

# Annual Reports

August 2022



Our Purpose

Moving Forward Together in  
Christ's Steps

## Our Vision



we have a **dream** that we will be of

<p><b>ONE MIND</b></p> <p><i>Unified in following the way of Jesus Christ</i></p>	<p><b>ONE BODY</b></p> <p><i>Selflessly and radically loving our community, transforming the world for Jesus.</i></p>	<p><b>ONE VOICE</b></p> <p><i>Using every gift given to us by God to communicate his glory and love, boldly and courageously.</i></p>
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## Our Values



we are **passionate** about

<p><b>THE BIBLE</b></p> <p><i>Knowing God through his Word</i></p>	<p><b>PRAYER</b></p> <p><i>Communicating with God</i></p>	<p><b>OUR COMMUNITY</b></p> <p><i>Loving people and making disciples</i></p>
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# Secretary's Report

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Another year of COVID has passed, however it has been a relief to have an ease of restrictions allowing us to meet together to praise God and return to our programs. We have been able to make some headway on the Revitalisation Project and it is exciting to see this progress through the stages – we eagerly await the outcomes of the final stages.

This past year we have witnessed the baptisms of Peter John and Darren Adams. It is a special time to witness the dedication of one's life to Jesus. It was also special to witness the infant dedications of Grace Asiago and Charlotte Asiago. May there be many more to come.

Thank you to all the leaders and volunteers who have supported us, guided us, and taught us, and most of all prayed for us through this year. The time, energy, and love that you freely give is greatly appreciated. We have seen many programs change and develop based on our current needs and influenced by the outcomes of COVID restrictions. Everyone has shown a loving ability to be flexible and try new ways. Church post-COVID looks very different on the 'outside' to pre-COVID, however 'inside' we all still have the love of Jesus shining within us.

**John 16:33: *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."***

May we continue to encourage faith in Jesus, bring hope to our world, and show love for each other. May God bless each one of us as we go forward and spread God's love and hope to our local community.

Blessings

Stephanie van Leeuwen

# Lead Pastor's Report

## Lead Pastors Annual Report 2022

Mrs Black was living in Ettalong in the late 1920's and noticed many children playing in her street. She knew they didn't know the Lord, and that their families didn't attend any church. So Mrs Black started a Sunday School for them. It wasn't long before she moved the Sunday School into her boat shed and invited their families to join in as well. And so Ettalong Baptist Fellowship was born, meeting for many years with all ages all together in that boat shed. It was about another 20 years before we were welcomed into the Baptist Association as a Baptist Church, but this was our beginning.

Mrs Black had a son who was a Baptist Pastor, the Rev W Cleugh Black. He visited Ettalong Beach in (I think) 1929. He baptised 10 of the small group at the beach, with many Ettalong locals watching on. The local newspaper at the time reported that, "the assembled crowd were greatly impressed by the testimony of those being baptised. It was the most memorable open air religious service in the history of the Woy Woy district."

This year in 2022, around 93 years after that early fellowship first met in the boat shed, we have adopted a new purpose, "moving forward together in Christ's steps." Yet though the words are new, the sentiment certainly isn't. The vision that Mrs Black had, to see her neighbours and friends reached with the love of Christ, is still our vision today. We don't know much about this servant of God, but it seems to me that she set an example that we would do well to remember and emulate today. To faithfully step out, sharing the love of Jesus with our community, in Christ's strength. To walk in his steps, as he directs. To faithfully surround everything in prayer and to always keep the cross before us. It is Christ's death and resurrection that is our strength.

It has been an exciting 12 months as you will see in this book of reports. Though we have faced many challenges God is faithful and is with us every step we take. Some of the challenges we have faced is the end of a second lockdown that lasted for months in the latter half of 2021, learning to live with the COVID virus in a new stage of the Pandemic, saying goodbye to the Sharpe family after 6 wonderful years of ministry that Johnny had amongst us.

In 2022 we have adopted our new Purpose statement (as I have described already above), "moving forward together in Christ's steps," and we have re-stated our Values and Vision.

We value many things but we are passionate about the Bible, prayer and our community. These are the very things that our fellowship was passionate about as they met in that early boat shed.

We have a dream that we will be of one mind: This part of our vision is to do with growing in the gospel, that we would be more Christ-like, and equipped to serve him as his body, the Church. With this vision we commit to unity, both in our church and with other churches.

We have a dream that we will be of one body: This part of our vision is to do with living out the gospel in practical ways as the body of Christ. With this vision we commit to loving and serving the community without expecting anything in return.

We have a dream that we will be of one voice: This part of our vision is to do with communicating the gospel. We want to do this effectively and boldly, using the gifts and

resources God has given us. With this vision we commit to using our resources (sometimes in quite radical ways) to openly proclaim the gospel of Christ, in word, deed, and with everything we do and have. Resources include our building, spiritual gifts, raising up and training leaders.

I wonder if these three dreams are the very dreams that Mrs Black worked so hard to achieve in the boat shed. It must have been so exciting to see her neighbours and friends come to know Jesus Christ, and be baptised publicly at the beach at Ettalong.

We currently have two worship services each week. We have been particularly blessed in our 9.30am service with Joey Arrua joining us on staff to coordinate and lead us in authentic and true worship that brings glory to God. I know the music teams and AV desk continue to be particularly blessed with Joey's leadership, as we all have both in our traditional gathering in the building and our large online community worshipping with us on the live stream.

Our 4pm service has started this year, slowly. We have a number of families who have joined with us for the first time (and one family who has re-joined us since the Pandemic commenced). We continue to pray for this service. Like the early gathering in the boat shed it is small, intergenerational and seeks to meet the needs of families who struggle to connect with the traditional worship service. We want to honour God and bring glory to him through fellowship, fun and learning. We commence each Sunday from 3.30pm with coffee, hot chocolate and games for the kids. From 4pm we have singing, a lesson from the Bible, activities for the children, and when it is appropriate a small discussion and prayer time for the adults. Occasionally we also have dinner together or other special activities.

We are a very active church as will be seen in the attached reports. But as I finish my report, I urge you most of all to stop, take time to pray and spend time in the Lord's presence. Read his word the Bible. Look for the needs in our community that God impresses upon you. Take action to minister for him as he leads. Work together as the body of Christ, with one mind, one body and one voice. And never forget the testimony of those who have gone before us. May we always seek to serve and honour our great and mighty God, always moving forward together in His steps.

Blessings

*David Gilchrist*

# Elders' Report

**Elders:** David Gilchrist, Heather Crawford, Ian Durrand, Denise Psaila

**Contact Details of Secretary:** Heather Crawford

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The Churches representatives on the Eldership Team serving this year have been Denise Psaila, Heather Crawford, Rev. David Gilchrist and Ian Durrand. As needed Rev Johnny Sharpe also joined the meetings, but he resigned his appointment to the church at the end of 2021.

David is the Chair of these meetings assisted by Heather who acts as a secretary to the meeting. A set of brief minutes has been sent out after each meeting to the Deaconate for their information and where necessary, action.

A wide range of topics and activities have been discussed and undertaken to ensure we maintain the level of spiritual leadership and support of our Pastors and our church needs, as well as providing additional prayer support for individuals and groups within the church. This has included providing support to our Ministry Leaders and the rotation of attendance of Elders at Deacon's meetings.

We successfully organised, advertised and recruited a new part-time position for our church, namely the appointment of a Worship Coordinator, Joey Arrua.

Such spiritual leadership activity has seen, for example, the numbers of Connect Groups grow within our church, the introduction of an Alpha Program, the introduction of a Bible School, the selection of the team and their spiritual oversight for the Revitalisation Process, including the development of a prayer strategy to support all their activity, the renewal of Employment Contracts for the two Pastors using a new performance evaluation tool developed by the Baptist Association and development of a reporting tool to track progress against performance, the organisation of a church family picnic, the introduction of the 40 days of prayer and the organising of an Outreach activity in July 2022 to visit a struggling church in Gin Gin, Queensland.

We have written a plan to assess and see if we can improve the overall Pastoral Care in our church, plus we are working with the regional Baptist Association's training and information days to ensure we meet their objective of a 1000 new churches in a generation.

All Glory to God; much has been achieved within the Eldership, with the prayerful support and practical support of the Deaconate, the Ministry Leaders and the Congregational members.

Heather Crawford



# Deacons' Reports

## Administrator's Report

**Contact Details of Administrator:** Jean Lynch

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There are many people who continue to faithfully and sacrificially serve upfront or behind the scenes to meet our various church needs, and they do not go unnoticed. Thank you!

### **Office Staffing**

Thank you to all the wonderful office staff members who work selflessly week after week, supporting the work of our church, and for the stand-in volunteers who can be called upon to fill vacant days. They are all a very important 'first point of contact'.

A particular thanks to Margaret Gallagher who served faithfully for many years, but due to ill-health needed to step down, with her husband, Terry, filling in for most of this year. Unfortunately, Terry also needs to step down, and will be greatly missed.

### **Real Estate**

We thank God for good and reliable tenants for our rental property at 1 Coolabah Street. August 2021 saw a new tenant move in, and who has just renewed his lease for another 12 months.

### **Church Directory**

The church directory PDF version was again updated in December 2021, which is now password protected for extra security.

### **Safe Church Policies and Screening**

The Elders and Deacons recommended that all future volunteers and new Ministry Partners need to complete our Safe Church Screening Questionnaire before taking on a new volunteer leadership role or before becoming a ministry partner, to comply with our insurance requirements.

Interview packs have been collated to enable the interviewer to give the ministry partner interviewee a copy of our Constitution, Leadership Structure Document and the Questionnaire, and all newly elected leaders are given copies to complete at the Ministry Council meeting following the AGM.

### **Church Premises Use**

A Policy for Use of Church Premises was written and adopted by the church, and we have since seen increased requests for the use of our great church spaces and facilities. This is an excellent way for our church and its ministries to become known to our local Central Coast community. It could also be an extra means of revenue for our church if we decided on a fee structure? One of the new regular users already voluntarily pays a fixed rate every week for their three weekly sessions.

### **Annual Reports**

Thank you to all the leaders and ministry leaders who submitted their Annual Reports.

Jean Lynch  
Administration Deacon

## Property - Maintenance

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Geoffrey Toon

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We have been able to make some progress with improvements to the properties, but due to the weather some maintenance tasks have not been possible. Due to the nature of the tasks, most projects have been undertaken over a few days during the week. Our successes include: -

Restoring the children's play area by breaking up and removing a concrete slab, top dressing and laying sprinklers and turfing the area. This was followed by a new sunshade.

Installation of a Colorbond fence and gate for the Men's Shed.

Modifications to the veranda roofing sheets and downpipes to facilitate flushing out of leaves and small tree detritus.

A lot of everyday type tasks have been completed such as garden maintenance, window cleaning, painting, gutter cleaning, tree pruning, minor plumbing leakages etc.

With the frequency of the rain, we have had a lot of leakage inside, with a very limited number of people able to go onto the high roof to investigate. Even with the high level of safety equipment installed it is not good practice to have contractors work on wet slippery roofing. The concrete block walls are porous, allowing water ingress when there is driving rain. Electrical fittings and in-wall wiring are failing due to their age.

Saturday morning working bees are not a satisfactory means of keeping the property in the best of condition. Routine matters, such as garden maintenance (currently well done by a great team), gutter cleaning, window cleaning, light bulb changing and fitting cleaning, can be effectively achieved by people taking on responsibility for such tasks and undertaking them at times to suit themselves.

I like the statement: that "God can move mountains, but don't be surprised if he puts a shovel in your hands!" Thank you to those people who willing grab the shovel!

Geoff Toon  
EBC Property Officer.

# Children and Families

**Contact Details of Ministry Group Leader:** Janine Arrua

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As my time as Group Leader of Children and Families Ministries comes to a close, I reflect with thankfulness on all those who have served, the families that have been reached, and the changes and challenges that God has guided us through.

Kids' Church under the leadership of Merrie, Margy, Audrey, Chloe and their capable and committed team sought ways to better reach the community and meet what we recognised as the purpose, values and vision of EBC at the time. As leadership changed, we saw the transition to the SHOUT!! program under Jane, firstly continuing to meet in the mornings then moving to its current afternoon time, with parents and families being welcomed along with their children.

Our pre-school ministries, Playtime, led capably and passionately by Lyndl, Jane, Jodie and Johnny, and Mainly Music, with Joy coordinating, have reached so many families from the Peninsula area. Their events, such as the Christmas nativity services of the last few years, form such a special and meaningful connection between our church family and the local community.

Girls' Brigade, for girls from five to 18 years, is a wonderful ministry that grows and gifts leaders, and sees older girls encouraging and mentoring the younger ones, with all learning to Seek, Serve and Follow Christ together.

And while Primary School Special Religious Education is often overlooked, I have seen its value when I was teaching in public schools. As our recent census has shown, fewer people than ever have any contact with the Christian faith, and Scripture may be the only opportunity for them to hear that God loves them.

As a church, we have recognised the importance of policies and procedures to keep the children and vulnerable people to whom we minister safe. While there is still more to do, I trust that we will see the importance of these practices, not just as rules that we have to comply with, but as a practical way to show that we value these precious members of our community.

And while COVID has had its challenges, it has also been a catalyst to make us reassess how and why we do things as we do – to keep the best, find new ways of doing things, and to leave behind those things that are no longer needed. Above all, I think the Pandemic has shown us all how important it is to maintain connection with one another, even if we are not physically together.

Over the past six years, I have been praying this prayer over our Children and Families ministries, and the devoted people who serve in them and I will continue to do so

***Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal comfort and a wonderful hope, comfort you and strengthen you in every good thing you do and say. (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)***

Janine Arrua

# **40th Ettalong Girls' Brigade**

**Contact Details of Leader:** Janine Arrua

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As for all our ministries here, COVID impacted how GB operated again in 2021. Term 3 saw another lockdown, so we sent an email each week with personal prayers and messages from Michelle, Sheila and myself, Bible reflections, and links to games, songs and activities. A bag with resource materials was dropped to each girl, each week.

Despite the regular contact when we were unable to meet, it was a wonderful celebration when girls, families and leaders were able to finally get together in person and look back on the year with a party.

In 2022 we have gone into recess as we reflect on our future at Ettalong. We would appreciate your prayers as we seek the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Janine Arrua  
Coordinator

## **Mainly Music**

**Contact Details of Leader:** Joy Watt

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**A time of valleys and mountains as God walks us on the road of ministry discovery.**

Mainly Music Ettalong Baptist Church celebrated its 7th birthday on the last day of second term with thirty children and thirty adults joining in the dance, fun and laughter. But as a team we work, under Jesus' grace, to provide a program that delights, accepts and grows this God given community. Yes, this statement is the same as last year because it is the mission of Ettalong Baptist mainly music.

### **2021**

This year finished as it had begun with families joining for a taste and others joining to stay. Numbers increased as the COVID impact decreased, and we were able to finish the year with our delightful Christmas Nativity celebration for all the family. It was exciting to have several families who had been part of mainly music but now at school, join us at this time.

### **2022**

This year has bought about several changes in mainly music's structure.

With no one available to conduct Playtime we changed the structure to include Playtime into the format so that we are now offering a mainly music/Playtime. To achieve this, we have added story time into the music segment and craft time into eat, play and chat. This has required a lot of trialling but we as a team believe we have the right balance now.

We have maintained social distancing and plenty of spacing by using the whole of the Church auditorium and open windows for ventilation to assist in our COVID management. However, it is difficult to socially distance small children who just want to sing, dance, and have fun.

Our team remains committed to showing and sharing Jesus to those who come and join us. We have a segment, Time to Talk, where we share a verse of scripture and relate it to a parenting, encouragement or challenge during the session. This then gives us team members the opportunity to raise the point with parents as we share and chat.

Chat times have proved invaluable in many ways. We have had several families join our SHOUT program, and we have had one mother come to know Jesus after she was challenged about needing Jesus in her life. The Alpha course has been advertised and we have four members of an extended family indicate their interest in attending.

### **Where are we going now?**

We are again facing another round of COVID and we do not know how the government will direct us but as a team we will continue to minister and strengthen our connections with our families and supporting where God leads us to be.

We again thank each and every one of you who help support mainly music whether it is through practical, financial or prayer. Your support is valued. mainly music is a whole church ministry - we the team are your ambassadors. Thank You.

We would appreciate prayer for the team. We thank you for your prayers for those who walked the cancer path this past year. We continue to pray for those who are still on this journey and praise God for His healing power. We have been blessed by the faithfulness of the team members and praise God for those who have joined us.

We continue to seek opportunities to bring Jesus to families in our community. God knows what is going on. He has a plan for His people. We just must be on our knees, calling on His name, and repenting and He will heal our land. We will remain faithful, will care for the families He has given us and wait for Him to show the way.

Blessings  
Joy Watt, Team Leader

## **SHOUT!!**

**Contact Details of Leader:** Jane Keuning  
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SHOUT!! last year (2021) had been quite small as we started and dealt with COVID lockdowns. But the Christmas Holiday SHOUT!! program was very encouraging where we had close to 50 people attending at one stage.

SHOUT!! in 2022 has seen us have some good numbers - an average of 13 kids ranging from 18 months to 14 years of age and an average of about 15 adults, being run on Sunday afternoons.in the Hill Hall.

Please pray for more kids across these ages - as they like coming when they have other kids their own age to interact with.

This term we are doing 4 weeks on the "Armour of God" and then returning to our 'Dig In' program, with:

- Fruit of the Spirit in term 4

Hoping this will encourage their walk with the Lord.

With each school holiday break we have, it seems that the numbers are slow to come back up. We praise God for the continued growth of SHOUT!! and that we can encourage these families in the Lord through the truth of His Word.

Yours in Christ's service,  
Jane Keuning

## **Special Religious Education (Scripture)**

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** David Gilchrist  
**Phone Numbers:** **Mobile:** 0448 431 234  
**Email:** davidgilchrist1968@gmail.com

Our Church joins with the churches in the Brisbane Water Ministers Association to teach Special Religious Education (also known as Scripture) in our local primary schools of Woy Woy Public School, Ettalong Public School, Woy Woy South Public School and Umina Beach Public School. Scripture is a very important and exciting ministry to our local schools.

I am the coordinator for Scripture on behalf of the Association. I also teach Scripture every Friday morning at Umina Beach Public School with two other Christian teachers, Jan from Grace Peninsula Church, and Peter from Woy Woy Presbyterian Church. We teach the children practical Christian living from the Bible and introduce the children (many for the first time) to Jesus. The school values Scripture and appreciates the work we do, even though there are many people in the school who are not Christian.

It is often a lonely ministry. We go into the classroom alone. The classroom teacher is occasionally quite ambivalent or even hostile to our message, but the Holy Spirit goes before us. We know you are praying for us.

I would like to thank especially those who help me as Coordinator. Linda Kalantzis from the Uniting Church orders our curriculum and coordinates Ettalong Public School. Ann Thompson, also from the Uniting Church, coordinates Woy Woy South Public School. The Anglican Church coordinates Woy Woy Public School. Maria Janos is our treasurer and is an enormous help paying the bills and reminding the churches on the Peninsula to contribute their share towards the cost of the material.

Please continue to pray for Scripture and all involved in this amazing ministry to our community. If you would like to know more about becoming a Scripture Teacher, please come and see me.

Blessings  
David Gilchrist

# Men's Ministries

**Ministry Group Leader** – Graham Checkley

**Mobile Number:** 0403 520 278

**Email:** graham@c4c.org.au

## Men's Shed

The Men's Shed is open to all men on the Peninsula, every week on Mondays and Thursdays (9.00am to 3.00pm). The shed averages 20-22 men each day it opens. There are three men from the Church that currently attend the shed, and it would be great if there were more. All men are welcome.

I organise a BBQ for the men of the Church and the men of the Shed every second month which are well attended.

I have mentioned before that The Shed is involved with the Australian Men's Shed Association which has approx. 125 sheds for men. The Men's Shed Association have their own constitution of which Pastor David and I have a copy. To me it is a great ministry of outreach to men who are doing it tough. The shed has helped the Church by making an offering box to be hung just inside the Sanctuary.

Ministry of Leftovers provides morning tea on Monday and Thursday for which the men are really thankful.

## Men's Social Committee

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Ian Makepeace and Graham Checkley

**Mobile:**

**Email:**

**Tuesday Coffee Group:**

An average of 10 men meet for Coffee and Fellowship each Tuesday from 9.30am to 10.30am.

**Men's Breakfast:**

On the third Saturday of every second month the men get together for Breakfast. We have an average of 15 men each time we meet.

Please pray that those from the Church have a good contact with the men.

Thank you to Ian Makepeace who has been assisting me with organising men's Social events.

Blessings

Graham Checkley

# Pastoral Care

**Ministry Group Leader:** Helen Brooks

**Mobile Number:** 0419 613 098

**Email:** ettalong18@gmail.com

Wednesday, in the church office, the time is used to either email, or phone people on the prayer chain. Most weeks between 7 and 10 folk are sent a card. The cards are handmade with the Ministry of Leftover sticker on the back. The message is to say 'thank you' for all the person or family have done and / or are doing for EBC. If it is appropriate then a message is included that they are missed and are in our prayers and thoughts. There has been good feedback from many liking to have received a card.

Folk who have been mentioned on the prayer chain, or who are not well, and that I have been made aware of, receive a phone call where possible.

Our people in Peninsula Village receive a card each month. Something bright with a positive message. Although they are mostly unable to attend church, they are not forgotten. The church bulletin is delivered, and some watch the service on YouTube. I understand that Sheila runs a weekly bible study as well, with Heather assisting.

Caroline is reaching into the community with Ministry of Leftovers and with the Drop-In Café. A number of these are repeat customers and some who just need someone to listen and to have a chat,

The Drop-In Café is available Monday, Tuesday & Thursday. Monday & Thursday is when the Men's Shed guys come to enjoy a cuppa and a chat. Graham attends these days. This is an outreach, as well as pastoral care to those in our community who connect one way or another to our church.

For the Biggest Morning Tea it was great to see so many folk serving; yet another time where our EBC family banded together and served one another. We are very blessed to belong to such a church family.

Thank you.  
Helen Brooks



## **Connect Groups and Prayer Triplets**

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Heather Crawford

**Phone Numbers:** **Mobile:** 0419 297 496

**Email:** heathercrawford@bigpond.com.au

As at the end of June 2022, we have 13 Connect Groups running across every day of the week except Saturday. This is an increase over previous years. This includes several new groups e.g., Alfa Connect. The level of attendance in these groups is on average about 82 persons.

As well as this, a Bible School was started at the beginning of 2022 with over 24 people registered. This is led by the Rev Noel Mansfield and his wife Alma Mansfield. Attendance has remained steady over this year and all really appreciate their teaching and notes.

Books of the Bible studied, timing of groups and frequency of meeting have been varied. We are always open to starting new groups.

A new initiative this year, as requested by the Elders, was to start a briefing/training meeting for all connect group leaders where they could share issues, concerns, highlights etc. These will be held at the beginning and the end of each year and will cover any training needs required to run highly effective groups.

Prayer triplets are continuing to be run, with some people meeting now over the phone in place of face-to-face meetings, a trend that started due to the COVID restrictions. My general support for Connect Groups has been to email information out to leaders, run the newly implemented meetings, assisting as requested, promoting new attendees and groups to form, communicating with the church leadership, updating promotional material and regularly praying for leaders and groups.

In conclusion I would formally like to thank the Elders and David Gilchrist for their ongoing support of me in the role I have been called to serve in.

Heather Crawford  
Connect Group Ministry Leader

# Prayer

**Contact Details Ministry Leader – Greg Beckenham**

**Phone Number:** 4381 2362

**Email:** gbeckenham1@bigpond.com

It has again been my privilege to pray weekly with a wonderful, gifted prayer group. COVID stopped us meeting face-to-face with each other, but using Zoom, we have been able to pray for our church, our community, and beyond.

The Lord has met with us week after week and we have seen Him respond with healings and directions for prayer for many different situations. Each week we have used the prayer requests that have come via Joy Lofburg's emails and through personal requests as our starting point, and then we have allowed the Holy Spirit to direct us where we should go in prayer. It is so good to wait on the Lord because He comes! Yes, He does!

We have constantly prayed for our Pastor David and his family as well as the ministries our church is conducting, and will continue to do so. We are very blessed to have a pastor who preaches God's Word so powerfully. We should all support him with prayer. I believe most people don't realise how hard it is being a pastor in this day and age.

We are only a small group of prayers, but with the Lord that doesn't matter, because He sees our hearts and know our desires. Result? We get the blessing.

Looking to see where the Lord takes us in the year ahead.

Greg Beckenham

## Email Prayer Ministry

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Joy Lofberg

**Mobile:** 0405 266 156

**Email:** bjlof44@gmail.com

## Sunday Morning Prayer Ministry

**Church Lower Hall**

**8:50 – 9:20am**

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Greg Beckenham

**Phone Number:** 4381 2362

**Email:** gbeckenham1@bigpond.com

## Telephone Prayer Chain / Crisis Line

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Thelma Minto

**Phone Number:** 0417 285 736

**Email:** thelminto@optusnet.com.au

## Tuesday Morning Prayer Ministry

Barrenjoey Room Hill Hall      9:30 – 11:30am

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Greg Beckenham

**Phone Numbers:** 4381 2362

**Email:** gbeckenham1@bigpond.com

## Welcome

**Ministry Group Leader** – vacant

**Mobile Number:**

**Email:**

There is currently no Ministry Leader for the Welcome Team. Many church attendees serve in pairs on the Welcome roster each week to greet everyone at the door for the 9.30am service and give Welcome Packs and information to newcomers.

It has been lovely to welcome several new people to our fellowship in the last 12 months.

Sheila Hooper  
Acting Welcome Leader

## Kitchen & Morning Teas

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Irene Makepeace

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All in the kitchen is much the same.

### **SUNDAY MORNING TEA**

Set up: people did the serving with gloves and masks during the COVID 19 restrictions. We have now — since the beginning of July — gone back to 'self-serve'. We have hand sanitiser at the coffee bench for people to use as they come. Clean-up people also wipe the tables down with disinfectant.

### **KITCHEN**

I did a thorough clean of the kitchen over three days, I will do the same in the Spring.

All else in the kitchen seems to be running as normal

Irene Makepeace.

## Welcome Lunches

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Sheila & Paul Hooper

**Mobile:** Sheila 0414 790 691 Paul 0414 256 750

**Email:** paul.sheila.hooper@gmail.com

No Welcome lunches were held this past year.

## Women's Ministries

**Contact Details of Ministry Group Leader** – Marion Edwards

**Mobile Number:** 0401 344 814

**Email:** almaz24@bigpond.com

Despite the fact that COVID restrictions have eased markedly during this year, ministry opportunities to women have still been curtailed.

Nevertheless, pastimes has resumed under the leadership of Sheila Hooper as the new chairperson and continues to meet on Friday mornings. The program includes craft activities, a short devotion and fellowship over morning tea. On occasion the women also meet socially for coffee.

**LIFT**, usually about 10 - 12 in number, meets on the first Friday of each month at Everglades Umina, for lunch and fellowship.

All ladies are welcome.

Unfortunately, the Women's Social Activities' annual Gingerbread House making event is not able to take place again this year.

Other activities include a women's breakfast held earlier in the year with another planned and an invitation to attend a Women's Retreat in August this year.

We are looking forward to being able to run a much broader program when we are free of COVID.

Yours in Christ. Marion Edwards

## Library

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Maria Janos

**Phone Numbers:** **Mobile:** 0404 009 300

**Email:** mariajanos28@gmail.com

# LIFT - Ladies in Fellowship Together

## **Contact Details of Coordinators:**

Maria Janos	DVD Mornings	4342 5442
Marion Edwards:	Luncheons / coffee etc	0401 344 814

## Pastimes

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Sheila Hooper

**Mobile Number:** 0414 790 691

**Email:** paul.sheila.hooper@gmail.com

(Report prepared by Heather Crawford and updated by Sheila Hooper)

Pastimes has continued this last year to fulfil the objectives set by the Executive that guides us to support our church and community ladies.

Again, we have supported various local and International Missionary organisations financially, by preparing goods for use or sale and other activities, so as to see the proclamation of God's word preached

Numbers attending have dropped considerably, mainly due to ongoing COVID virus issues; 35 - 40 women remain on our lists but with far fewer attending during this winter term especially. It was with sadness that we announce, Margaret Edwards, a founding member of Pastimes, passed away this year. She is greatly missed, and we praise God for her years of service as a table expert and member.

Our Christian presentations each week have been centred on the themes of Travel, Blessings etc. The various speakers have been an inspiration and our ladies have a great respect for the talks. They often lead to individual times of sharing.

We have continued to have coffee mornings out of sessions times and these are well supported. The Executive and church Ladies attending our Fridays, continue to pastorally support for our community ladies with visits when sick or ill, with casseroles, prayer support, cars etc

All of our activities have been well guided by an Executive Team consisting of Lee Oehm, Sheila Hooper (Chair of Committee 2022). Maureen Moreland, Maria Janos, and Wendy Antar. We would have no craft activity if it wasn't for our table leaders; all experts in their field of craft, and our thanks and gratitude is expressed to them.

We also thank our ladies who so willing step in to lend a hand when needed, plus our Ministry Group Leader, Denise Psaila and our Lead Pastor, David Gilchrist for their support this year.

The Pastimes Committee would like to thank Bob Ross, (husband of our dear Patricia who passed away last year) for continuing to faithfully set up the tables for us each week.

Sheila and Executive Members of Pastimes

## Women's Social Group

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Margy Gilchrist  
**Phone Number:** 4307 9382 **Mobile:** 0447 431 234  
**Email:** margy1@internode.on.net  
**Committee:** Margy Gilchrist, Joy Watt

Again, we were not able to run our annual Gingerbread House making night in December 2021 due to COVID restrictions.

In March this year we had a lovely breakfast at Hardys Cafe at Hardys Bay.

Jane Keuning has invited women to attend a Women's Retreat in August this year at Bethshan, Wyee.

I hope to organise another breakfast later in the year. I am open to any suggestions for any future activities.

Margy Gilchrist

## Worship

**Ministry Group Leader:** Joey Arrua [Report written by Pastor David Gilchrist]  
**Phone Number:** 0432 838 765  
**Email:** josepharrua@gmail.com

Worship is our first responsibility to God. We worship God by enjoying him. C. S. Lewis said, "In commanding us to glorify him, God is inviting us to enjoy him."

God wants our worship to be motivated by love, thanksgiving, and delight, not duty. Worship is far more than praising, singing, and praying to God. Worship is a lifestyle of enjoying God, loving him, and giving ourselves to be used for his purposes. When you use your life for God's glory, everything you do can become an act of worship.

We are very blessed to have some wonderfully dedicated musicians to help us with singing in our 9.30am Sunday morning service. In 2022 we have appointed Joey Arrua to lead and coordinate our musicians, our AV desk and to help us give God our best in worship through our service.

In our 4pm family service we have been using videos to sing to, with lots of actions, and percussion that we can join in with.

Everything we do in the life of the church we seek to do as an act of worship for God. We pray that our worship through everything we do will bring glory and honour to him.

## Audio Visual / Sound Desk

**Contact Details of Acting Coordinator:** Joey Arrua

**Phone number:** 0432 838 765

**Email:** josepharrua@gmail.com

No report.

## Communion Report

**Contact Details for 9.30am:** Helen Aspland & Merle Shumack

**Phone Number:** Helen: 0419 983 256 Merle: 0419 411 974

The Communion service is held once a month, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month during our 9.30am service. Communion continued to be held in a COVID-safe way and/or online in the YouTube service.

## Youth

### AXIS Youth Group

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Lizzie Gilchrist [Report written by Pastor David Gilchrist]

**Phone Number:** 0484 085 507

**Email:** lizziegilchrist2002@gmail.com

We were sad to say goodbye to Johnny Sharpe at the end of 2021.

Thank you to Lizzie who volunteered to run AXIS from 2022. Heather has mentored, encouraged and helped Lizzie for the first 6 months of 2022, and the kids have a special fondness for Heather.

From July 2022 Liz Edminson has continued to mentor Lizzie and help and encourage her. We also have some very faithful leaders that assist Lizzie, including Ian Makepeace, Audrey Boyd, Maria Janos, Pat Brophy, and Rick and Jane Keuning when needed.

AXIS has about 12 to 16 kids each week, and it is good to see the group has been growing in their relationships with each other and with the Lord. We are blessed to have such a beautiful bunch of teenagers and leaders!

# Local Welfare and Mission Outreach

Ministry Group Leader – Pat Brophy

**Contact details of Coordinator:** Pat Brophy

**Phone Number:** 0408 515 604

**Email Address:** kandpbrophy@bigpond.com

## Carols - With Ettalong Primary School

**Coordinators:** David Gilchrist, Linda Strapps and Joy Watt

We were sadly once again not able to hold the popular annual Carols as the Community Event at Ettalong Primary School in December 2021, due to the COVID restrictions. Instead, we again joined with Gynea Baptist Church for their Online Carols event. We invited families from Ettalong school to join this Online Carols event through the school newsletter.

## Church Sign

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Geoff Toon

**Phone Number:**

**Email:**

Geoff Toon has continued this ministry of putting up messages on our church sign (Wayside Pulpit).

## Crossroads Counselling

**Contact Details of Counsellor:** Meg Toon

**Phone Number:** 0414 238 614

**Email:** megtoon@bigpond.com

Crossroads Counselling and Music Therapy Report

Crossroads Counselling has continued to offer professional clinical counselling to individuals, couples and families; music therapy to adults; plus clinical and pastoral supervision to clergy and health care professionals as a part of Ettalong Baptist Church's support in the community to both believers and non-believers. This has been either face to face or via the online portal 'Coviu', with approximately 5 clients per week.



COVID allowed my continued re-Registration as a Nurse Counsellor in order to be able to continue to offer authorised professional support of Nurses and Midwives in order for them to maintain emotional well-being. This prevention of 'Burn-Out' is a very real problem today for our healthcare workers and clergy, many of whom struggle with huge work demands, and therefore is a significant focus of professional Supervision.

People often say that they expect that a Christian Counsellor will preach or judge them, both of which are what stops them seeking such professional support when it is most needed. I endeavour to explain that whether face to face or online, people are respected as they are, irrespective of beliefs and traditions, and that for me to proselytise is against my professional code of ethics. The Crossroads mission statement of 'helping people to live better today, accessing the past when it becomes present in order to move on into the future' continues to be its mantra.

Significant annual expenses continue to be needed to maintain my Professional Registration with The Christian Counsellors Association of Australia, a member association of the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia, plus the Australian Register of Counsellors and Psychotherapists; the Australian Music Therapy Association; and currently the Nurses and Midwives Board within the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Authority. However, The Lord has recently laid it on my heart that the finances are His problem, and to open the door to all seeking counselling, many of whom can only contribute a small amount, if anything, and to trust Him to provide. Shortly after that decision, communication has started with and on behalf of people from a wider demographic who have previously not been able to access any professional counselling, including people with disabilities and people associated with the Parole Service plus their family members, an area that has been close to my heart for a long time. This new direction was confirmed by an unexpected generous donation being received as an expression of thanks from an ex-client. This will be used to subsidise people needing a very low-cost service, and confirmed that I should keep on working!

Although I am an NDIS registered provider, it has become obvious that other music therapists are more able to work on the floor in order to provide Music Therapy for young children. However, one adult continues to be very enthusiastic about coming regularly and music therapy continues to be amongst the methodologies offered as a non-verbal methodology in counselling.

Again, I have greatly appreciated the encouragement and support from Pastor David and members of the Ettalong Baptist church congregation who have encouraged me over the past year and also to continue serving within the Crossroads Counselling practice for at least another year.

Meg Toon

## **Ministry of Leftovers**

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Caroline Murphy

**Phone Number:** 0427 309 399

**Email:** bluski@bigpond.com

In the last 12 months, with the exception of the lockdown and post lockdown periods and public holidays, the M. O. L team has continued to serve and minister to the men who attend the Men's Shed and the local community by running their regular Market and Free Cuppa outreach, three days a week on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9am - 2pm.

Together we have gathered and received many quality donations of used goods and clothing to sell in our op-shop along with beautiful hand-crafted items and home-made jams, pickles and chutneys which has raised funds and made a significant financial contribution to the church.

We thank God for this awesome opportunity and for his continued guidance, encouragement and blessing. The local community continues to give us their positive feedback and which is of great encouragement.

I thank all the volunteers who have committed to serving and helping with this ministry. All contributions that have been made towards supporting M. O. L are greatly appreciated and I personally thank all those who have helped support me and provide for my needs in the last year as I continue on in this voluntary position.

As inspired by the Holy Spirit, I continue to press on towards following the direction and vision given to me in answer to prayer of establishing M. O. L as an Op Shop and Coffee Shop. We are now advertising M. O. L as a Market and Free Cafe on the flyers. The Lower Hall is set up each week as the 'Cafe' with prints and artworks for sale decorating the wall as well as having handmade items, Joy's jams and quality goods out on display.

A simple menu has been made up and a calendar is hanging up on the noticeboard in the Lower Hall for people to write their name on who are willing to make something to contribute to the free outreach morning teas. Generally, I bake fruit muffins and make sandwiches to serve to our customers and volunteers each week and we have been fortunate and spoiled with a lovely array of contributions made by different ladies of gourmet sandwiches, home-made slices and brownies, fruit cakes, pikelets and more to serve to the men of the Men's Shed which they are enjoying.

The Men's Shed, by special request made for us some wooden ribbon stands to sell to the craft ladies and they made palm sized wooden crosses for the hospital chaplain's department which they found challenging but enjoyed.

Prayer point- At present I struggle with fitting bible study in which I know is of utmost importance. We used to run bible study on Market days and found that it was a great way to witness to people, but that it only works when there are enough people to keep things running smoothly. I found that after lock-down with fewer volunteers, that it wasn't possible to do that, so we changed to Friday but with things changing again and increasing demands I feel that I may have to let bible study go as being a part of M. O. L.

It is an ongoing, good challenge to have to process, store, sort and price the donations coming in each week and the work that the volunteers do on this is extremely valuable. A few times in the last 12 months the number of volunteers available has been depleted, leading to me closing earlier than usual, but praise to God for a good number of volunteers that currently are rostered on regularly and for all those who assist me in many other ways.

The excessive wet weather this season and leaking into the Upper Hall room has been a huge challenge for us as we've been unable to keep the area dry and have had to rearrange storing clothes and items elsewhere. The other challenges we have had this year is in regard to the fact that there are now new regular weekly activities scheduled and the building is being used differently from before.

We are all having to adapt to the current changes going on around us and so we are now utilising the space in the vestibule and space in the Sanctuary to serve a Cuppa on Monday's after the Men's morning tea, as the Lower Hall is readied for Bible School, and it's a challenge to have the Sanctuary still look welcoming for worship and appealing for people to come in for Private Prayer and Reflection whilst the space has been reconfigured for other activities, but I continue to put the sign out anyway, as the one day that I wasn't going to put it out I persevered and by doing so a lady on a motorised

scooter came in asking for prayer, saying that she had seen the sign out and felt that she needed prayer and wanted to reconnect with the Lord as she had been away from him for some time and had been seriously unwell and had experienced many traumas.

I listened to her share her story and her pain and I prayed with her asking God for healing and to comfort her and reassure her of his love and nearness. Then I led her to quietly spending time with God reconnecting with him herself and she left us after a while feeling better for having had a chat, a browse and a cup of tea saying that the prayer was exactly what she needed.

Other than that, things are working fairly well for M. O. L according to the routines and roster that we have established.

Sometimes it's hard for me to see how God is actually at work through this ministry but faith tells me that he is. I asked the Lord to sum up for me in one word what the message was again that we are conveying to the people, and his answer came to me shortly after, on the label of a man's shirt, which was out of place but in the right spot for me to see - 'REDEMPTION'. God's love is with us and he continues to be with us in this process of building up a new ministry which helps to build up others. His hand is seen at work through the opportunities opened by our willingness to work for him, and it shows in the interactions between people and amidst the ordinary simple daily tasks being done.

We have seen people's needs being met, personal burdens being eased and personal voids being filled, bit by bit, through the functioning of this ministry and through the relationships that are being made and that are growing. One example for me of seeing God at work was last week when I simply offered a bag of hot dog rolls to a lady, who I had in the past served before with her two young boys, and the response that she gave was one of complete surprise, and as she explained to me and her friend who was with her that only just that morning her son had asked her if they could have hot dogs for dinner, I realised that God was at work, ministering to her in providing for that simple need.

Love and Blessings  
Caroline

## National and Global Mission

Ministry Group Leader – Thelma Minto

### Missionary Committee

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Thelma Minto

**Phone Number:** 43412510

**Email:** [thelminto@optusnet.com.au](mailto:thelminto@optusnet.com.au)

**Committee Members:** Thelma Minto, Heather Crawford, Paul Hooper, Dennis Arkapaw, Joy & Robert Watt, David Gilchrist

We have a committee of 6 persons with Thelma Minto as the Chairperson of this group, Heather Crawford as the Secretary and Paul Hooper looking after the finances.

We continue to support 10 missionary families or individuals this year from 7 different countries namely Kenya, Ukraine, Jordan, Asia, Paraguay, India, and Australia which covers a variety of individual and Mission Related Organisations.

During Mission Month in May we provided updates to the congregation and all the activities and prayer points for our Missionaries. A new initiative this year was that Geoff Toon provided the church with flags for each country where we have missionaries based and it certainly added to our presentations. Thank you, Geoff.

We have raised the money to support these missionaries from the generous donations from individuals, our church's partners, from Pastimes, Ministry of Leftovers etc. We ran a Summer Fair and are organising another one for Spring this year, to help support the financial side of this ministry. We were in a position to send extra funds this year to support all our missionaries facing difficult times because of the results of the COVID virus, The Committee would like to thank everyone who has supported our fund-raising and Fair activities.

We have had extensive ongoing prayer and personal financial support for the Ukraine as our missionaries there have kept serving during the war with Russia.

The church's thanks are expressed to Thelma Minto, Joy and Rob Watt, Paul Hooper, Dennis Arkapaw and Heather Crawford, each whom maintains contact with the various missionaries, prays for them and attends to our church's business on behalf of our missionaries.

Heather Crawford  
Secretary

### **The Missionary Groups We Continue to Support:**

Andrew & Oksana Ford - Working in the Ukraine with "Youth With A Mission". They also have a special mission with local orphans.

Beatrix Watofa - serving with Pioneers. Beatrix works wherever God leads her to spread the Gospel through translating and distributing Christian films & using the media, in South East Asia.

Benwel Asiago - Working in Kisii in Kenya. His main support is through our church through "skills for life" registered charity, supporting Mango Tree Academy, to educate many children who would not otherwise be able to receive an education, or to hear the good news of Salvation. He is also pastor to several churches.

B.J. David – INDIA. We have been supporting him for over 20 years as he faithfully ministers to surrounding villages. His son, Kumara Bachala has for many years also provided education and support to children who are orphans or only have one parent. This ministry is currently being reviewed by authorities and will be reassessed. They have mainly been supported by Pastimes.

Clinton & Roslyn Webb – Working in the middle east with the Druz people in Lebanon since 2002, who serve with Pioneers

John & Angela Wilmot - Working in Newman, W.A. with the local aboriginal emerging church.

Mauricio & Michelle Reys - Working in Paraguay, doing amazing translation work with the Mbya Guarani indigenous people. Their teenage children have adapted remarkably with life in villages

Tobias and Heather Houston - Working in Mozambique, translating the gospel into the local language. They serve with G.I.A.

YouthLife REM - A local group of churches aiming to provide Religious Education in our secondary colleges. Currently under review. Contact Paul Hooper for more information.

The Coffee Shop Ministry in South East Asia - We have supported this venture for many years through G.I.A. for training and an outreach to the community. The missionary couple are training up local Christians to run the Café.

## **Fairs**

**Contact Details of Overall Coordinator:** Heather Crawford

**Mobile:** 0419 297 496

**Email:** heatherlcrawford@bigpond.com

## **Gin Gin Outreach Mission**

Ettalong Baptist Church Outreach to Gin Gin Baptist Church in Queensland.

In the early part of 2022, the Ettalong Baptist Elders received a formal invitation from Gin Gin. to send a group of ministry partners and attendees to support them in their outreach activity. They are a small rural church west of Bundaberg. They were to celebrate their 40 years of being a congregation but needed assistance to plan for and run outreach activities, so as to ensure the future of its presence in Gin Gin. At the time they had no minister and had been struggling to service the spiritual needs of the community and attendees.

So planning began, and after a formal announcement for church members to seek God in regards to volunteering, 11 persons agreed to attend this activity, some of these had never been on a Mission or Outreach activity. Heather Crawford was appointed the coordinator. All attendees paid their accommodation, food and travel costs and the church contributed to ministry costs. Congregational members were generous in their prayer and financial support of this activity.

Rev David Gilchrist organised on Sunday 17/7/22 to have a Commissioning service. This was a very moving service where several team members shared in the service; the church praying for the activity and the participants. At this service we also recorded a greeting to be shown in the service at Gin Gin.

The Ettalong Baptist team acted as a cohesive team to see the objectives reached, namely:

- To see a range of outreach activities run from Gin Gin Church and in the community, to share a word of encouragement or call persons to Christ, e.g. men's breakfast with over 30 men from the church and community attending, ladies craft morning for church and community members, we ran a Mainly Music session, helped out at the towns Healing and Prayer Rooms, organised and ran a High Tea and cookery demonstration with 80 ladies attending, a community fun night, an all-age old-fashion Sunday School picnic, Music Therapy session run at an age-care facility, street ministry, visits to homebound men and women, and visits to farms to encourage and undertake work for farmers etc. On each occasion team members shared either their testimony or led devotions or ran the session.

- Local welfare needs were met, e.g., providing encouragement and finances for a farmer who had his cattle stolen, providing for a disabled girl's need for a bike, meeting struggling farmer family financial needs etc.
- One member of our congregation gave a generous donation for them to start a missionary account to support and finance said activity
- The team organised and ran the Sunday service including a children's address, teaching Sunday School, sharing testimonies and preaching. The purpose for these activities were to encourage the present members
- Morning Devotions were run each morning for the team, and Gin Gin members, together with Ettalong Baptist team members ran these sessions and led prayer times.
- The team, Joy and Rob Watt, Kerrie and Peter Brown, Meg and Geoff Toon, Beth Wykes, Marion Edwards, Merle Shumack, Melanie de Jager and Heather Crawford, were delighted to see some fruits for the faithful service and all the prayer that underpinned our activities, but we realise we sowed the seeds and God and Gin Gin Congregation will do the reaping. We look forward to hearing about their future activities and successes in ministry.

Special thanks are recorded to Rev Noel Mansfield, our Bible School Tutor, who undertook a Training Session on how to effectively share your testimony or to give a personal word of encouragement, as well as Rev David Gilchrist, the Elders, Deacons and congregational participants for their support, prayers and encouragements before and whilst we, the team, were actively involved in ministry in Gin Gin.

Heather Crawford

## Other Ministries the Church Supports

### Angels Without Borders

Maria Janos sources items for AWB and distributes them to those in need in our community. Maria tags the items "Provided by Angels Without Borders distributed by Ettalong Baptist Church." Items such as doona covers, men's warm dressing gowns and babies clothing. Maria spends many hours doing this work. NB. A condition of AWB is that no items are to be sold, but given to those in need.

### Samaritan's Christmas Boxes

**Contact Details of Coordinator:** Beth Wykes

**Phone Number:** 0431 749 743

**Email Address:** bethwykes25@gmail.com

Each year this ministry is supported by members of the church and parents from Mainly Music, who fill shoe boxes with gifts for children, to be distributed overseas by Samaritan's Purse - Operation Christmas Child. As in previous years Ettalong Baptist church was both a drop-off and a collection point for the boxes.

## **DivorceCare**

After many months of planning, DivorceCare finally started at Ettalong Baptist in April 2022.

DivorceCare is a 13-week support group to help people on their path to recovery after separation or divorce. Each week the program looks at practical things to help people who have experienced separation or divorce, written from a Christian perspective.

Natasha and Ben Kelley have been facilitating the group this year, using the materials provided through the global DivorceCare program. Participants watch a 30-minute video presentation each week, followed by some time to discuss it. Participants have work books with helpful information and exercises to look at during the week.

Initially it was planned to run the group in Hill Hall, although leading up to the start date there were only a few local people signed up, and a few enquiries from people further away. It was decided to change format, and have a blended in person and online group via zoom. Ultimately 9 people joined the program, with 7 able to stay for all 13 sessions. The blended format was more challenging, but ultimately rewarding for all who attended.

The aim of the program is to help churches show Christ's love to separated and divorced people in a practical way in their local community. The participants were mostly Christians, with a couple of non-Christians in the group, introduced by associated program of the Church, Peninsula Lighthouse. One attendee belongs to another local church and another one attended EBC a couple of times during the program. All participants found it helpful, and it was great to share with each other from week to week.

Although the program was advertised for some weeks at church, group participants came either through a personal invitation from Natasha or Ben, through an announcement on Rhema FM, or through paid advertising on Facebook.

All resources were provided by Church Initiatives and advertising licensing and zoom costs were funded by Peninsula Lighthouse Limited with a small fee from attendees for their activity books. Natasha and Ben are committed to continue offering the program in the future, although they could certainly use help from volunteers to help advertise, administer, and facilitate sessions. Please see Ben or Natasha if you are interested in finding out more about this excellent program.

Ben Kelley