giving lower but higher open plate. Estimate remains similar for 2024.

**Church Property** - increased for 2024 in hope we can encourage other groups to use the premises.

**Donations** - higher than expected for 2023. 2024 adjusted amount.

**Bank interest** - higher than expected due to rate changes.

### EXPENDITURE

Full time placement for 2024.

**Miscellaneous** – high in 2023 due to purchase of new computer

**Insurance** – 2022 paid in 2023 (therefore 2 years paid in 2023)

**Church Maintenance** – 2023 included high expense of roof repair.

**Manse Maintenance** – included expenses getting ready for private rental.

**Manse agent fees** – estimated 15% of rental income.

**Manse rates & taxes** – estimated due to private rental.

**Travel & Accommodation** – abnormal for 2023 no longer required.

At the time of preparing the Budget for 2024 there were no firm figures for rental of the manse. Hopefully at the meeting these can be confirmed.

Barbara Bennewith

Treasurer

## Property Report – November 2023

	JOB	ACTION
<b>Manse</b>	Shower Screen	Main bathroom replaced
	Front pillar	Pillar on front corner repaired and made safe.
	Water leakage Electrical	Urgent repair Additional power points
<b>Church</b>	Water Damage	Insurance advised 6/6/23 Cannot finalise damage until problem has been rectified. A quote has been accepted to repoint, clean gutters and pressure hose all the roof.
	Electrical – tagging - Security light Caprice Place - Flood light – Herald Ave - Track lights Chapel	Worked carried out by Ranford Electrical.
	Air-conditioners	All were serviced and 1 replaced.
	Sound System	New microphone stand installed.
	Fire & Safety	All fire equipment checked by Fire & Safety. This has not been done since 2019. All fire extinguishers were out of date.
	Carpet cleaning	Hall and foyer carpet area off Herald Ave cleaned
	Tree lopping	Trees on eastern side of building trimmed
	Garden	Various small amounts to get the garden looking ‘loved’ (inc skip bin)

### Further notes:

**Manse:** With Mark Bell moving out of the Manse (14 November) there may be additional expenses to bring the property up to standard for private rental. Certainly, there will be some gardening required.

**Church:** There are always small jobs needing to be done. As a result of water damage in June, work will commence at the beginning of December to have the problems rectified. Approx \$10000. (\$500 dep paid)

We will then talk to the insurers to ensure that the work required to be completed be done as soon as possible.

Approximately \$12300 has been spent on Manse and Church since February.

**Property Use:** Shapedisability continue to use on a regular basis. Diane has met with CWA branch members who may be interested once a month.

Thank you to all the ‘fairies’ who assist with the maintenance requirements. There have been long hours put into assisting over the past year. Barbara Bennewith

## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

Many thanks to organists Janice Barrett and Barbara Bennewith for sharing and stepping in sometimes with little notice. We've enjoyed Samuel's music choices and look forward to working with Toby next January.

We are a great singing congregation and hymn and tune choices are very important in our worship. Can I remind you that our hymn books are available in our Foyer to borrow for our services if required?

Deirdre Russell O.A.M.

### **Outreach Concerts**

#### **CLASSICAL PIANO RECITALS.**

In 2023 we had just one concert after the 9.15 worship service on 18th June, showcasing the talents of several young pianists aged from 8 years old to tertiary age level. All played their pieces faultlessly from memory, to a small but appreciative audience comprising the parents of the performers together with a few members of our congregation. Many comments were made about the amazing quality of the performances from such talented youngsters.

Artwork for the programmes was provided gratis by Peter Hinchliffe from Apwin Computer Services. Donations were almost sufficient to cover photocopying programmes and the Yamaha piano tuning. These concerts are not meant to be fund-raisers, but to work through our Music Ministry sharing God's love and hope in action: "Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them .." Romans 12.6

There is no reason to think we could not hold a similar Classical Piano concert in June 2024, if the congregation will support it. The teacher who encourages his advanced students to participate appreciates the opportunity for them to play in public on a quality acoustic instrument. Many are driven by dedicated parents from north of the river to contribute to our concerts.

A Variety Concert including voice and other instruments could also be investigated in 2024 once our new minister has settled in and we can work out where it can be fitted into the church calendar. Any parishioners who have grandchildren learning an instrument are encouraged to speak to Lyn when they are interested in the opportunity for public performance in front of a non-judgmental audience.

Lyn Muir 10.11.23

## **FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE.**

Membership remains at 14. - Attendance varies. Welcome was given to Barbara & Bill Dinney who joined us for the month of August.

Our get-togethers always commences with a prayer, & ' Thought For Today ' by one of their own choosing. Thoughtfully chosen and always well received.

Birthdays recognised with singing of Happy Birthday. Since the Congregation Meeting in May, there have been celebrations by Madeline, Sofia, Louise, Deirdre, Lin W. and Wilma. Madeline & Sofia both received Birthday cards, - for they were both celebrating their 90th. Congratulations to them.

Postage to - John Boon ( Get Well card) and to Anna Mutty, ( Sympathy Card and newsletter ). a Get Well Card sent to Robert Suann. Activities. Writing of a childhood memory in the 10 minutes allocated. Bush Poetry presented by Madeline & Deirdre.

The members were saddened by the news of the death of Edith Morrell, who had been a faithful member for many years. A notice was placed in the church newsletter pertaining to Edith, & this was sent to Edith's daughter Anna Mutty.

In October, at Madeline's suggestion, a memorial service was held for Edith , as her requested funeral service had not occurred. Maisie Hogan, having forwarded information, joined us for the service. Edith had requested ' Great is Thy Faithfulness ' & ' I Know That My Redeemer Liveth ' from Handl's Messiah, - plus the Twenty Third Psalm. Sung the hymn, with Deirdre accompanying, then we heard a soloist sing the Aria from The Messiah, through a phone belonging to Wilma, - The 23rd Psalm was said together. Chris. then reading a meaningful prayer. In conclusion photos of Edith passed around, &. birthday cards shown which had been beautifully hand crafted by Edith.

Thanks to Christine managing the Trading Table , who then was able to give Barbara ( Church ) \$100.00. 9/7/23. As we had decided to do more Outreach Work , a donation of \$200.00 was forwarded to the Frontier Services of the U.C. who are desperately in need of aid. Sept. '23. Receipt received.

Thank you to those who have provided the yummy afternoon teas and all who have supported generally.

God Bless.

Phyllis Muller.

## **LADIES EVENING FELLOWSHIP**

Ladies Evening Fellowship have met at the homes of Chris Malan and Val Dobrowolski and will hopefully be meeting at the home of Madeline Suann in December.

We are holding funds to go towards church renovations when required.

Madeline Suann

Convener



## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER. (ECUMENICAL ).**

The Convener's Meeting was held recently, attended by Jan. Rose and Sylvia Stone of St. Andrew's Anglican, Shelley, representing this area. Mr. Rick Pekan of the Bible Society attended, and thanked everyone in attendance, and said all money raised in W.A. goes straight to the projects and none kept back. The Bible Society has a good relationship with Palestine.

The project this year is written by the women of Palestine on the theme, " Bear With One Another In Love'.

At the present time the country of Palestine is suffering a terrible War. Prayer's extended to all who are suffering, and hopefully the services around the World as organized will be held on the first Friday in March, 2024.

The representatives from the Seven local churches will meet on the 17th Nov. 2023. for a one hour meeting, at the church of St. John and Paul Catholic ,Willetton, - the host church next year .2024.

Jan Rose OAM Coordinator , has said, ' Please ask anyone in your church who may be interested to come along to the meeting.'

This being an Ecumenical Service, gives those attending the opportunity to meet and worship with Christians from other churches. As the congregation knows, this year's service was held here, and was well attended.

On behalf of Madeline Suann, &. Lynette Burking.

Phyllis Muller

## **NON-PERISHABLE GROCERIES FOR FREMANTLE**

Our congregation continued throughout 2023 to provide Non Perishable groceries to St Pats in Fremantle for their distribution to the homeless and needy in and around Fremantle.

The level of support from our congregation continues to be outstanding. Each week enough groceries are donated to make the trip to Fremantle well and truly worthwhile.

The donations each week from our congregation are supplemented by additional donations from Stan and Noreen Snook's Probus group. We, and St Pats, are grateful for their contributions.

Thank you to Christine Erskine who continues to make and stock bathroom/cosmetic bags. These fill a great need and are very much appreciated by those at St Pats.

Thank you to Jiaming Xu who each week helps with the packing up of bags and carrying them to the car.

Your continued support is appreciated.

Fran, Pauline and Bruce.

## **YouthCARE**

YouthCARE in our area supports Chaplains in our local high schools.

Previously this included Willetton, Rossmoyne and Leeming high schools (WRL) and their feeder primary schools. This year our area has been extended to include Lynwood High School and its feeder primary schools. As a consequence the committee that supports these schools has had its name changed to “Canning River South Youthcare Council”.

In addition John Lee, who was the Area Chaplain for our area has moved on to take a chaplaincy position with a mining company. This resulted in a period without an Area Chaplain which was less than ideal, however this position has now been filled by Mr Choy Lee. Choy was previously chaplain at Rossmoyne Primary School.

The newly named council looks forward to supporting Choy in his new role.

Pauline and Bruce Read represent our congregation on the area council and would be happy to provide further info and answer any questions you may have regarding school chaplains in our area.

The Council asks for your prayerful support during the remainder of 2023 and into 2024 as the extended Council and the new Area Chaplain take up their various duties.

Pauline and Bruce Read

## **MISSION REPORT**

### **FEEDBACK FROM CAFÉ CHURCH**

The October Café Church was very well attended, with people saying that they enjoyed it and with lots of info obtained about how we could do Mission.

Feedback from the congregation indicated our human resources are limited and ageing but keen to contribute as they are able.

### **Continue to support and expand existing projects:**

- Music concerts can be extended and expanded.
- YouthCARE school chaplains. For example we could have a morning tea for the staff at chaplains schools.
- Food collection
- Easter Fair
- Christmas services
- Prayer support for mission initiatives
- Christmas Bowl

Support local events

### **Letting people know about Jesus and our Church:**

Showing care and love in the community

Letting people know about Jesus love and our Church on a day to day basis.

Invite people to our Church, run classes, initiate a pamphlet, share premises at minimal cost

### **MISSION MEETING 8 NOV 2023**

Subsequent to Café Church, the Mission Group met on 8 November. In attendance were:

Vicki Banks, Samuel, John Boon, Diane Boon, Barbara Bennewith, Judy Heath, Chris Malan and Lyn Muir with apologies from Bruce and Pauline Read.

We discussed at length the comprehensive feedback received from the congregation and took them into account while discussing the following:

### **ORANGE SKY PROJECT**

Although the congregation remained willing to support this project, Orange Sky has been unable to find enough volunteers, which are crucial to this project.

### **A DIFFERENT OUTREACH PROJECT?**

The mission group discussed the possibility of doing a sandwich and friendship evening instead of the orange sky project. This could be done on a Sunday 4 – 6 and Thursdays after meditation. We need to consider the limitations of the resources of our congregation. We decided to first establish if there was a need. This we would do by:

1. Checking social media such as Facebook the I love Willetton page.
2. Discussions with the City of Canning
3. Local School Chaplains through the Area Chaplain and the local YouthCARE District Council.

Samuel said occasionally people come in during the week asking for help. We decided to set up another box that doesn't go away to St Pats and possibly set up a specific day of the week for those in need of particular items such as toiletries and toilet rolls. This (donations) is something that the congregation identified as a way they could contribute.

Samuel also suggested that shape disability is an opportunity for us to determine what we could also offer in that space. We could join them on one of their Saturdays once in a while for a sausage sizzle and maybe invite the families.

We acknowledge the need to run past the new minister first.

## COMMUNITY CAROLS SERVICE.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December. 5pm Sausage sizzle. Fun games. Starting with carols inside.

## COMMUNITY FUN FAIR

The Mission group decided to go ahead with this on Easter Saturday with the approval of the Church Council. We also agreed that we will need a Coordinator for the day and that we will ask the congregation.

## GENERAL

We need to remind the congregation about non-perishable donations. We agreed to update the congregation on Mission during the service once a quarter.

Suggestion from Vicki: that we get T shirts with our church logo on to be worn by church members at the Community Fun Fair and beyond.

Recommendation from Barbara: When we redo the sign out the front, we should put hall hire to contact Diane on the outside sign.

Next meeting 12.30 Wednesday 21 Feb 2024

## **NEWSLETTER REPORT**

We hope that you all enjoyed reading the Newsletter. There is not much change in the Newsletter. We have a few people join the mailing list and some have decided they don't need the newsletter anymore. If you have queries, please contact Eddie or Louise on email [louise.riedel@iinet.net.au](mailto:louise.riedel@iinet.net.au) or Louise mobile 0422 814 230.

Blessings, Louise & Eddie.