



Anglican
Church of Noosa
Loving and serving you because of Jesus

ANNUAL REPORT

FEBRUARY 2019

VISION 2020

We exist to
glorify God
by making Disciples
as we love and serve Noosa

Agenda

1. **Welcome, Bible reading and opening prayer**
2. **Vision 2020 presentation**
3. **Finance**
 - 3.1. **Presentation and adoption of the Parish Annual Financial accounts for 2018**
 - 3.2. **Consideration and adoption of Budget 2019**
4. **Appointment of leaders**
 - 4.1. **Churchwardens**
 - 4.1.1. Determination of the number
 - 4.1.2. Nomination and appointment
 - 4.2. **Election of Parish Nominators**
 - 4.3. **Parish Council**
 - 4.3.1. Determination of the number of Parish Councillors to be further elected and appointed
 - 4.3.2. Nomination and appointment
 - 4.3.3. Rector's appointments to Parish Council
 - 4.4. **Appointment of Parish Auditors:** proposed motion at the request of the Treasurer: this meeting agrees to the reappointment of Mr Alan Sinclair and requests the Secretary of Parish Council to send a letter thanking him for the generous provision of his services throughout the year.
5. **General Business – *matters must be received by the Churchwardens, a week before the meeting.***
 - 5.1. **The key work of parish council: motion:** that parish council concentrates on advancing Vision 2020 and the wardens, treasurer and rector give themselves to finance and property, with regular reports to parish council.
 - 5.2. **Directive re the minutes of this meeting: motion:** that the minutes of this meeting be ratified at the first parish council meeting.
6. **Close in prayer**

Introduction and Overview

Dear Friends,

While 2018 was a difficult year in that we were adjusting to life without Simon and Ian, and subsequently farewelled Jo, the Lord was good and kind and continued to bless our work. Here are some of the highlights:

- A new format for our Lenten studies where the first talk was given on Ash Wednesday and subsequent studies were via video in 15 connect groups. There were new groups and new people in all groups! Many new people and new groups continued after the conclusion of the Lenten studies
- Our women continued to grow and flourish, beginning the year with another retreat and dinner and continuing Thursday gatherings for three months in the year. The work now continues which is a great testimony to Jo's leadership
- Generate Youth – our fortnightly Friday night youth group with between 35-50 kids having a ball and enjoying their small group discussion
- The Peregian congregation continuing with the help of a great team of volunteers and the leadership of Gary McClellan
- Children's ministry transitioning from Simon to leaders such as Pam, Elma, Christine, Elizabeth and Julia
- The beginning of a revamped 'Storytime' at Peregian, rebranded as 'Playgroup' and located within St Andrew's College, with wonderful assistance from college staff and Julia Harbor's inspired leadership
- A men's dinner which became a parish dinner and set a precedent for subsequent years
- Pastoral care team training and taking up more pastoral care opportunities.
- New people joining all three congregations throughout the year
- The wonderful support and assistance of Fiona Thompson and Marg Hansen, freeing me up to concentrate on Bible teaching and pastoral care.

So please join me in giving thanks to God! I'm also very thankful to the churchwardens, to Alicia and Trevor for their work on our finances and to parish council for their support, wisdom and encouragement throughout the year.

Now let's review our Vision 2020 priorities and see both the challenges and opportunities for 2019. We continue to trust God's plans for us and provide for us the people we need to build up our staff team in his perfect timing.

Mark

The Rev'd Mark Calder, Minister

Clear and Systematic Bible Teaching

Clear and systematic Bible Teaching is our 'core business'. If we only did one thing at the Anglican Church of Noosa, this would be it!

In our preaching in 2018 (and discussed in our connect groups), we looked at:

- The 7 letters to the church in Revelation 1-3
- Ephesians
- Conversations with Jesus
- 2 Samuel
- Why invite others?
- If I could ask God anything – our invitational series
- Is that in the Bible? – phrases which many don't realise originate from the Bible
- Christ is coming! – our Advent series, exploring all that Jesus' return will mean.

Other ways in which clear and systematic Bible teaching was a crucial part of our life together included:

1. **Lenten studies:** Peter Stedman took us through highlights of Mark's Gospel
2. **The Bible Explained:** over a dozen people studied courses on Mark's Gospel and Doctrine 1 – many sitting the exams and doing very well
3. **WoW:** the women of wisdom sessions centred around the Bible.

In 2019, we started with Psalm 23, are currently working through Luke's Gospel chapters 1-4, in Term 2 we will study 2 Timothy, and 1 Kings in Term 3. Fourth term is yet to finalised. The weekly reading notes are appreciated, as are the connect group questions.

Services

These are designed that we may so worship *together*, that we might go on worshipping *moment by moment* in the week to come. They are to reorientate us to Jesus.

Our services centre around the preaching of God's word and work towards that right balance of reverence and joy. The Lord's Supper is celebrated with dignity and deep significance as we give thanks to God for the one true sacrifice of His Son.

Our music ministry is highly valued, and we so appreciate the dedication and musicianship of those who play for us – especially Marcia Dorricott who plays practically every week at 730am. We deeply appreciate our readers, intercessors, welcomers and those who provide morning tea. We are grateful too for those in 2018 who helped Mark with the preaching – your contribution has been greatly appreciated.

Promoting the Gospel

How are we going to promote the brilliant, life-changing news of Jesus in 2019?

1. **Living faithfully** – we promote the Gospel in Noosa as we live consistently Godly lives which are in line with what we believe about Jesus. When our priorities, our use of time, our language, our kindness, our generosity stand out from those around us, we are promoting the Gospel!
2. **Connecting** – by connecting with our community through Storytime and Playgroup, through Christmas and Easter services, through running an attractive youth and children’s program
3. **Praying** – we regularly pray that more people in and across Noosa and Peregian would come to know Jesus, and we also pray for our mission partners
4. **Giving** – to the ministry of our church and to our mission partners is a very important and necessary way of enabling the Gospel to be promoted
5. **Inviting** – friends, neighbours, colleagues to church or church activities where they can meet other normal Christians and hear the good news of Jesus
6. **Answering** – every Christian is challenged to have an answer ready when any one asks them for the reason they are people of hope
7. **Proclaiming** – some of us will be gifted for and passionate about telling others about Jesus! In addition, Mark will Sunday by Sunday, proclaim the Good News in the Sunday message where there are often not-yet-Christians present.

So please pray that we will be effective in promoting the Gospel this year!

Small groups

Now called connect groups, a total of thirteen have recommenced this year. There will possibly be more throughout the Lenten studies program. We are so grateful to our leaders who prepare faithfully each week (or fortnight) and facilitate discussion of Sunday’s passage and message.

The phrase which best describes what we are aiming for, is to be a place ‘where truth meets life’. We want to explore where ‘the rubber hits the road’ in terms of how Sunday’s passage speaks to us and challenges us to keep wrestling with what it means to live for the Lord Jesus in today’s world.

It is very clear that people who join connect groups, feel far more connected in their church family, grow more quickly in their understanding of God’s word, and feel supported in life’s challenging times through the care and prayer. Please email (or call) Mark if you’d love to try a connect group.

Welcoming and community

Those who are new to our church, usually receive an email from Mark within a week or so of their first visit, have a meeting with Mark within three weeks and invitation to a newcomer's event within the first six months.

Research has shown that if people don't form a relationship with someone within a few months and don't find a way to get involved and serve within eleven months, they will leave! So ensuring we obtain contact details (without being pushy), can help Mark link new people with others and help them find a way to become actively involved. All of us need to consider ourselves as hosts and not guests. That is, each and every one of us needs to be on the lookout for new people and to make sure they feel welcome.

We also need to keep finding ways to deepen community among us. That is, we ought to create very simple ways of getting together so we get to know one another and share life together. A picnic, a BBQ, a coffee, a meal out, having someone over – all these are great ways to build community. Anyone want to have their congregation over for breakfast or brunch? Anyone want to arrange a Sunday picnic by the river? Go for it! Speak to Fiona in the office and make it happen. Let's deepen our sense of belonging.

Targeted men's and women's ministry

The simple reason that we sometimes run gender specific ministries is that men and women are different and from time to time will revel in and benefit from the opportunity to gather in a context where they will feel a greater freedom to be themselves, to share things that are on their hearts and to open up and to pray for one another.

We are grateful to David Vos for his leadership of the men's ministry and Jo Kadlecek-Gilbert for her inspiring time as convenor of women in ministry. Both ministries are continuing to grow and flourish under new leadership. Rob Nicholls is now convening the men's ministry, and a great team of women, is planning the women's ministry.

Last year our men's dinner turned into a parish event with both men and women present. It was such a great night, that it is being planned that way again this year from the outset. Please pray that these ministries will help grow godly men and women who seek to be a blessing to each other and have a heart to reach others for the Lord Jesus.

Targeted youth and children's ministry

Youth and children's ministry is always a challenge in regional Queensland when those you'd look to as leaders in a city context once finished high school, move out of the area to pursue tertiary education.

We are so grateful to all who have helped with youth and children's ministry in the past year, with both Elizabeth Ivey and Pam Brayshaw stepping back after giving outstanding contributions. Jackson Lucas who was running youth at Peregian, has moved to Port Macquarie where he is undertaking a ministry apprenticeship. We are praying that someone else will step up to fill the gap he leaves and to assist us to re-establish youth work in Peregian for 2019.

We are grateful to God for Elma Sampson and Susan Calder running the Sunday children's ministry at Tewantin and Peregian respectively and for Christine Pearson and Julia Harbour leading Storytime (Sunshine) and Playgroup (Peregian) respectively.

As this great work continues, we are continuing to pray that the Lord will raise up the right person we can appoint as youth and children's minister. With the help of a trained and experienced youth and children's minister, we will see more of us trained, inspired and equipped to help serve the ministry and grow its impact and influence. Please pray!

Conclusion and Challenge

At a recent wardens' meeting, Mark shared his priorities for 2019 as follows:

- **Clear, strong Bible teaching** – to equip the saints and make disciples
- **Prayer** – his own personal prayer, and our prayer together as church
- **Connect groups** – greater involvement as a key to growing disciples
- **Making disciples** – purposefully, creatively – inviting people to follow Jesus
- **Staff** – finding the right people to re-build our team
- **Youth** – working to develop appropriate ministry for our young people
- **Families at Tewantin** – attracting families so we can reach more families
- **Pastoral care** – more purposefully using those who have been trained

Vision 2020 was launched in August 2014. While so much of the vision has been achieved, we need now to refresh our plans for the future. God is good. It's his mission, this is his church, his Gospel. So we look to him to be at work both in and through us.

Report from our Churchwardens

This past year has been a demanding one for your wardens and for the parish generally. In particular, our rector, Mark, has been under incredible pressure maintaining a ministry which previously was the province of three full time ministers. And later in the year Jo relinquished her women's ministry co-ordinator role prior to moving to a new appointment in Sydney. Despite the absence of ministry staff, the good news is that most of our ministries as a church have continued unabated, and for this we thank God.

As mentioned, Jo is now in Sydney and we thank her for enlivening the women's ministry here and we wish her well in her new role. We thank Chris also for having been a great Parish Council secretary. Again, the good news is that the women's ministry continues on strongly with WoW resuming for the year and the dinner almost upon us.

David Vos has played a formative role in the men's ministry for which he is due our heartfelt thanks. He has passed the baton on to Rob Nicholls who with his team will continue this strong program.

A side effect of our absence of ministry staff has been the running of a significant surplus which, of course, will taper off as staff are appointed. Again, we thank Alicia and Trevor for the wonderful work they do in the treasury function.

We are a community of volunteers and we thank each and every one who has worked so hard for our church. Our depth of volunteers is a great strength. In particular, we thank our property manager, John and his team, and Petrus and Anne and their teams of grounds volunteers.

Mark has done a wonderful job leading the church and we pray God's richest blessing on him and Susan as they carry such a heavy burden. We join with all parishioners in praying for the speedy appointment of the right staff to share the load. Fiona makes our job easy by running the office so well, supplemented ably by Marg in many administrative functions - we thank them both. We are thrilled Ian has a new teaching role in Canberra and pray God's blessing on him, Tammy and Audrey.

We look forward to a great year ahead for our church and may God bless you all. As always, it has been an honour to serve you.

John, Bec, Don

John Butterworth Bec Hutton Don Turkington