



Baptist Churches
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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Vision

An empowering movement helping pastors, ministries, churches,
and their communities say Yes to Jesus

Mission

Building a Healthy Church

Values

We value living dependently on God,
in obedience to Him

We value trust

We value generosity

We value all people

We value doing our best

We value integrity

We value community

Council Chair

Mr. Martin Alciaturi

The only constant is change they say. We, of course, would add God to that list!

After the excitement of Victor's appointment as Director of Ministries in 2022, and the merger of Vose with Morling before that, the 2023 year saw further significant change with:

The retirement of Greg Holland after 9 years of service and the appointment of Michael Buckmaster as Head of Finance & Administration.

The sale of Baptist Business Support Services to Baptist Financial Services so as to allow expansion of this service to Baptist and other Christian ministries throughout Australia, allowing increased economies of scale.

The merger of Baptistcare (WA) with BaptistCare (NSW & ACT) in order to ensure continued delivery of aged care services in Western Australia in a manner consistent with Baptist values.

In my report last year, I wrote of Victor's determination to expand God's kingdom here in Western Australia and the focus on church planting at the recent strategic planning workshop attended by various Baptist leaders was wonderful to see. Expect to hear more in this area as Perth continues to expand and greater efforts are made to help Baptist churches invest strategically.

The financial drain on the Union from Redress matters and civil claims continues and, I would ask that all member churches prayerfully consider their financial contribution to the Union which, in addition to funding the ongoing services that the Ministry Centre provides, also go towards funding these payments. Management of these ongoing claims also represents a significant emotional burden on the team and I would also ask that you keep the work of the Ministry Support & Standards team in your prayers.

It was wonderful to finally see the "bounce back" of bookings for camping centres after the effect of COVID restrictions in recent years. Whilst much of the lost income from reduced bookings in recent years was thankfully compensated by the State Government, the renewed ability of church and school groups to conduct camps is a blessing. In theological training, much good work continued with sixteen students graduating from the Vose campus of Morling College which is now on a much more sustainable footing than pre-merger.

Once again, my thanks go to God for the combined wisdom of my fellow Council members and the significant efforts of Victor, the Executive team, and the wider Baptist Ministry Centre staff as they work to help you and your ministries, churches, and communities say Yes to Jesus.



Baptist Churches Western Australia Council



Mr. Martin Alciaturi
Chair

Qualifications: BBSc(Eng) Hons; FCA; MAICD.

Member Church: Claremont Baptist

Role: Finance Director and Non-Executive Director

Martin has served on the BCWA Council since 2019 and is a member of

Claremont Baptist Church.

Martin is a director of two operating mining companies; one with mines in Australia, the other in West Africa.

Prior to his career in mining, Martin was senior executive of a major investment bank and a partner in an international accounting firm. He previously served on the Board of Activ and as a member of the Federal Government's Takeovers Panel.

Martin is married to Linda and they have two adult children.



Pastor Wayne Field

Qualifications: BTh, MA, GradDipMin

Member Church: Riverton Baptist

Role: Senior Pastor

Wayne has served on the BCWA Council since 2021 and is the Senior Pastor of Riverton Baptist Community Church.

Wayne is an Accredited Baptist Pastor and over the past twenty-seven years has served churches both in Perth and in regional WA.

After several years overseas, working as the International Training Director with Operation Mobilisation, Wayne returned to Perth with his wife Jodie and their three daughters to serve at Riverton Baptist.



Dr. Carolyn Tan

Qualifications: MBBS; DMed; MBA; MDiv; ThD

Member Church: Perth Baptist

Role: Treasurer

Carolyn was working as a paediatric surgeon in Singapore when she discerned God's call to theological studies. She moved to Perth in 2005,

enrolling with Vose Seminary, graduating in 2009 with a Master of Divinity and in 2017 completing a Doctor of Theology with her thesis investigating the role of the Holy Spirit at the cross subsequently being modified and published in the ACT Monograph series.

Carolyn previously taught New Testament Greek at the Vose Campus of Morling College and served on the BCWA Accreditation Panel. She looks after her aging parents and son and relaxes by growing veggies.



Dr. Vanessa Chang
Vice-Chair

Qualifications: PhD; MInfSys; PGDipIS; BSc; Fellow ACS.

Member Church: Woodvale Baptist

Role: Pro Vice-Chancellor, Curtin University

Vanessa has served on the BCWA Council since 2014.

Vanessa is a professor and is the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Business and Law at Curtin University.

Vanessa is an accomplished scholar and experienced university leader with strong business acumen and vision. She currently serves as an Independent Board Member on the Australian College of Theology (ACT). She has served as an external member on the ACT Academic Board and ACT Coursework Committee. She has also served on the Board of YouthCARE.

Vanessa is married to Ted, and they have four adult children.



Pastor Phillip Beeck

Qualifications: BSc; BMin

Member Church: Albany Baptist

Role: Senior Pastor

Phil has served on BCWA Council since 2021 and is the Senior Pastor of Albany Baptist Church.

Phil has been a Baptist Pastor for 18 years and has had extensive involvement in Baptist camps and is experienced in matters of governance having served on the pre-kindy board at East Fremantle Baptist Church, P&C president at Richmond Primary School, and is currently on the Bethel Christian School Board.

Phil is married to Holly, and they have three children.



Mr. Brian McDonald

Qualifications: MAICD, MBA(Exec), GradDipAppFin, BE(Met) Hons

Member Church: East Fremantle

Role: Technical & Strategic Marketing

Brian has served on the BCWA Council since 2019 and is a member of East Fremantle Baptist Church, where he has previously served as Council

chairperson for 6 years and on the Board of a pre-kindy / child development centre.

He is an adaptable business leader with strong business acumen and strategic insight. Brian works as Manager Marketing in the mining industry and has over 20 years' international experience; particularly working with customers in the Asia region, including living for 2-years in Beijing.

He is married to Nyree, and they have two children.

Director of Ministries

Pastor Victor Owuor

My heart is filled with thankfulness as I welcome you to the 2023 Annual Report for Baptist Churches Western Australia. Though we are in a distinctive post-COVID journey, we have every reason to praise God, whose glory continues to shine in the church.

It has been a joy to witness God's goodness in our churches through my Sunday visits, and I can say with the Psalmist, "Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them" (111:2). I joined with believers at Perth Baptist Church to celebrate 127 years of God's works, and with our only First Nations Church in the metro area, MOZAIC, to celebrate 30 years of God's goodness. I also celebrated God's faithfulness with WA Zotung Christian Church during the official opening of their new worship centre, along with Perth Siyin Baptist Church and Myanmar Baptist Church's new buildings.



I have enjoyed building relationships with pastors through one-on-one and monthly Zoom meetings with remote pastors. Praying together and listening to pastors sharing about God's works has been a highlight this year. For the first time (due to Covid), we had two pastors' retreats in one financial year. The first Pastors' Retreat was held in July 2022 at Carey Baptist Church. This retreat was organized like a conference due to the risk of Covid-19 infections. The next retreat was organized in April 2023 in Mandurah in the format it has been held over the past ten years. I praise God that in both retreats, ministry leaders, chaplains, pastors, and their spouses fellowshiped under the word and grew in their love for Christ.

I had opportunities for personal spiritual and ministry growth by attending church planting seminars in 2023 and joining other Baptist ministers at the Trans-Tasman/Trans-Pacific Baptist Gathering in Auckland in August 2022. Similar opportunities for personal growth have also happened through my attendance at Australian Baptist Ministries meetings in Sydney.

It is encouraging to anticipate growth because three of our churches are preparing to plant new churches. Mt Pleasant Baptist Church, North Beach Baptist Church and Christian Impact Centre are all in the advanced stages of church planting in the Perth metro area.

We had a total of over 242 baptisms in our churches in WA. These baptisms allow us to develop leaders as we prepare ourselves to be a community of believers that reaches beyond the 21,165 people that comprise our community reach.

The service at the Baptist Ministry Centre continues to help churches do their ministries effectively. However, we have bid farewell to the following this year: Greg Holland, Natalie Coulson, Sandra Iliev, Michelle Meyer, Doug Patching, Anya Watson, and Kathy Sinclair. We thank God for our fun times with all these lovely people.

In June, BaptistCare NSW & ACT and Baptistcare WA merged to create one of Australia's largest not-for-profit care providers. The merger has brought financial stability that will enable the newly merged entity to continue fulfilling the original mission of Baptistcare WA. It is anticipated that the newly merged entity will expand its ministry to care for homeless people in Western Australia.

One of the questions we discussed at BCWA Assembly 2022 is, "How do we strengthen the Union and work together?" In response to this and other pending matters, the Baptist Ministry Centre staff held meetings in December 2022 to discern how, as a Union of churches, we can be involved in strengthening our unity through various areas of church life and mission. Those meetings by the BMC led to five Future Forum discussions in August 2023 in response to the same question. The sentiment shared in all the Future Forum meetings was that the Union of churches needs more sessions to discuss matters concerning our growth.

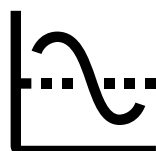
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2022-2023 Statistics



Churches
(Church Plants &
Member Churches)

108
↓-1%



**Average Church
Size**

108
↑17%



Church Membership

7,846
↑8%



Church Attendance

11,314
↑14%



Church Community

21,165
↑19%



Baptisms

242
↑53%



**Church Contributions to
Combined Ministries
Budget**

\$657,243
↑6%



**Culturally & Linguistically
Diverse Churches**

32



Church Locations

Metro - 71
Remote/Rural - 37

* Percentage changes are vs 2021-22 Church Statistics

Ministry Support & Standards

Pastor Jackie Smoker

At a Forum in July 2022, and at Assembly, 3 questions were posed:

- What would recognition, restoration and reconciliation look like?
- What is the future shape of church and church planting?
- How do we strengthen the Union of churches and work together.

Along with the vision of BCWA, these questions have helped frame the posture and priorities of the Ministry Support and Standards Team over the past 12 months. The Ministry Support and Standards Team was formed in January 2022, established from an organisational change within the Baptist Ministry Centre. There are 2 main areas in the MSST:

- **Ministry Support:** Pastors: Jackie Smoker, Dan McGrechan, Cung Uk Lal, Ed Devine, Mike Bullard.
Officers: Matt Chapman, Ben Jefferies.
- **Ministry Standards:** Pastors: Nathan Seimeier.
Officers: Sue Ash.
Safe Church Support: Marianne Walker, Gillian Walker, Warren Haley.



As well as the Admin Support provided by Marianne Walker and Anneliese Faase.

The teams work closely together to provide ministry support to churches, their governance teams, pastors, and ministry leaders. This includes a diverse range of assistance such as 'next step' discussions, responding to general queries, pastors peer and discussion groups, pastor/church reviews and placements, Pastor's Retreat, Accreditation, Safe Church, specialised support for Next Gen, Events and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse churches, as well as Professional Standards, complaints and managing BCWA's participation in the National Redress Scheme. The Western Australia based representatives for Baptist World Aid Australia, Kathy Sinclair, and Baptist Mission Australia, Graham Hill, bring additional insight to the team as we seek to serve churches together. We are grateful for the contribution that Kathy and Graham make to the team, as well as to BCWA.

2022/23 has been a year of consolidation within the team, building upon the established foundations and considering what adjustments might be needed to meet current and future needs so that we can continue to help pastors, ministries, churches and their communities say 'Yes' to Jesus. December was set aside to intentionally learn and review what we do as a department, and how we do it. We all went on a learning journey through some of the history of BCWA, and what we could do systemically to continue to move forward to the future. This review also took into account our current policies, including membership of BCWA, the Relationship Agreement, Accreditation and the changing needs, Complaints and the changes in requirements with new obligations for Mandatory Reporting, Insurance, Reportable Conduct, Supervision and the proposed changes to Equal Opportunities laws. It's been a year of listening, learning, reviewing and adapting.

Ministry Support

Over this reporting year, we have supported several churches through times of discernment as they have considered their future. For two churches, the decision was to close: Cornerstone Community Baptist Church (founded 2002 as Port Kennedy Baptist Church) held their last service in October 2022; and Kununurra Baptist Fellowship (founded 1991, having made the decision to close in March 2022, completed wind-up in April 2023. Tabernaculo Misionero Latino (founded 1992 as Templo Bilico Bautista Spanish Church) resigned their membership of BCWA in May 2023 having merged with another church: Heart of the City. Each of these churches and their leaders have faithfully followed God's leading over many years, and we ask you to join with us as we thank God for their partnership in the Gospel.

There are other churches in the process of discernment and considering 'next steps' including exploring partnerships with other churches – this may include re-planting; becoming a group of another 'parent' church or revitalisation. The team have continued to work alongside churches in this process and have been inspired by the many churches who are seeking to assist others.

There are currently 88 member churches (some with multiple congregations), and 20 churches/groups who are in the process of becoming full members. A focus throughout the year has been the process of becoming a member, and we look forward to continuing to support churches throughout that journey.

Another area of support has been assisting churches and pastors with Pastoral placements and reviews. There continues to be a need for suitably trained pastors. We are encouraged that 13 people were accepted as Accreditation Candidates, one person transferred credentials and three people are completing the final steps in the Accreditation process.

Last year, we reported that the Accreditation process would be a focus of the year, and this formed a significant element of the review process. Changes will be rolled out throughout the coming year. There are 113 current Accredited Persons in Ministry, and 53 Candidates. Accredited persons include Senior/Sole Pastors, Associate and specialised Pastors, Chaplains (including in the Armed Forces and Baptistcare), as well as people serving overseas, and in the National Baptist family of churches. There are also a number of retired pastors who actively contribute to ministries across BCWA.

The National Supervision Framework has been rolled out, with a number of Supervisors providing professional and pastoral support to pastors across BCWA. Over 100 pastors are involved in peer groups around the state and the Pastors Connect Zoom continue to provide additional opportunities to connect and support each other.

Specific support has also been provided to pastors and churches in the areas of Youth, Young Adults and Children's. This has included pastoral support of pastors and workers in the Next Gen space, as well as the annual Beyond conference, and providing assistance to the Next Gen Events such as Sportsfest, Leavers and planning for Youth Camps. In January 2023, the Next Gen team were pleased to welcome the ministry of David Edwards as a Next Gen Intern throughout the 2023 year.

There have been several key events, including the Pastor's Retreat as well as Sportsfest and Leavers. Over 20 teams representing more than 28 churches participated in Sportsfest, with close to 1,000 participants and 150 volunteers taking part. There was a different approach to the Saturday evening, with churches empowered to spend time connecting together within their teams and encouraged to focus on building connections with their not yet Christian participants. Churches varied in their approach seeking to balance the biblical message and fun interaction. Survey responses indicate that most people enjoyed the new approach.

Green Team participation in Leavers was again a valuable time with a team of 32 volunteers from across BCWA, TAFE students and members of the wider community. Wristband sales went smoothly, and improved on previous years wait times reducing them from 2 hours to 20 minutes. During the week, a team of 20 Green Team volunteers went into the Zone to help out with things such as lost property, coat check and general engagement with the leavers. A team of six also served at the Meelup BeachFest. These provided great opportunities to display the loving and caring hearts that had led them to serve with Green Team.

Ministry Standards

The Ministry Standards team provides a wide range of support to churches, individuals and the Baptist Ministry Centre including complaints handling, Redress, civil, Safe Church, training, and general advice. The Ministry Standards Pastor and the Professional Standards Officer are both part of the Australian Baptist Ministries National Professional Standards Taskforce and make a valuable contribution to the learnings across the nation.

BCWA continues to participate in the National Redress Scheme, and applications are received regularly and processed. Whilst responding to often complex situations, there have been significant moments of healing and restoration (as shared at last year's Assembly). Such times are a blessing and encouragement to the team, as we see the hope that is in Jesus expressed and realised.

It has also been encouraging to see ongoing engagement in Safe Church training, with over 20 workshops delivered either in-person or online, as well as support provided to leadership teams strengthening their overall Safe Church approach. Specialist training was also provided to pastors and churches with particular emphasis on Mandatory Reporting, and responding to concerns.

The Ministry Support and Standards Team are thankful for the opportunities to minister alongside churches, pastors and leadership teams, learning together as we continue on our shared mission to build a healthy church. We have been blessed by your partnership, engagement and encouragement and we look forward to continuing to serve our Lord and Saviour as we help pastors, ministries, churches, and communities say 'yes' to Jesus.

Finance and Administration

Michael Buckmaster

After nine years of faithful service, Greg Holland concluded in the role in December 2022, handing the baton onto myself. The Head of Finance and Administration responsibilities include financial management and controls, reporting, treasury, information technology and communications, human resources, governance, risk and compliance, assets & properties, statutory year end reporting and audits, insurance, financial services, document management, archives and representing BCWA on several Boards and Committees.

Three key areas of involvement and partnership continue to be the provision of accounting and bookkeeping services, financial services, and insurance.

Kingdom Foundation/Baptist Business Support Services (BBSS)

Under Kingdom Foundation Ltd, BBSS has been created to see Christian ministry flourish by providing a platform of strong financial administration on which ministry can grow and be sustained. BBSS's vision is to be experts in the church financial regulatory and compliance space and to see Christian ministries across Australia meeting their compliance obligations and being resourced with information to make strong financial decisions. This in turn enables churches to focus on their mission and not be distracted by burdensome compliance and regulations.

BBSS currently provides accounting and compliance support for over 70 entities and this number continues to grow. BBSS's clients includes, BUWA (incl BCWA, Camping Centres & Mount Barker CRC), several trusts, related ministry organisations, payroll for a Baptist College, churches, and church related entities as well as several independent and ACC churches. As of 1 July 2023, control of BBSS transferred to BFS who expect demand for these services to continue to grow nationwide.

Baptist Financial Services (BFS)

BFS is a specialist financial services provider to the Australian Christian community and offers a range of financial services specifically for churches and ministry. BFS's main purpose is to enable Christian ministry to Thrive.

Client activity increased steadily over 2022 with approx. 87% of Western Australia Baptist Churches with accounts and services with BFS. With increased activity from other Christian organisations and churches also in 2022, there was growth in Western Australia in both Lending and investments, and as a result BFS was able to pay \$181,992 in support of the ministry of Baptist Churches of Western Australia, for the 2022-23 financial year. Baptist events sponsored by BFS in 2022 were BCWA Pastoral Retreat and Sportsfest. BFS also took part of the BCWA Church Governance, Finance & Administration Workshop in May and BCWA CALD Churches event in August. This was a great opportunity to give support to the Baptist Churches of Western Australia.

BCWA continues to value the strong partnership with BFS as we serve our churches in WA together. We truly are stronger when we work together.

Baptist Insurance Services (BIS)

BIS operating as a delegated body of Australian Baptist Ministries, exists to enable and protect the Baptist movement in Australia while minimising the need to take critical funds away from the important ministries they run. This is achieved by developing and delivering a comprehensive range of insurance and risk management programs to Baptist Union affiliated entities in the most cost-effective manner.

BIS operates nationally in all states and territories, with local staff serving the BIS constituents in Western Australia, with the support of the BIS National Office.

The BIS program provides comprehensive insurance covers/protection and as of 30 June 2023 covers 140 Baptist churches and ministries, 3 camping centres and 18 Baptist schools. The property values covered are in the table below:

Property – Buildings & Contents	Value 30 June 2023	Value 30 June 2022
Churches and Ministries	\$261,489,361	\$234,534,201
Education	\$412,806,056	\$412,525,086
Total	\$674,295,417	\$647,059,287



Resulting from continued and regular severe weather patterns - bushfires, flooding and storms has led to a dramatic increase in property claims Australia-wide. A flow on effect of this has been a significant cost increase in insurance premiums. Consequently, BIS has had to explore other options to protect their constituents and has launched a Discretionary Mutual Fund to protect the Property Assets (Building and Contents) of Baptist Ministries.

A Discretionary Mutual Fund (DMF) is a way of providing insurance-like cover that is managed within the Baptist family. Effectively, BIS has established a co-operative to provide protection to members. A DMF is not insurance, but an alternate way of managing risk and protecting property. DMF members contribute funds (like a premium you pay for insurance policies) to create a pool of funds. These funds are utilised to manage property claims.

Members of the DMF also have access to the other insurances in the BIS Standard Package namely:

- Public Liability
- Professional Indemnity
- Management Liability
- Corporate Practices Protection
- Personal Accident – Volunteers and Youth
- Cyber
- Travel

BCWA, with key support services provided through BIS, also administers two Workers' Compensation Insurance groups for churches and ministries, and schools, historically achieving very competitive rates from the insurers due to the size of the groups and lower claims experience. However, this has now changed and is coming under pressure from some ministries that have had high claims. The arrangement of the Workers' Compensation Insurance groups by BCWA is unique in Australia and now represents over \$129 million in estimated wages.

Ministry	Estimated Remuneration for 2023-2024	Estimated Remuneration for 2022-2023
Churches and Ministries	\$24,189,529	\$24,309,429
Education	\$105,496,097	\$87,784,931
Total	\$129,685,626	\$112,094,360

Baptist Camping Centres

Ross Daniels

The past year has been a significant period of recovery, growth, and advancement for Baptist Camping Centres as we focused on developing our staff and expanding our campsite services for ministry. The positive response from churches, schools, and communities with increased bookings has been encouraging, although the impact of Covid remains a topic of discussion in our pre, during, and post phases. We are currently enjoying a moment of post-Covid recovery and our Camping Centres are thriving thanks to dedicated and motivated leadership from our managers Tim Foster and Daniel Jackson and their teams. Investment in leadership development has proven fruitful, contributing to their growth and effectiveness.



Our commitment to providing positive, clean, and well-maintained facilities remains to be a strong focus for the future. While we continue capital maintenance works as needed, we also continue to aspire to reach new heights beyond what we have achieved in the past. We embrace the challenge of exploring new developments, investigating greater opportunities for ministry and sustainability. Previous studies have shown the viability and sustainability of such endeavors, further encouraging us in this direction.

For our Camping Centres, it's clear we provide places to "Get Away Together".

Our vision for Camping Centres is that every Western Australian has the opportunity to have an excellent camping experience they will remember for a lifetime. Baptist Camping Centres mission is to provide places to "Get Away Together".

The team look forward to the opportunity to serve your church in the coming year as you create events at our sites where your church family have the opportunity to say Yes to Jesus.

www.baptistcampingcentres.org

Baptist Churches Western Australia Staff

(FT) Full time (PT) Part time (V) Volunteer (C) Casual

Director of Ministries

Ps. Victor Owuor (FT)

Finance and Administration

Michael Buckmaster (FT)

Barbara Jamieson (PT)

Grace Merrills (PT)

Marianne Walker (FT)

Ministry Support & Standards

Ps. Jackie Smoker (FT)

Ps. Cung Lal (PT)

Ps. Dan McGrechan (PT)

Ps. Ed Devine (PT)

Ps. Michael Bullard (PT)

Ps. Nathan Seinemeier (FT)

Camping Centres & Events

Ben Jefferies (FT)

Ben Birch (FT)

Daniel Jackson (FT)

Murray Smoker (FT)

Tim Foster (FT)

Casual Staff 30+

Baptist Business Support Services

Alissa Kok (PT)

David Field (PT)

Deborah Leung (PT)

Haylee Dean-Smith (PT)

Joanne Gosen (FT)

Lonely Nkhuwa (PT)

Natasha Anderson (PT)

Yun Zaw (FT)

Anneliese Faase (PT)

David Edwards (V)

Gillian Walker (PT)

Matthew Chapman (FT)

Sue Ash (PT)

Warren Haley (C)

National Ministries

Graham Hill (PT)

Gail Maddocks (FT)

Shelley Bartels (PT)

Pauline Phiri (PT)

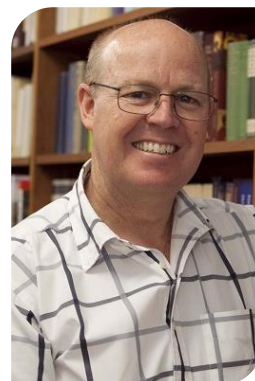
* As of 31 August 2023

Morling College | Vose Campus

Rev Dr Michael O'Neil

This year Morling Vose Perth Campus turned sixty. Sixty years of Baptist Theological training in Western Australia, faithfully equipping thousands of people for Mission, Ministry and Faith work. A wonderful celebration was held on the Perth campus at which our newly appointed principal elect Dr Tim MacBride shared his future vision, and our past principals John Olley, Brian Harris and Ross Clifford highlighted fabulous memories, moments and learnings from the eras that have made up this sixty-year time frame. Seeing God's hand holding and protecting us over the years was a blessing to all in attendance.

We also acknowledged Ross Clifford's twenty-six years of faithful and transformative leadership as Principal of Morling College, especially his role in the successful merger between Morling College and Vose Seminary.



Dr Tim MacBride, appointed Principal of Morling College by the Assembly of NSW-ACT with the support of BCWA, commenced his role on July 3rd, 2023. He has a wealth of experience in Christian ministry, leadership, and theological education.

Our graduation in March saw 170 students graduate from Morling College with sixteen of those from Western Australia. Ross Clifford spoke to us as his final graduation as Principal, a timely, instructive, and encouraging message from Revelation 22. We were very pleased once again to see one of our graduates awarded an ACT prize: Josh Huggett was awarded the David Barr Prize by the Australian College of Theology for "the candidate who in a Coursework Masters degree heads the list of those graduating that year with a GPA of at least 3.0." Congratulations, Josh, on your well-earned success, a great result for all your hard work.

Another milestone was the commencement of our Counselling, Chaplaincy, and Initial Teacher Education programmes in Western Australia. Each programme had a viable cohort to begin training in these fields of Christian professional service, and we've had growing interest and good responses from students to date.

Finally, 36 students have been granted scholarships across semesters 1 and 2 2023 (Sydney and WA) and we have ten Higher Degree by Research students who have been accepted into the ACT PhD programs, with a further two probable later in the year.

I conclude this report by commenting on the challenging environment in theological education. This is not unique to Morling but is an international reality faced by institutions. It is also a challenge for the denomination with a strong decline in young mature men and women, preparing for ministry.

Like you, we want to see suitable, well-formed, knowledgeable, and skilful ministers trained for pastoral ministry. We appreciate the robust support of West Australian Baptist churches and have seen the churches blessed with good pastoral ministry from our students. We ask for your continued prayers and support in this challenging season and ask that you please continue to identify those in your churches who exhibit a call to ministry. Tap them on the shoulder, encourage them to make an appointment to talk with us and even consider being involved in one of our matching scholarships to support their study journey financially.

We pray for you, your churches, and your mission.

Baptistcare

Charles Moore | Chief Executive Officer

Baptistcare is one of WA's largest not-for-profit providers of residential aged care, home care services and retirement living, supporting individuals and communities in metro and regional areas for over 45 years. Baptistcare's new Chief Executive Officer, Charles Moore, brings the following report.

It has been a year of change for Baptistcare WA, with the organisation announcing it would merge with BaptistCare NSW & ACT in March, combining 125 years of experience delivering exceptional care and services and creating one of Australia's largest for-purpose care providers.

The merger, completed on 1 June, was a logical fit given our similar origins and values-driven approach to person-directed care and service delivery. It positions both organisations well to deliver more sustainable care in the aged care sector. I was appointed as the CEO of the newly merged organisation, we are delighted the former CEO of Baptistcare WA, Amanda Vivian agreed to remain with the organisation a lead role in Western Australia as the Executive Director, WA.

Both organisations are working closely to transition into one organisation, and this integration will continue into the 2023/24 financial year.

In the aged care sector, and beyond, the world around us continues to change at an unprecedented pace, and we are responding with purpose, energy, and agility as we enter this new era.

Funding for the aged care sector remains a challenge. However, we have seen constructive discussions with Government and in the community about how aged care can be funded sustainably. This gives us hope that decades of inattention and inadequate funding can be changed to position the sector as an attractive place to work, and a trustworthy sector for people to receive care as they age.

We are optimistic that after several decades of funding neglect by successive governments, the new Australian National Aged Care Classification (AN-ACC) funding model will realise a positive ongoing impact. We welcome dialogue with the Aged Care Taskforce on further changes to the funding model that will allow the sector to return to a financially sustainable position.

We have also continued to experience difficulty attracting workforce to the sector, an experience felt by all Western Australia aged care providers and more widely across the country. We have found some success in metro areas as the impact of the Western Australia borders re-opening has a positive impact on availability of workforce, resourcing in our regional areas remains challenging.

We are also optimistic about a positive shift within the sector following increased wages for some of our aged care employees as a result of the Fair Work Commission's Work Value Case for aged care workers. We hope that this will flow to all aged care workers who do important work and ensure the delivery of quality care across our services and attract more people to work in the sector.

Throughout the year, occupancy in residential aged care continued to recover following the impact of COVID-19. In Western Australia, we have seen exceptional results, with sites averaging greater than 97% throughout the year. This is an outstanding result given significant organisational changes, reputational challenges and new funding arrangements and is comparative to BaptistCare's aged care homes in NSW and ACT achieving 95%.

We were pleased to see Aurum Catering (a subsidiary of Baptistcare WA) acknowledged for the food and dining experience they deliver, with three homes ranked in the top ten residential aged care homes in Western Australia. Awareness of the catering teams' innovative approach to providing quality and flavoursome meals has spread, resulting in increased business over the year.

Our home care services in WA have remained steady this year, ensuring people living in their own homes can maintain their independence and wellbeing. We are excited for the opportunity to grow home care in WA as our teams on the west and east coast work together, with a new office space already underway secured for our home care team in Busselton where we see strong potential for growth.

Our customer engagement teams have continued to come alongside the Western Australia community this year, sharing our Demystifying Aged Care resources and events through information sessions, to help people navigate accessing aged care.



In May, as Baptistcare WA merged with Baptistcare NSW & ACT, we farewelled members of the Baptistcare WA Board and would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Board of Directors and Executive Leadership Teams for their expertise, guidance, and wisdom over the year in steering our organisation. Tim Woodall and Graham Reed were welcomed onto the new Baptistcare WA Board alongside myself and Robert Dunn, Chair of the BaptistCare NSW & ACT Board. We are also looking forward to officially welcoming Tim and Graham onto the BaptistCare NSW & ACT in the coming months. Over the coming months, our expectation is the two Boards will also merge.

To our employees, volunteers and partners, thank you for the tireless and generous care, compassion and skills you bring to your work every day.

This year we have witnessed some wonderful achievements among significant changes and challenges, and we give thanks to our Heavenly Father for the courage, steadfastness and wisdom we have needed on this journey and will continue to need.

“For Jehovah God is our Light and our Protector. He gives us grace and glory. No good thing will he withhold from those who walk along his paths. O Lord of the armies of heaven, blessed are those who trust in you.” Psalm 84: 11-12

Baptist Historical Society of Western Australia Inc.

Grace Merrells, Archives Officer

The committee comprises Philip Friend (Chair and Treasurer), Ross Woods (Secretary), Kent Logie, Ann Harding, and Josh Huggett (members). Grace Merrells is our archive officer.



At our public meeting in October 2022, Rick Pekan from the Bible Society shared how the Bible Society is continuing the inspiring work of translation and production of Bibles. We remembered the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's translation and printing of the Bible in the language of the people, and then focussed on the translation of the Bible into Australian indigenous languages.

Josh Huggett joined us during the year and very quickly became a much-appreciated member of the Committee.

We anticipate adding a banner and an information brochure in time for our display at this year's assembly for the purpose of making our services more visible and accessible to Baptists in our State.

The large photo of the 1929 Assembly participants outside the Museum Street Church is looking almost brand new after repairs to the frame and new glass.

The deposit of records from a couple of churches this year has been good to see, and we look forward to helping other churches in a similar way.

We have written two new manuals to help you use the archives, one for general users and volunteers. An Archivist's manual is also under way.

It is great to have continued our good relationship with the college staff as they transitioned from Vose Seminary to Morling College, Vose Campus. We appreciate the college hosting our archives and welcoming us in for various meetings. We also appreciate the discussions about possible spaces for housing archives in the future.

The Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc.
General Purpose Financial Report 2022-23
(Simplified Disclosure)

ABN: 59 739 180 494

**COUNCIL'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Your council members submit the financial report of Baptist Union of Western Australia Incorporated Association.

Council Members

The names of council members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

- Victor Owuor (Director of Ministries) - appointed Feb 2022
- Wayne Field - appointed Aug 2021
- Martin Alciaturi (Chair Dec 2020) - appointed Oct 2019
- Brian McDonald - appointed Oct 2019
- Anne Galambosi - appointed Oct 2018 concluded Oct 2022
- Vanessa Chang (Vice Chair) - appointed Oct 2014
- Phillip Beeck - appointed Nov 2021
- Carolyn Tan - appointed Nov 2022

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to provide support to the Baptist churches in WA and affiliated ministries through; pastoral and church leadership, governance and advice, running camps and operating camping centres for the benefit of the churches and the general community.

Significant Changes

No significant changes in operations occurred during the year.


Operating Result

The overall result amounted to a net deficit of \$1,367,728 (2022: deficit \$404,367). Please refer to financial statements for further details.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Council.



Council Member - Chair



Council Member - .

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	2,222,828	2,555,902
Trade and other receivables	5	3,008,457	133,012
Prepayments	5	415,005	284,939
Assets held for resale		750,000	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		6,396,290	2,973,853
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant & equipment	6	194,584	162,574
Land & buildings	6	7,823,100	10,959,618
Financial investments	7	1,750,000	1,750,000
Other non-current assets	8	3,909	15,455
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		9,771,593	12,887,647
TOTAL ASSETS		16,167,883	15,861,500
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	9	169,833	139,610
Provisions	10	2,983,265	2,708,687
Borrowings	11	1,579,094	-
Other current liabilities	12	784,885	677,076
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,517,076	3,525,373
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	11	260,137	267,643
Provisions	10	-	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		260,137	267,643
TOTAL LIABILITIES		5,777,213	3,793,016
NET ASSETS		10,390,670	12,068,484
EQUITY			
Contributed Equity (Trusts)		-	-
Opening Balance Equity		6,843,494	7,249,912
Capital reserves		2,468,774	805,890
Reserves		2,446,130	4,417,049
Current Year Earnings		(1,367,728)	(404,367)
TOTAL EQUITY		10,390,670	12,068,484

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue and other income	2	6,097,981	5,305,446
Cost of goods sold		(625,624)	(526,958)
Employee benefits expense		(2,225,434)	(2,070,750)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(123,212)	(222,933)
Reinsurance premiums		(2,045,362)	(1,745,569)
Borrowing costs		(76,591)	(10,634)
Electricity, gas & water		(101,851)	(125,798)
Building maintenance		(131,846)	(155,696)
IT services		(57,727)	(58,877)
Redress and civil expenses	10	(2,349,944)	-
Other expenses		(740,379)	(792,598)
Surplus (Loss) from Ordinary Activities		(2,379,990)	(404,367)
Other comprehensive income			
Discontinued operations	3	1,012,262	-
Transfer from General Reserves		-	-
Transfer to Capital Reserves		-	-
Transfer to Contributed Equity (Trusts)		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to the members		(1,367,728)	(404,367)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Contributed Equity (Trusts) \$	Equity \$	Capital Reserve \$	General Reserve \$	TOTAL \$
Balance as at 1 July 2021					
Opening Balance	305,742	4,903,659	1,985,301	2,938,629	10,133,331
Add: Current Year					
Surplus/Deficit	-	(404,367)		-	(404,367)
Add: Transfer / Adjustment	(305,742)	2,346,253	(1,179,411)	1,478,420	2,339,520
Balance as at 30 June 2022	-	6,845,545	805,890	4,417,049	12,068,484
Balance as at 1 July 2022					
Opening Balance	-	6,845,545	805,890	4,417,049	12,068,484
Add: Current Year					
Surplus/Deficit		(1,367,728)			(1,367,728)
Add: Transfer / Adjustment		(2,051)	1,662,884	(1,970,919)	(310,086)
Balance as at 30 June 2023	-	5,475,766	2,468,774	2,446,130	10,390,670

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from operating activities		6,100,927	5,459,525
Payments to suppliers and employees		(6,688,164)	(5,942,368)
Payments for redress claims		(1,462,000)	(1,050,124)
Net cash provided by operating activities	13	(2,049,237)	(1,532,967)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for plant and equipment		(117,685)	(1,008)
Payments for building construction and improvements		-	(242,686)
Proceeds from sale of land and property		262,261	217,000
Net cash provided/(used in) investing activities		144,576	(26,694)
Cash flows (used in)/from financing activities			
Proceeds (repayment) from borrowings		1,571,587	(11,349)
Payments for capital contributions provided		-	-
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		1,571,587	(11,349)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash held		(333,074)	(1,571,010)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		2,555,902	4,126,912
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	4	2,222,828	2,555,902

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial report is a general purpose financial report (simplified disclosure) that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations, the WA Associations Incorporated Act 2015 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission 2012.

The entities and departments that comprise the consolidation group are:

- Baptist Churches Western Australia including Baptist Ministry Centre, Camping Centres, Long Service Leave Fund and Mount Barker Community Resource Centre.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in a financial report containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions to which they apply. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of this financial report are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

a. Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis, which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and discharge of liabilities in the normal course of business.

b. Income Tax

The Baptist Union of Western Australia Association Incorporated is exempted from income tax due to the exemption granted under section 6.2 of section 50-30 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

c. Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Leasehold Land and Buildings

Leasehold land and buildings are measured at fair value less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are credited to a revaluation reserve in equity.

The fair value of the leasehold land and buildings is obtained on a periodic basis by an independent valuer.

Revaluation

Any revaluation increments are credited to an asset revaluation reserve. Revaluation decrements for a class of asset are recognised directly in the surplus/deficit except to the extent that they reverse a previous revaluation increment for that class.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the asset is restated to the revalued amount.

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses. The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the committee to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate (%)
Buildings	2.5
Motor Vehicles	12.5
Office Equipment	10-33
Leasehold improvements	10 or over lease term
IT / Computer Equipment	25

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at each balance date. Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount.

d. Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. These cash flows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows. Where applicable, estimates, averages and computational short cuts have been used to provide a reliable approximation of the detailed computations illustrated in the standard.

e. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

f. Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

g. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

h. Rental and Grant Income

Revenue from contracts with customers

Rental revenue is recognised when it is due, which for most agreements is in advance of each fortnightly occupation period.

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST. Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST components of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

i. Critical Accounting Estimates

The association evaluates estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the organisation. No accounting assumptions or estimates have been identified that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next accounting period.

j. Provision for Redress and Civil Claim Liabilities

The Association responds to redress determinations received as a participating member of the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse Act 2018, and compensation for civil claims. The Association is committed to supporting all applicants and claimants of child sexual abuse in their journey of healing and to lessen the trauma caused by the abuse suffered. Support provided may include:

- Counselling.
- An apology from the Director of Ministries; and
- Financial payment

When the Association receives notification from an applicant or claimant, the expected costs to settle the application or claim are provided in the financial statements based on the circumstances of each application/claim. The Association makes provision for the cost of claims arising from past incidents of abuse where it is probable that assistance will be offered and the amount of the obligation can be reliably estimated, even when a formal notification has not been received. Support for claimants can span over several years from the time of first receiving notification and the provision is measured at the present value of the costs expected to be incurred. Other than in these circumstances, no provision is recognised in the financial statements for potential claims as the amount of any obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability or the amount is not probable at this time.

k. Assets held for resale

Assets held for resale are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs of completing the sale. All assets held for sale is regarded as inventory and classified accordingly in the balance sheet. Property is classified as current inventory when the sale of the property is expected to result in the realisation of cash within the next 12 months, based on management's sales forecasts.

l. New, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The association has adopted all of the new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period. Any new, revised or amending Australian Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted by the association for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2022. The association's assessment of the impact of these

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
2 Revenue		
Camping fees	1,384,808	983,144
Donations	1,360	3,905
Combined ministries giving	647,266	607,025
Property premium income	1,541,447	1,270,741
Worker compensation premium income	551,501	474,828
Rental income	141,158	156,401
Grants received	513,756	419,906
Delegate fees / registration	206,570	148,969
Sponsorship income	92,773	61,091
Government assistance - covid 19	75,258	220,866
Other	942,084	958,570
	6,097,981	5,305,446
3 Discontinued operations		
	1,012,262	-
During the year, some member churches and organisations affiliated with BCWA ceased operation. As part of their winding-up processes, after discharging all obligations, any surplus assets were chosen to be vested in BCWA. Some of the proceeds were in cash, others were in kind including property. Income from vesting of property has been recorded at an independent valuation.		
4 Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand	471	500
Cash at bank	1,408,001	1,593,906
Term deposit	814,357	961,496
	2,222,828	2,555,902
5 Trade and other receivables		
Accounts receivable	253,862	131,457
Provision for doubtful debts	(4,534)	-
Other receivables	2,759,129	1,555
	3,008,457	133,012
Prepayments		
Property insurance	415,005	284,455
Events	-	484
	415,005	284,939
6 a Property, Plant and Equipment		
Computer equipment at cost	148,919	144,931
Computer equipment accumulated depreciation	(129,190)	(117,787)
	19,730	27,144

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

ABN 59 739 180 494

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Furniture and fittings at cost	379,973	379,973
Furniture and fittings accumulated depreciation	(337,121)	(327,945)
	42,852	52,028
Office equipment at cost	182,277	182,277
Office equipment accumulated depreciation	(175,475)	(170,091)
	6,802	12,186
Plant and equipment at cost	463,383	407,757
Plant and equipment accumulated depreciation	(370,717)	(371,132)
	92,666	36,625
Motor vehicles at cost	41,112	41,112
Motor vehicles accumulated depreciation	(8,576)	(6,521)
	32,535	34,591
Total property, plant and equipment	194,584	162,574
Land & buildings - at valuation	7,823,100	10,959,618

Land was first revalued during the 2016/2017 year and the carrying amount was adopted from the value determined by the Valuer General for unimproved land of each location. Previously land was carried at cost. Buildings have been revalued as per the insured value. During the 2021/2022 year revaluations were completed for Coastal Community Church property take up in March 2022 (\$2.2m revalued to \$3.1m), 19 Rowe Avenue (revalued from \$1.16m to \$1.3m) and 21 Rowe Avenue (revalued from \$1.475m to \$2.0m). The revaluation surplus was credited to a reserve in equity. The carrying values will be reviewed and adjusted from time to time, as and when the properties are revalued.

b Movements in carrying amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for property, plant and equipments and land & buildings between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

Property Plant and Equipment

Opening Balance	162,574	207,353
Additions / (Disposals)	155,222	97,784
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(123,212)	(53,005)
Closing Balance	194,584	162,574

Land & buildings

Opening Balance	10,959,618	7,188,095
Additions / (Disposals)	(3,136,518)	3,771,523
Closing Balance	7,823,100	10,959,618

7 Financial Investments

Capital contributions to BFS	15	1,500,000	1,500,000
Atlantis Beach Baptist College Loan	17	250,000	250,000
		1,750,000	1,750,000

8 Other non current assets

WIP - Camps		3,909	15,455
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THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

		2023 \$	2022 \$
9	Trade and other payables		
	Accounts payable	24,385	36,790
	Accrued liabilities	145,448	102,820
		<u>169,833</u>	<u>139,610</u>
10	Provisions		
	Current		
	BCWA redress and civil provision	17 1,944,382	1,462,000
	Churches Redress provision	219,794	354,794
	Annual leave provision	99,639	92,444
	Long service leave provision	719,450	799,449
		<u>2,983,265</u>	<u>2,708,687</u>
	BCWA Redress and Civil Provision		
	Payments against this provision during the year totalled \$1.302m. The current estimates of future liability based on the National Redress Scheme (NRS) determinations and estimates (ie claims in process), total \$1.944m.		
	Churches Redress Provision		
	The Churches Redress Provision at 30 June 2023 is \$219,794, with \$160k being drawn on by churches during the past year. The current estimates of future liability based on NRS determinations and estimates (ie claims in process) total \$50k.		
11	Borrowings		
	Baptist Financial Services		
	Current	1,579,094	-
	Non-current	260,137	267,643
		<u>1,839,230</u>	<u>267,643</u>
	The Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc. entered into a loan facility on 29th April 2019 with Baptist Financial Services Australia Ltd for a secured interest only and instalment loan facility of \$285,813 for new ablution facilities at Busselton Camping Centre. The term is for 20 years on a current variable rate of 4.95%. The security of the loan is a registered first mortgage over the property at 32 Transit Road, Jarradale, WA, 6124 (Serpentine Camping Centre).		
	The Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc. entered into a secured overdraft facility of \$2,000,000 on 19 April 2022 with Baptist Financial Services Australia Ltd for the purpose of managing redress scheme payments and other claims. The term is for 2 years on an initial variable rate of 7.70%, reduced to 5.45% (variable) where the current balance is less than the overdraft facility limit. The security of the loan is a registered first mortgage over the properties at 19 and 21 Rowe Avenue, Riverdale WA 6103 and the existing first registered mortgage over 25 Transit Road Serpentine.		
12	Other current liabilities		
	Income in Advance	517,994	356,934
	Third Party Funds Held in Trust	166,895	150,657
	Other liabilities	99,996	169,485
		<u>784,885</u>	<u>677,076</u>

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
13 Cash Flow Information		
Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Profit or Loss/Result from Ordinary Activities		
Profit after income tax	(1,367,728)	(404,367)
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities		
(Gain) Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(111,101)	73,725
Non-cash flows in profit:		
Depreciation and amortisation	123,212	222,933
Changes in assets and liabilities		
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	(248,421)	154,079
(Decrease)/increase in trade payables and accruals	30,223	(187,904)
Decrease/(increase) in other operating assets	(750,000)	(232,097)
(Decrease)/increase in provisions	274,578	(1,159,336)
	<u>(2,049,237)</u>	<u>(1,532,967)</u>
14 Financial Risk Management		

The Association's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits and investments with Baptist Financial Services, trade receivables and payables.

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,222,828	2,555,902
Trade and other receivables	3,008,457	133,012
Financial Investments	1,750,000	1,750,000
	<u>6,981,285</u>	<u>4,438,914</u>
Financial Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	169,833	139,610
	<u>169,833</u>	<u>139,610</u>

The Association's Council is responsible for, among other issues, monitoring and managing financial risk exposures of the association. The Council monitors the association's transactions and reviews the effectiveness of controls relating to credit risk, financial risk and interest rate risk.

The council members' overall risk management strategy seeks to ensure that the association meets its financial targets, while minimising potential adverse effects of cash flow shortfalls.

The main risks the association is exposed to through its financial instruments are interest rate risk, liquidity risk and credit risk. There have been no substantive changes in the types of risks the association is exposed to, how these risks arise, or the Council's objectives, policies and processes for managing and measuring the risks from the previous period.

THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

a. Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that the association might encounter difficulty in settling its debts or otherwise meeting its obligations related to financial liabilities. The association manages this risk through the following mechanisms:

- preparing forward-looking cash flow analysis in relation to its operational, investing and financing activities; and
- only investing surplus cash with major financial institutions.

Cash flows realised from financial assets reflect management's expectation as to the timing of realisation. Actual timing may therefore differ from that disclosed.

b. Credit Risk

Exposure to credit risk relating to financial assets arises from the potential non-performance by counterparties of contract obligations that could lead to a financial loss to the association.

Credit risk is managed through maintaining procedures (such as the utilisation of systems for the approval, granting and removal of credit limits, regular monitoring of exposure against such limits, and monitoring of the financial stability of significant customers and counterparties) ensuring, to the extent possible, that members and counterparties to transactions are of sound credit worthiness.

Risk is also minimised through investing surplus funds in financial institutions that maintain a high credit rating or in entities that the council has otherwise cleared as being financially sound.

Credit risk exposures

The maximum exposure to credit risk by class of recognised financial assets at balance date is equivalent to the carrying value and classification of those financial assets (net of any provisions) as presented in the balance sheet.

Risk is minimised in the rental bonds held that are available for use to cover arrears if the tenant vacates the property.

The association has no significant concentration of credit risk with any single counterparty or group of counterparties.

c. Market Risk

Interest rate risk

The association is not exposed to any significant interest rate risk.

Fair Value Estimation

The carrying values of financial assets and financial liabilities are at approximately fair values.

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ABN 59 739 180 494

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15 Fair Value Measurements

The association measures and recognises the following assets at fair value on a recurring basis after initial recognition:

- Leasehold land and buildings

The association does not subsequently measure any liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis, or any assets or liabilities at fair value on a non-recurring basis.

(a) Fair Value Hierarchy

AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* requires the disclosure of fair value information according to the relevant level in the fair value hierarchy. This hierarchy categorises fair value measurements into one of three possible levels based on the lowest level that a significant input can be categorised into. The levels are outlined below:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Measurements based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.	Measurements based on inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.	Measurements based on unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The fair value of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market is determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data. If all significant inputs required to measure fair value are observable, the asset or liability is included in Level 2. If one or more significant inputs are not based on observable market data, the asset or liability is included in Level 3.

Valuation techniques

The association selects valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available to measure fair value. The availability of sufficient and relevant data primarily depends on the specific characteristics of the asset or liability being measured. The valuation techniques selected by the association are consistent with one or more of the following valuation approaches:

- *Market approach*: uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or similar assets or liabilities.
- *Income approach*: converts estimated future cash flows or income and expenses into a single current (i.e. discounted) value.
- *Cost approach*: reflects the current replacement cost of an asset at its current service capacity.

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Each valuation technique requires inputs that reflect the assumptions that buyers and sellers would use when pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risks. When selecting a valuation technique, the association gives priority to those techniques that maximise the use of observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs. Inputs that are developed using market data (such as publicly available information on actual transactions) and reflect the assumptions that buyers and sellers would generally use when pricing the asset or liability are considered observable, whereas inputs for which market data are not available and therefore are developed using the best information available about such assumptions are considered unobservable.

The following table provides the fair value of the association's assets measured and recognised on a recurring basis after initial recognition, categorised within the fair value hierarchy.

Recurring fair value measurements	Level 3	Level 1 & 2
Financial Investments	1,500,000	-
Total assets recognised at fair value	1,500,000	-

In June 2011, The Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc. agreed to contribute \$1.5m ("Capital Contribution") to Baptist Financial Services Australia Ltd. This investment is permanent in nature. The Contribution is only recoverable in the event BFS ceases business and other debts are satisfied. The carrying amount of the asset is at cost on the basis that the Net Present Value (NPV) of the future cash flows arising from the asset is expected to be not less than the carrying value.

16 Related Party Transactions

There are various entities within the wider Australia Baptist Network where transactions are made on normal commercial terms and conditions and at market rates.

Key management personnel

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the association, directly or indirectly, including its council members, is considered key management personnel.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits:	444,188	379,451

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**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

17 Contingent Liabilities

a Atlantis Beach Baptist College Loans and Guarantee

In November 2017 a long-term loan of \$250,000 was provided to Atlantis Beach Baptist College Ltd (ABBC), a foundation school that commenced in February 2017. This loan was part of a financial rescue package provided by The Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc. in conjunction with Baptist Financial Services (BFS). The Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc. is guarantor for the ABBC loans with BFS totalling \$8.279m. Additionally The Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc. is guarantor for the Dept of Education Low Interest Loan currently totalling \$1.6m. The College has Total Assets of \$10m and a valuation at 31 Dec 2021 supporting \$10m. A potential exposure exists if the school defaults on their loans and other arrangements can't be made or school bankruptcy.

In September 2022, the Association's Council approved the Australian Baptist Education (ABE) proposed takeover per agreed terms of Atlantis Beach Baptist College Ltd, with approval from Baptist Financial Services Ltd Board. ABE agreed to pay a guarantee fee to Baptist Churches Western Australia in return for continuing support. ABE also agreed to repay the interest free loan of \$250,000 over five years.

b National Redress Scheme (NRS) and Civil Actions

NRS:

In addition to the current estimates of liability based on the NRS determinations and estimates (ie claims in process), the Association has a potential future liability for payments under the NRS for claims that may be lodged against us directly, jointly with other institutions or as the Representative/financial backer for the WA Baptist churches Participating Group, until 30 June 2027, the end date for claims to the Scheme.

Civil Actions:

As of 30 June 2023, 3 civil actions have commenced and are progressing through the legal process, including discovery and mediation. These matters could result in further substantial expenses and awards.

18 Covid-19 (Coronavirus)

The recent spread of the Covid-19 virus has caused a massive dislocation in the economic circumstances in many economies throughout the world. There is uncertainty as to the effects this may have on the Association and its operations.

19 Subsequent Events

No subsequent events after 30 June 2023 to report.

20 Auditor Remuneration

	2023	2022
Remuneration of Auditors	11,110	14,600
Other services provided by audit firm	-	-

21 Association Details

The registered office of the association is:
The Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc.
21 Rowe Avenue, Rivervale WA 6103

**THE BAPTIST UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN 59 739 180 494**

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

In the opinion of the Council;

1) The financial report, including notes, as set out on pages 2 to 17 are in accordance with the Incorporated Associations Act (WA) 2015 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:

- a) comply with the Accounting Standards; and
- b) give a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.

2) In the Directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This statement is made in accordance with section 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022 and is signed for and on behalf of the Council by:



Council Representative

Dated: 3rd October 2023

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Members of Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the financial report of Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc (the 'Union'), which comprises the Balance sheet as at 30 June 2023, the Income statement, Statement of changes in equity and Statement of cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by Council.

In our opinion the financial report of Baptist Union of Western Australia Inc (the 'Union') has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* and the requirements of the Australian College of Theology, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2022*.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

We draw attention to Note 18 in the financial report, which describes the recent spread of the Covid-19 virus. This event has caused a massive dislocation in the economic circumstances in many economies throughout the world. There is uncertainty as to the effects this may have on the Association and its operations. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibility of the Council for the Financial Report

The Council of the Union is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Council is responsible for assessing Union's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Association either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Union's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omission, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express opinion on the financial report. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Dated this 3rd day of October 2023.

Shreeve & Carslake
Chartered Accountants

PG Shreeve - Partner

At 24 Walters Drive, Herdsman Business Park, WA

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Building healthy churches

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