



Uniting Church
Kiama Jamberoo

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

KIAMA JAMBEROO UNITING CHURCH



*We recognise the stewardship of the
Wodi Wodi people of the Dharawal nation
for the land on which we gather*

Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church



Church and Office Address – Kiama
48 Manning Street, Kiama, NSW 2533

P O Box 140, Kiama, NSW 2533



Church Address – Jamberoo
15 Wyalla Street, Jamberoo NSW 2533

Telephone **02 4232 1677**
Website Kiama-jamberoo.unitingchurch.org.au
Facebook www.com/kiamajamberoo.unitingchurch/

Office Bearers

Rev Kath Merrifield	Minister in Placement
Rev Janice Freeston	Chairperson, Church Council
Michele Broad	Secretary, Church Council Elder
Geoff Boxell	Treasurer, Congregation Representative
Rhonda Back	Convenor, Elders and Pastoral Partners
Cliff Mason	Convenor Property Committee Congregation Representative
Val Mason	Safe Church Officer Elder
Helen Laidlaw	Elder
Phillip Lambert	Congregation Representative
David Freeston	Congregation Representative
Meredith Yabsley	Presbytery Representative

CONTENTS

Minister's Report	4
Chairperson's Report from Church Council	9
Elders and Pastoral Partners Report	10
KBECET	11
Jamberoo Sound Chapel	11
Women's Fellowship	12
Men's Mate Meet	14
Kiama Adult Creative Craft Group	14
Treasurer's Report	15
Property Report	16
Financial Statements	18

MINISTER'S REPORT

A few weeks ago, I was grateful to be able to attend the President's Conference in Redcliffe, Queensland with the theme *Ministry in Precarious Times*. On each of the three days, in the opening worship for the day, the Assembly President, Rev Sharon Hollis, reflected on Romans 8:38-39:

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Various speakers over the three days reflected on the precariousness of our lives, the church and ministry generally, and on vulnerability. Always we are brought back to the assurance that God's love holds us – in and through all of life's challenges and joys.

Over the past few months, I have been reflecting on the way ministry is defined in the Uniting Church and how that is reflected in the reality of every day practice. So, as I have reflected on the last twelve months (July 2022 – June 2023), I have structured my report according to the tasks of the Minister as set out in Regulation 2.2.1 of the Uniting Church Regulations. But I do so with a caveat that whilst there are particular roles assigned to the Minister, it is also important to remember that our life together is just that – together – and my role is just a part of the much bigger picture that is the Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church community.

(i) *preaching of the Word;*

Over the past year, I have tried to help us engage deeply with the Scriptures, particularly in worship. In particular, during Advent (leading up to Christmas), we chose to follow Ashley M. Wilcox's *The Women's Lectionary*, picking up on the stories of women named in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus. Then during Lent, we took up a series by *A Sanctified Art*, called *Those Who Seek* which invited us into deeper questions of life and faith.

(ii) *presiding at the celebration of the sacraments;*

Holy Communion is celebrated regularly on the 2nd Sunday of the month and, generally, when we gather at Jamberoo. I also include Communion as part of the Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday and Easter services.

Baptisms are celebrated, with the approval of Church Council, as requested.

(iii) *providing for other persons to preside at worship and/or preach within the pastoral charge in which the Minister is in placement;*

We continue to be blessed with a number of people who are willing to lead worship and preach. Thank you especially to Meredith Yabsley, Marion Haigh and Rev Janice Freeston who all contribute to worship and offer a breadth of interpretation and style that enriches our time together.

(iv) *witnessing in the community to the gospel of Jesus Christ;*

I continue to regularly attend the Farmers' Market at Surf Beach on Wednesday afternoons and we provide the wet weather venue. This provides a wonderful opportunity to meet people from across our local community as well as to support and encourage our local producers. At Christmas time, we joined with other Churches in Kiama to offer activities for children across the 3 Wednesdays in December leading up to Christmas. This was a great opportunity to share the story of Jesus' birth with our community. At Easter time, I helped Tricia with the "Potato Hunt" exchanging potatoes found in the sand for an easter egg, strawberry and a book about Easter (provided by the Bible Society).

Other activities at Christmas time included a concert at Ss Peter and Paul Parish Church, *Songs of Joy*, which included a host of choirs and soloists and offered an opportunity to tell

the story of Christmas through song - Ss Peter and Paul Church was full. Our "Carols on the Move" took us to Bluehaven Bonaira and Terralong and then to Jamberoo to sing carols on the streets.

I also worked with a small group of dedicated people in Jamberoo to re-ignite the Jamberoo Carols event which was attended by about 300 people.

The Quiet Christmas was a smaller occasion providing a space to breathe in the rush of the Christmas season, a space for people to reflect and sometimes to grieve when someone they love is no longer here.

On Christmas Day, we hosted about 30 people for lunch several of whom were from our wider community. Thanks to Ralph and Julia Szulerowski for their efforts to make this happen and to create a joy-filled space for people who might otherwise be on their own at Christmas time.

I have also participated in a number of other community events including the annual Anzac Day Service at the Cenotaph in Kiama and the annual Gospel Service held as part of the Jazz Festival.

We have also sought to engage in local, state and federal discussions including hosting a Candidate Forum prior to the State Election in March, and an event to begin our preparation for the up-coming referendum, led by Brooke Prentis.

Our banners (climate action and "Vote Yes") continue to attract comment and conversations.

I also continue to be involved in our local group for Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC). We held an inter-faith service at Nowra earlier in the year, we held a protest outside the local NAB Branch concerning the bank's support of Whitehaven Coal, and we have continued to meet with local politicians and representatives to advocate for attention to climate action.

I try to visit the Men's Shed from time to time to maintain connections and to offer a pastoral ear. Rev Rob Buchan is a member of the Men's Shed and also visits from time to time.

Weddings and funerals also offer an opportunity for us to witness to the gospel within the life of our community. These are special times and it is a privilege to lead people through these times of celebration and grief, pointing to the Love that holds us always.

I am also actively involved in the Kiama Ministers' Network, and attended the induction of the new minister at the Presbyterian Church, Rev Andrew Satchell.

- (v) *guiding and instructing the members of the Church and equipping them for their ministry in the community;*

After Easter, a small group began meeting together to explore a program called *Living The Questions*. Divided into 3 sets of 7 sessions, the program invites us to re-frame how we speak and think about our faith. Our group has found it has generated much lively discussion! One other home group is also working their way through the material.

I have also been leading a half-day retreat at Jamberoo once a quarter providing space for deeper reflection and prayer.

(vi) *nurturing candidates for baptism and confirmation;*

One of the challenges for the Uniting Church is that we have no formal mechanism to encourage people to seek baptism and/or confirmation so we are often only responsive to those who are brave enough to ask for baptism or confirmation. At the same time, we have not recently offered “membership” classes (the last round was defeated by the pandemic). Look out for an opportunity early in 2024!

(vii) *pastoral oversight and counsel wherever needed;*

I try to make myself available for conversation and pastoral care where needed. I have tried to establish a routine where as much as possible I am in the office at Kiama Monday-Wednesdays which enables me to be available to the Craft group on Monday, U3A and the Ladies’ Bible Study on Tuesdays, and music practice; Farmers’ Market and the Meditation Group on Wednesday.

The Elders and Pastoral Partners meet bi-monthly and our meetings generally include either a discussion or training on something relating to pastoral care.

(viii) *serving in the community, especially among those who are hurt, disadvantaged, oppressed or marginalized;*

I offer support and encouragement to the Homestead of Hope and have worked with them on a couple of occasions to find assistance for people living rough or doing it tough. We occasionally have rough sleepers resting in the alcove outside the Kiama church. They are usually offered a cup of tea or coffee and the use of the facilities (eg, a shower) and then, if they are looking for accommodation, to be put in touch with the Homestead of Hope. I also try to support the celebration and fund-raising efforts of the Homestead of Hope by attending their gatherings from time to time. In August 2022, we hosted their quarterly gathering at the church, where I led a time of worship and Olivia Rattray was the guest speaker.

I am on the Board of Lifeline South Coast and am currently the Deputy Chairperson. I am deeply proud of the work that LLSC does in our local community and passionate about paying attention to our mental well-being as much as our physical and spiritual health.

Narelle and I joined the Kiama Illawarra Pride Choir which rehearses at the church in Kiama fortnightly. We have found this to be a great way into getting to know the wider the LGBTIQ+ community in the Illawarra and continue to offer our support in that space.

(ix) *careful attention to administrative responsibilities;*

In addition to my annual report, I prepare a full report to the bi-monthly meeting of the Church Council and try to attend to other administrative duties in a timely manner. I attend the Church Council, Church Council Executive and Property and Finance meetings. And I maintain the email lists and the Church rolls.

This past year, I spent some time researching, purchasing and then setting up card-readers to enable us to receive card payments for ticket sales (concerts with Mark Matthews and the Senior Brass Band), stalls (Election and Mothers Day) and other donations and activities.

I also spend a good deal of time ensuring that we maintain good communication, in all its forms, between all the groups and people involved in the life of the church. I maintain the Church’s Facebook presence, the website and provide information to the newsletter editors

each week. I also try to keep the noticeboards tidy and relevant (a task that is sometimes more challenging than it needs to be!).

(x) *due observance of the discipline of the Church;*

I have fulfilled all obligations required of me by the Uniting Church. I have attended compulsory updates for Ethical Ministry. I continue to participate in professional supervision each month. I have completed an update for Safe Churches and renewed my Working With Children Check.

(xi) *the enhancement of the Minister's own gifts for the work of ministry;*

Apart from my general reading and preparation for worship:

I attended the Presbytery Ministers' Retreat led by Rev Sarah Bachelard and Rev Neil Miller with the theme *Risking Delight*. The retreat is a time of nurture and learning and of building relationships with other ministers and lay leaders in the Presbytery.

I recently attended two online seminars led by Ian Mobsby on setting up and running dialogue and meditation groups for people who describe themselves as "spiritual but not religious".

I also from time to time dip into some online courses provided by Rev Dr Tom Wright.

I had planned on taking some guitar lessons but my injured thumb has delayed that possibility...

(xii) *pioneering new expressions of the gospel and encouraging effective ways of fulfilling the mission of the Church.*

Sometimes I do wonder why this particular duty is put right at the end of the list when I think it deserves a place at least ahead of (x)...

Mission planning – last year we identified what we might call our values:

- **inclusive** (of age, gender, sexuality and culture, and open to questions);
- our **ecumenical** engagement;
- radical **hospitality** and
- **working together** for a purpose (activities where everyone is involved)

My observation over the past year is that our inclusiveness and ecumenical engagement is really good, and that it is hospitality and working together that we need to work on. I don't mean that we don't offer hospitality or work together – we do – but that the effort required to get people involved and/or to commit to something is exhausting (just ask any of the organisers!). If this is something we believe we are called to, then we need to work out how to make it less stressful, and therefore more joyful, for everyone.

During the past year, I have been thinking and praying about how we can engage differently with the community at Jamberoo. Monthly services were being attended by less and less people and the pandemic greatly affected a number of groups who had been meeting there. So the Church Council agreed to re-thinking and re-shaping activities there to include:

- quarterly Sunday services that are combined with Kiama – that is, there is no service at Kiama that day and we all meet at Jamberoo,
- quarterly retreats – Saturdays – initially half-day
- fortnightly dinner and conversation at Jamberoo Bowling Club – this now gathers 8-20 people on any given night. Sometimes we have a particular question or topic to discuss and sometimes there is enough to talk about without guidance!

Recently, I attended the last meeting of the Spirituality in the Pub group held at Jamberoo Pub. Whilst the leadership of this group (mostly Catholic) feels they are not able to continue, there is clearly a hunger for this kind of engagement in spiritual conversation around issues that impact our everyday lives and it was also a much-valued ecumenical activity in the wider community.

Uniting House development – with the DA recently approved, we are looking forward with much excitement to what having a bakery on our doorstep might bring. This partnership is a new way of thinking about mission and ministry. We need to honour the need for Richard and Lucy to build their business and to earn a living, and we will need to work with them to share the space and to create community in that shared space that reflects and tells the story of Jesus. I am very excited about what that might look like.

Other duties

Ministers are also required to participate in and support the work of the wider church. This past year, I have served as Co-Chair of the Illawarra Presbytery and have worked to sharpen up our meeting processes and decision-making, and I am sometimes involved in services of celebration, recognition, induction and closure. I have also participated, on behalf of the Presbytery, in a number of Synod-wide conversations and meetings.

Challenges

All of this brings its challenges. We are blessed with the properties we have access too, but with these come the responsibility to look after and maintain them. There is always something that needs attending to around our properties and the number of people willing to be available is small.

One of the costs for us of being in ministry in the world is attending to the many requirements in relation to safety, children, privacy just to name a few. Some of these tasks are largely administrative, many require specific skills and training, and we cannot leave them undone. We always need people willing to take responsibility for these tasks (training is available!).

Lastly, both in my role as a Minister, and as a congregation together, we have responsibilities to the wider Church, in particular, to the Presbytery (regional body). It is a challenge to find the right balance between these regional commitments and being available to the local community.

Closing comments

As I have looked back over the year, there is lots to celebrate!

Thank you to everyone who contributes in ways large and small to our community. Whether you lead worship, attend to the flowers, play music, sing, read, pray, mow lawns, vacuum carpets, remember to replace toilet paper and hand towel, sweep floors, serve tea and coffee, make cake, purchase supplies, weed gardens, fix hoses and windows, hang banners, make phone calls, send cards, operate the a/v desk, dust, mop, supervise tradespeople, count money, go to the bank, wash up, clean up, organise community lunches, write plays, move chairs and tables, pick up the mail – and the hundreds of other tasks that often go unnoticed – I give thanks to God for YOU!

Rev Kath Merrifield
16 August 2023

CHURCH COUNCIL

Here we are again, another year has passed and what have we done! We have sought justice, loved mercy and walked humbly with our God. In the good and the bad, in the highs and lows, in our strengths and weaknesses, God has walked with us.

On behalf of the Church Council, I thank you all for your continued faithfulness to the Gospel and to one another. Your willingness to participate in new ventures and to thoughtfully consider new ideas has stretched us and shaped us in new ways which has brought a renewed energy to our church community. Thank you to those who have organised and facilitated the community discussions we have hosted throughout the year on topics that are at the top of the agenda for our society.

As a congregation we have offered hospitality to people in our community and beyond, many of whom have made comments of appreciation about our openness and the wonderful facilities we now have at both Jamberoo and Kiama. We hosted the Farmers Market when the weather was too bad for them to be held outside, which is greatly appreciated by the stallholders and customers alike.

Sometimes it is difficult for us to see how God is using us as a congregation until you listen to the conversations around the table at groups like Monday Craft, Men's Mate Meet, Bible Study groups or conversations at the Pub, then you can begin to appreciate the level of support we give and the care we take with one another. Thank you to the people who faithfully lead each one of our groups and to those who facilitate them behind the scenes.

As a Council we are very grateful for the many expressions of generosity you have made to support the ministries and mission of the congregation. We could not provide opportunities for people to gather at funerals, weddings, morning and afternoon teas and the like without your willing support.

The Church Council looks forward to another year of living out our faith as genuinely and generously as is possible with the support of the congregation and using the Gifts God has given to each and every one of us. Please pray for us as we consider items on the agenda each meeting and as we endeavour to walk humbly with our God.

Janice Freeston
(Chairperson)

ELDERS' AND PASTORAL PARTNERS'

This report provides an overview of the pastoral support activities, visiting and phone calls, prayer chain, card ministry and meetings conducted from July 2022 to June 2023. Additionally, it shows changes in the Elders team composition during this period.

Elders and Pastoral Partners Support – Throughout the year, the Pastoral Partners and Elders have been dedicated to providing care, spiritual and pastoral assistance to members of our congregation. Regular meetings are held bi-monthly led by Kath and always begun with devotions led by an Elder. In April we discussed and answered questions put forward by the Assembly Standing Committee – ACT2 Questions, where the Uniting Church is consulting widely before developing changes in the future. We also consider how we can extend our ministry as Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church into the surrounding community; our spiritual responsibility to climate change and sense of stewardship of the earth; our combining with other Kiama churches eg, Christmas Carols, Homestead of Hope gatherings; and our Mission Plan – What is God calling us to do?

We have continued with phone calls, visiting members in their homes, hospitals and care facilities, offering emotional and spiritual comfort to those in need. These interactions allow our church members to share their joys, concerns and prayer requests, thus fostering a sense of community and connection among our congregation. Throughout the year we welcomed Rev. Diane and Peter Anderson, Rev. Dr. Matthew Wilson, Zoe and Rebecca Falconer and Carol Jane, Karen Ebert, Caitlin Vincent, and Tania Ferraro to our congregation. Sadly during the year we lost four dear and longtime members of our church – Lesley Southon, Marie Bone, Betty Chittick and Max Smith.

Prayer Chain – The prayer chain ministry has remained active, ensuring that urgent prayer requests are promptly communicated to a network of prayer warriors within the congregation. Prayer before church is another important role the Elders play, and a roster has been drawn up to ensure Kath and those participating in the service are covered with prayer before the service begins. All are welcome to join in.

Card Ministry – Stephanie is continuing our card ministry reaching out to individuals during times of celebration, grief, illness and various life events. The sending of personalised cards from the congregation has conveyed heartfelt messages of care, reinforcing our sense of community.

Elder Team Changes – Over the last twelve months four dedicated Elders – Maurice Barton, Evelaine Berry, Wendy Fenton and Marion Rattray - retired after years of faithful service to our congregation. However, their commitment and contribution will continue as part of the Pastoral Partners Team. We welcomed a new Elder, Helen Laidlaw, who has seamlessly integrated into the team, actively participating in all tasks and responsibilities. As our numbers have dropped, we would welcome anyone interested in joining us as we move forward, committed to our role in ensuring our congregation thrives in faith, spiritual well-being, connection and love.

Rhonda Back

KBECET

Wicki continues to be very energetic and enthusiastic about sharing the gospel with the students and staff of Kiama High School and has certainly cemented a significant position as part of the school community. The school really appreciated the way our local churches, through KBECET and Wicki work together. This year Wiki and a team of Volunteers started a Breakfast for students on Wednesday mornings at the High School. It has proved very popular.

The One Music Festival was successfully held at the end of November 2022 at Kiama Pavilion. The goal for Wicki was to open up many new opportunities to share the gospel and build connections between the churches and the wider community. Scripture Union underwrote the event. The event will be repeated again in 2023.

Volunteers are required for the Wednesday Breakfast and to assist with the One Music Festival. All volunteers need to have a Safe Church Certificate and a Working with Children Check.

The Shine and Strength programs are still working with the year 8 students and are always looking for new people to get involved.

Our Congregation is continuing to look for a person to be on the Board. The Board has representatives from all the churches and supports Wicki. If you are interested, please speak to Rev Kath or Marion Haigh.

JAMBEROO CHAPEL SOUND SPACE

This year we have had a yoga/singing group and a line dance group using the hall at Jamberoo regularly.

The Folk Group and Bluegrass Group meet every other Wednesday night except in school holidays where we try to add in a few extra nights and we have added a once a month Old Time American Session on Friday evenings. The groups are still smaller than pre-pandemic but the enthusiasm hasn't waned. A couple of weeks ago you would have seen a notice about the donation of \$500 from the music groups towards the building fund to help with the cost of the toilet.

One exciting thing that has developed from the Jamberoo Chapel Sound Space is a Composers' group of all local musicians who write music then meet and practice. There are lovely tunes and songs inspired by the area and telling the stories of families who struggled to build lives here in Australia. The new music has been presented in workshops and performance here and at Music Festivals - we have some very gifted musicians in this area.

A few weeks ago we got together for another recording session - we now have 10 tracks laid down towards the Jamberoo Session CD. Almost finished!

The Jamberoo Chapel Sound Space Committee is made up of Marion Haigh, Pam Waters and Geoff Boxsell.

Special thank you to Geoff who keeps counting our gold coins, Pam who has scrubbed and cleaned so many times during the building process and Ned and Wayne who faithfully help with setting up.

The musicians and the Jamberoo Chapel Sound Space Committee also wish to pass on their appreciation to Marion Haigh for her encouragement and regular email contact with members.

ADULT FELLOWSHIP

It gives me pleasure to present the Annual report for Kiama/Jamberoo Uniting church Adult Fellowship for 2022-23. We had an average attendance of 16 members over 9 meetings.

- Our programme included a number of interesting speakers on a variety of topics. Kaye Willenson spoke about her life as a nun and then life after leaving the order. Wendy Leatheam presented a talk and visuals about the creation of glass, and stained glass mainly in cathedrals and churches around the world. Nick VanOudtshoorn, a talented photographer, showed a video and talked about 'monsters in the backyard'. A number of members gave impromptu brief talks on a variety of topics. Stephanie Pryor and Val Mason led us in a meaningful Christmas devotions and programme. Susan Barton introduced us to the young Richard III with an educational talk and visuals. The Easter reflection was led by Rev. Kath, and encouraged us to comment on an artwork about Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well. A book review time was enjoyed by our members.
- Other activities included a social luncheon at Jamberoo Bowling Club and picnic morning tea in Jamberoo Park. Some of our members attended the World Day of Prayer at the Kiama Baptist Church. Seven members attended the Illawarra Presbytery Gathering at Gerringong Uniting. It was a worthwhile time of fellowship with folk from other churches in the Illawarra. The speaker was the Rev. Josh McPaul, his topic, 'Saved by Hospitality'. The Illawarra Senior's Band once again entertained us and was well received, although numbers attending was disappointing.
- The fundraising endeavours have been successful: Book Sale in January, Stall held Election Day, Mother's Day Stall. As our members get older, we need to encourage all of our church family to participate and support the Adult Fellowship.
- We have financially supported Mercy Ships, Frontier Services, Act for Peace (Somalia), accessible toilet at Jamberoo church and Church funds.
- It was with sadness we farewelled two faithful and much-loved members, Marie Bone and Betty Chittick.

- Many thanks to Rev. Kath for her valuable, wise input at our meetings. Thank you to the capable, efficient, hardworking committee – Kathy, Vera, Val, Pam, Jan, and Gail. To all our members, thank you for your loyalty and fellowship – those who have led devotions, morning tea helpers, cooks, and setting up helpers. It is a team effort. A saying I'd like to share is "Team work makes the dream work."

God bless you all as we continue to share fellowship, listen, encourage, pray, laugh and share our faith with the wider community.

Sincerely
Glenice Richardson - President

Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church Adult Fellowship
Statement of Receipts and Payments 1/07/2022-30/06/2023

Balance brought forward \$1548.36

Income

Membership Fees	\$ 360.00
Donation	\$ 50.00
Trading Table	\$ 90.00
Book Sale	\$1018.75
TOTAL	\$1518.75

Expenditure

Tea Coffee Biscuits	\$150.00
Frontier Services	\$300.00
Act of Peace Somalia	\$300.00
Mercy Ships	\$300.00
Jamberoo Toilets	\$500.00
Total	\$1550.00

Opening Balance \$1548.36
 Plus Income \$1518.75
 \$3067.11
 Minus Expenses \$1550.00
 Balance at Hand: \$1517.11

Vera Milas Treasurer

MEN'S MATE MEET

The Men's Mate meet group reconvened in March this year exactly three years since we put our meetings on hold due to the Covid outbreak.

Finding a suitable location was a challenge as our previous meeting place at Three Brothers had been sold, but after trying a couple of venues we settled on The Quarry Café situated in Burnett's Nursery. We have now met three times in this venue, finding it very suitable for our group.

Since our restart we have averaged 8 men and at our last meet (July) we had 11, very encouraging.

I consider it to be a valuable outreach for the men and we always have an enjoyable time with plenty of laughter and interesting conversation on the topic set for discussion.

While there is a keen interest in this gathering, I will continue to keep it going.

Barry Booth
Convenor.

KIAMA ADULT CREATIVE CRAFT

I am very pleased to write the annual craft group report for a full year of craft meetings following the interruptions of the past few years. We continue to have between 40 and 50 members there each week, with holidays and medical appointments interrupting attendance from time to time. We are not getting any younger so sadly a few of our members have passed away.

Members continue to do a variety of crafts, sometimes learning new skills but most importantly having a morning with friends in a happy and welcoming atmosphere. Rev. Kath continues to provide a special connection as she chats to various groups each morning.

There have been a couple of changes on the committee but it is working well taking on the various roles to lighten the load. And there is a wonderful group of men (mostly husbands of craft members) who come in to set up and pack up each day. They are served the first cuppa and treat of the day by our friendly kitchen staff.

Fortunately, the church can provide such a welcoming environment. For some of our members this is their only social gathering of the week.

Jill Lambert Chairperson

PROPERTY & FINANCE COMMITTEE
TREASURER'S REPORT – FY ENDING 30TH JUNE 2022

The arrangement with Presbytery having the bookkeeping component of our work catered for as well as our BAS returns (GST) our Annual Financial Return (AFR) to Synod and having our books audited has continued and is working well.

The main activities in the year under review have centred around the leasing of Uniting House, installing the Woden Garden Furniture and the construction of the internal accessible toilet at Jamberoo, details of which appear in the Building and Finance Report.

The financial implications of these are reflected in the attached **Income and Expenditure Statement** for the year to 30th June 2023 and the **Balance Sheet** at that date.

The Income and Expenditure Statement shows a cash surplus of \$29,961 covering all transactions but an operating surplus (operating income minus operating expenses) of \$8,252. These figures were assisted by a State Government Grant for the Jamberoo toilet project of \$32,000, an Illawarra Presbytery Grant for the Garden furniture of \$22,400, and contributions from members to the Building Fund of \$43,150.

The attached **Budget / Cash Flow** document acts as a guide and indicates our expectations for the 2023/24 financial year. It indicates a significant cost of \$20,000 for maintenance to the exterior of Uniting House in preparation for leasing, and the commencement of rental receipts from its leasing. We are running down to the final Presbytery Contingency Allowance repayments of \$2,100 per month ending in December this year.

“Thank you” to all members, whether through offerings, contributions to the Building Fund or giving of time through voluntary work, all of which have contributed to the satisfactory results achieved.

Geoff Boxsell, Treasurer

PROPERTY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

The financial year began six months after the official opening of the new Fellowship Centre extension in December 2021. Consensus has been that these extensions have been a very welcome addition to the facilities at Kiama Uniting Church and have served to bring the Kiama community into a closer relationship with our Church. Community usage and rental of our buildings has continued to increase during the year with usage income increasing from the budgeted figure of \$6,000 to an actual of \$23,022. Full financial reports for the year by Treasurer, Geoff Boxsell, are shown separately.

The three major property items during the year were construction of the internally accessible Unisex toilet facility at Jamberoo, installation of the shade cloth and garden furniture at Kiama and rental of Uniting House after the Men's Shed moved to the Railway Workshops.

Jamberoo Accessible Toilet

Kiama Council finally approved the DA, and the Community Building Partnership Grant funds of \$32,000 + GST were approved and paid in July 2022. Further delays and costs were incurred in obtaining the Construction Certificate from Kiama Council in February 2023. Alan Broad kindly took on Project Management responsibility and has managed all communications with the architect, builder and Council. Given the long delays with final approval, updated quotes were received from our builder indicating significant increases in cost and a decision was made by Church Council to defer construction of the planned covered walkway to the old toilets indefinitely. This decision was approved by the Government grants people who set a new deadline for completion and reporting of 31 July 2023. Completion of this project would not have been possible without the generous donation of \$43,000 by our members to the Kiama Jamberoo Building Fund.

Thanks to Alan's efforts working with Jamie of Maestro Building, construction and final reporting was completed successfully in July and the grant has been signed off. Some additional on-site maintenance work remains to be completed to make the grounds on the southern side of the kitchen and toilet safe to walk around from exits on that side. Jamie will also be asked to quote on replacement of fascia and guttering between both buildings and repair of the chapel roof leak.

Woden Grant and Outdoor Furniture

Thanks to Michele Broad's efforts, the Church was successful last year in applying for a Presbytery Woden Grant of \$24,670 which has been used to install new shade cloth over the concrete slab between the Fellowship Centre and Uniting House, and to purchase and install five picnic tables and benches and three garden seats in the lawns facing Manning Street. These have proved popular not only with our members, but also with the general public. A special thank you to Michele and her helpers for their efforts in installing the furniture.

Uniting House Lease

Ray White Kiama was engaged last year to seek a commercial Lessee for the building, and after some initial delays, a number of prospective tenants were considered. Church Council approved and entered into a Commercial Lease with Richard and Lucy King in December to establish a Sourdough Bakery and coffee shop on the site, granting them a six-month rent-free period so that internal DA plans to the building could be approved by

Kiama Council and building changes completed. Unfortunately, delays at Council have meant that the DA has still not been finalised and construction not commenced. The Church has now started receiving rent for the building and we need to keep Richard and Lucy in our prayers and their exciting project can be completed. Everyone felt it would complement our site and outreach. Once construction starts, the Church will be responsible for the cost of repairs to the exterior brickwork and facia.

Other Property Work

Jill Lambert has organised a number of successful working bees at Kiama to turn the old toilets into storage rooms, to weed gardens and pathways and to clean internal areas including the tiles in the new ladies' bathroom. Trevor McBeath along with his helpers continues to keep our lawns at Kiama mowed and edges trimmed, and Trevor has also commenced repainting some of seating in the Worship Centre. Kay Cope, Maurice Barton and Alan Broad have been tending the Kiama garden beds and Ian Yabsley continues to perform many odd-jobs onsite including efforts to repair the roof leak over the side verandah area. Alan Fowlie and Daryl Back have been bringing the Asset Register up-to-date and have arranged for all electrical items to be tagged and tested at Kiama and Jamberoo. Our builder, Bluestone Building Group has sanded down, primed and repainted all the new metal posts under warranty, repaired the water damaged foyer ceiling timber and other warranty jobs are in hand. Two new wall heaters have been installed in the Worship Centre, and new signs installed in the front of the Lecture Hall and on the front wall of the Fellowship Centre.

We give thanks to the many people who contribute both financially and physically to the on-going development and maintenance of our properties at Kiama and Jamberoo.

Cliff Mason
Property Committee

Income and Expenditure Statement (Cash)

UCA-Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church

For the year ended 30 June 2023

Cash Basis

	FY2022 - 23	BUDGET FY22-23
OPERATING INCOME		
I-01a - Offerings	102,202.80	98,400.00
I-02b - Special Collections - Wider Work (Non-UCA Charities)	798.48	-
I-03 - Donations	6,431.88	11,400.00
I-07a - Interest income UFS	862.09	750.00
I-09a - Property Rent (Commercial)	25,978.78	26,200.00
I-09b - Property Rent (Residential)	37,120.00	33,600.00
I-09c - Use of Church and Grounds	23,022.50	6,000.00
I-13 - Sales (goods & services)	3,101.71	-
Total OPERATING INCOME	199,518.24	176,350.00
Other Income		
I-04 - Donations to Building Fund	43,150.00	-
I-10 - Grants Income	56,670.00	54,400.00
I-12 - Recovered GST	2,209.61	-
Total Other Income	102,029.61	54,400.00
OPERATING EXPENSES		
E-01c - Ministers Professional Supervision	960.00	-
E-01d - Ministers Stipends	118,884.03	117,200.00
E-04 - Cleaning Expenses	10,768.87	7,800.00
E-05 - Repairs & Maintenance	19,243.26	21,280.00
E-07 - Insurance & Workers Compensation	6,376.00	9,000.00
E-08 - Electricity & Gas	2,639.21	2,700.00
E-09a - Council Rates	3,063.50	3,200.00
E-09b - Water Rates	1,645.60	1,200.00
E-09c - Property Management Costs	5,493.34	3,300.00
E-09d - Rental Property Repairs and Maintenance	933.35	-
E-09e - Rental Property Gardens Grounds Servi	-	600.00
E-10 - Presbytery Levies	1,664.00	1,200.00
E-11 - Seeds of Growth Payments	3,320.00	4,800.00
E-12a - Payment of Special Collections (UCA Charities)	255.00	-
E-12b - Payment of Special Collections (Non-UCA Charities)	1,000.00	-
E-17 - Accounting, Bookkeeping & Audit Fees	3,171.68	4,200.00
E-18a - Stationery, Postage & Office Expenses	201.82	-
E-18b - Photocopier, Printing & Computer Expenses	870.64	1,200.00
E-19 - Telephone & Internet	1,509.29	1,560.00
E-22 - Worship & Resource Expenses	2,337.86	3,100.00
E-23 - Hospitality Expenses (incl Staff Amenities)	43.25	-
E-24 - Consumables	814.67	-
E-25 - Lease Expense	931.56	-

Income and Expenditure Statement (Cash)

	FY2022 - 23	BUDGET FY22-23
E-27 - Donations to Charities	5,084.70	7,000.00
E-28 - Sundry Expenses	55.00	300.00
Total OPERATING EXPENSES	191,266.63	189,640.00
Other Expenses		
E-35 - Garden Project Expenses	27,727.01	22,400.00
E-36 - Accessible Toilet Project Expenses	52,592.45	61,000.00
Total Other Expenses	80,319.46	83,400.00
Net Operating Surplus (Loss)	29,961.76	(42,290.00)

Balance Sheet (Cash based)

UCA-Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church

As at 30 June 2023

Cash Basis

	30 JUN 2023	30 JUN 2022
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank		
A-01a - UFS Ac Cheque Facility #18657	96,002.59	103,947.69
A-01b - UFS Ac Giving Direct# 26450	663.45	650.62
A-01e - Building Fund 79849	16,930.80	842.81
A-01f - UFS Sales Proceeds Ac 47165	19.00	18.45
Minister's Benefit Accounts		
A-01h - UFS MEF Min # 3	33,061.71	30,003.26
Total Minister's Benefit Accounts	33,061.71	30,003.26
Total Cash at Bank	146,677.55	135,462.83
Other Current Assets		
A-04 - Accounts Receivable 1	(352.00)	-
A-05a - Kiama Council Bond	-	5,000.00
Total Other Current Assets	(352.00)	5,000.00
Total Current Assets	146,325.55	140,462.83
Non Current Assets		
Fixed Assets		
Land		
A-07a - Land Manning St	2,660,000.00	2,310,000.00
A-07b - Land Manse Irvine St	1,220,000.00	854,000.00
A-07c - Land Jamberoo	642,000.00	642,000.00
Total Land	4,522,000.00	3,806,000.00
Buildings		
A-08a - Building Church Jamberoo	1,356,000.00	1,356,000.00
A-08b - Building Fellowship Centre Kiama	1,880,000.00	1,880,000.00
A-08c - Hall and Foyer Jamberoo	277,000.00	277,000.00
A-08d - Hall Lecture Hall Kiama	446,000.00	446,000.00
A-08e - Hall Uniting House Kiama	322,000.00	322,000.00
A-08f - Manse Irvine St Kiama	470,000.00	470,000.00
A-08h - Capital Work in Progress	6,663.00	6,663.00
Total Buildings	4,757,663.00	4,757,663.00
Contents, Furniture and Equipment		
A-09b - Contents Fellowship Centre	96,000.00	96,000.00
A-09c - Contents Jamberoo Church	9,500.00	9,500.00
A-09d - Contents Jamberoo Hall	9,500.00	9,500.00
A-09e - Contents Lecture Hall	25,500.00	25,500.00
A-09f - Contents Manse Irvine St	23,500.00	23,500.00

	30 JUN 2023	30 JUN 2022
A-09g - Contents Men's Shed	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total Contents, Furniture and Equipment	169,000.00	169,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	9,448,663.00	8,732,663.00
Total Non Current Assets	9,448,663.00	8,732,663.00
Total Assets	9,594,988.55	8,873,125.83
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
L-05 - MEF Liability Min #3	33,061.71	30,003.26
L-12 - Funds Held for Adult Fellowship	1,517.11	-
Total Current Liabilities	34,578.82	30,003.26
ATO Liabilities		
L-06a - PAYG Withholding Payable	2,016.00	1,782.00
L-07 - GST Payable	(4,992.94)	(1,092.34)
Total ATO Liabilities	(2,976.94)	689.66
Total Current Liabilities	31,601.88	30,692.92
Non-current Liabilities		
L-11 - Building Contingency Allowance	12,488.00	37,496.00
Total Non-current Liabilities	12,488.00	37,496.00
Total Liabilities	44,089.88	68,188.92
Net Assets	9,550,898.67	8,804,936.91
Equity		
Eq-01 - Asset Revaluation Reserve	8,633,024.56	7,917,024.56
Eq-02 - Retained Surplus/ (Accumulated)	887,912.35	831,441.10
Current Year Earnings	29,961.76	56,471.25
Total Equity	9,550,898.67	8,804,936.91

1. Account Receivable

A Cappella Choir - paid invoice in advance

Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church - Budget / Cash Flow - 2023/24 .xls (Draft 1)

		July 2023	August 2023	September 2023	Sep Qtr. 2023	October 2023	November 2023	December 2023	Dec. Qtr. 2023	January 2024	February 2024	March 2024	Mar. Qtr 2024	April 2024	May 2024	June 2024	Jun Qtr. 2024	Total 2023/24
Opening Cash Balance		\$80,000	\$76,980	\$76,960	1st Qtr.	\$57,490	\$59,070	\$59,550	2nd Qtr.	\$57,080	\$58,560	\$56,390	3rd Qtr.	\$58,020	\$52,200	\$56,680	4th Qtr.	
Building Fund																		
Ladies' Fellowship																		
	Total	\$80,000	\$76,980	\$76,960														
Income	Congregation Giving	\$8,200	\$8,200	\$8,200	\$24,600	\$8,200	\$8,200	\$8,200	\$24,600	\$8,200	\$8,200	\$8,200	\$24,600	\$8,200	\$8,200	\$8,200	\$24,600	\$98,400
	Use of Church Grounds	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$2,000	\$5,200	\$5,000	\$1,200	\$0	\$6,200	\$1,700	\$1,600	\$2,000	\$5,300	\$1,700	\$1,600	\$2,000	\$5,300	\$22,000
	Interest	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$150	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$150	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$150	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$150	\$600
	Non tax deductible gifts	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$3,200
	Rent Commercial	\$0	\$4,900	\$0	\$4,900	\$0	\$4,900	\$0	\$4,900	\$0	\$4,900	\$0	\$4,900	\$0	\$4,900	\$0	\$4,900	\$19,600
	Rent Residential - Manse	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$8,700	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$8,700	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$8,700	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$8,700	\$34,800
	Rent - Uniting House (Net)	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$6,300	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$3,200	\$7,400	\$3,200	\$3,200	\$3,200	\$9,600	\$3,200	\$3,200	\$3,200	\$9,600	\$32,900
		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Other Income (Govt.Grant)	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Income Total		\$14,850	\$20,550	\$15,250	\$50,650	\$18,250	\$20,150	\$14,350	\$52,750	\$16,050	\$21,650	\$16,350	\$54,050	\$16,050	\$21,650	\$16,350	\$54,050	\$211,500
Sub Total		\$94,850	\$97,530	\$92,210		\$75,740	\$79,220	\$73,900		\$73,130	\$80,210	\$72,740		\$74,070	\$73,850	\$73,030		
Operating Expenses	Accounting Auditing	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200	\$4,800
	Rubbish / Pest control	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$1,000	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$1,000	\$0	0	\$350	\$350	\$2,850
	Council Rates/Taxes	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$900	\$3,600
	Donations	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$200	\$100	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,100	\$4,000
	Education Materials	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,200
	Electricity/Gas/Utilities	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$2,800
	Gardens/Grounds	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$200	\$800
	Insurances	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,600	\$0	\$0	\$7,600	\$7,600
	Stipends	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$31,050	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$31,050	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$31,050	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$31,050	\$124,200
	Phone/Internet	\$140	\$140	\$140	\$420	\$140	\$140	\$140	\$420	\$140	\$140	\$140	\$420	\$140	\$140	\$140	\$420	\$1,680
	Printing/Stationery	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$300	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$300	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$300	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$300	\$1,200
	Cleaning	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$2,400	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$2,400	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$2,400	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$2,400	\$9,600
	Lease Exps. - Photocopier	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$240	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$240	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$240	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$240	\$960
	RPM Property Mgmt.	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$1,200	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$1,200	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$1,200	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$1,200	\$4,800
	Seeds of Growth Payments	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$1,200	\$4,800
	Maintenance	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$20,000	\$22,500	\$500	\$2,000	\$500	\$3,000	\$500	\$2,000	\$500	\$3,000	\$500	\$2,000	\$500	\$3,000	\$31,500
	Water Rates	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$1,600
	Worship/Music Resources	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$900	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$900	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,300
	GST - Building				\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Programmed Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,250	\$0	\$6,250	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,250
	Subscriptions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$300
	Presbytery Levies	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$1,600
	KBECT	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$750	\$3,000
Total Operating Costs	Total Operating Costs	\$15,770	\$18,470	\$32,620	\$66,860	\$14,570	\$17,570	\$14,720	\$46,860	\$14,570	\$23,820	\$14,720	\$53,110	\$21,870	\$17,170	\$15,570	\$54,610	\$221,440
Op. Surplus (Month)		(\$920)	\$2,080	(\$17,370)		\$3,680	\$2,580	(\$370)		\$1,480	(\$2,170)	\$1,630		(\$5,820)	\$4,480	\$780		(\$9,940)
Op. Surplus (Cumulative)			\$1,160	(\$16,210)		(\$12,530)	(\$9,950)	(\$10,320)		-\$8,840	-\$11,010	-\$9,380		-\$15,200	-\$10,720	-\$9,940		
Ladies' Fellowship				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital					\$0				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
					\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Contingency Repayments	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$6,300	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$6,300				\$0				\$0	\$12,600
					\$0													\$0
Total - Capital		\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$6,300	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$6,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,600
																	\$0	\$0
Closing Cash Balance	Operating	\$76,980	\$76,960	\$57,490		\$59,070	\$59,550	\$57,080		\$58,560	\$56,390	\$58,020		\$52,200	\$56,680	\$57,460		
	Sales Proceeds																	
	Total	\$76,980	\$76,960	\$57,490														