

Gymea Baptist Church
Annual General Meeting I
Sunday November 30, 11:30
Hybrid: Onsite and Online via Zoom

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Members and Guests Record Attendance
3. Apologies
4. Devotion and Prayer
5. Confirmation of Agenda
6. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings; 29 June, 2025
 - i. Mid-year Church Meeting
 - ii. Extraordinary Meeting to Appoint Adam Stewart
7. Reports
 - i. Senior Pastor's Report
 - ii. Treasurer's Report
6. Budget 2026
7. Election of Church Council Members
8. Election of Nominating Committee Members
9. Close

Extraordinary Meeting
For the Appointment of Elders

Agenda

1. Open
2. Confirm Quorum
2. Election of Elders
3. Closing Prayer

GBC Mid-Year Ordinary Meeting

29 June 2025 at 11.30am (HYBRID: Held via Zoom Meeting and Onsite)

1. **Welcome.** – Phillippa Lowe
2. **Quorum** achieved at 11:31 – 113 present

Online: 38

Onsite: 84

Total: 122

3. Apologies:

None

4. **Devotion and Prayer** – Marc Rader

Jeremiah 1:4 – Our task is to be faithful

5. **Confirmation of Agenda.**

Moved - Phillippa

Seconded - Chris Moffet seconded

6. **Confirmation of Minutes from last meetings:**
AGM2 – Sunday 30 March 2025.

Moved to accept: Phillippa

Moved: Show of hands

7. **Reports:**

- i. *Hopefield* – Vicki Sherry

Hopefield is celebrating 30 years this year. Vicki expressed gratitude for the support from all involved.

Hopefield now has a site in Lismore in partnership with Lismore Baptist Church

The Hopefield Wellbeing Continuum



- **Support Services:** working with clients, often in crisis, providing advocacy and practical supports
- **Clinical Services:** working with vulnerable people providing mental health support
- **Community Hubs:** small group programs targeting social connections, psycho-education and partnering with other services
- **The EVE Project:** a 12-month trauma healing and pathways to purpose program for women with backgrounds of abuse

Progress to Date



Support Services	Clinical Services	Community Hubs	The EVE Project
42 clients	200 clients	4 social connection groups – all year – approx. 70 attendees	Intake of 6 women (all DV/trauma)
180 appointments	680 appointments	Hope After Abuse – 4 week program for women	100% retention
45% are multi-disciplinary	3 Psychometric assessments	Black Box Parenting – 10 week program for women	83% are multi-disciplinary
60 bags of groceries per month	3 placement students	Monthly trauma support group	1 student placement
Increasing number of homeless and rough sleepers	Supporting 3 locations	14 DV/trauma clients	1 GBC volunteer
1 placement student	Supporting 28 DV/trauma clients	11 GBC volunteers	1 external volunteer
Supporting 11 DV/trauma clients		7 external volunteers	Great group dynamics
10 GBC volunteers			

Coming up ...



Support Services	Clinical Services	Community Hubs	The EVE Project	Other
Increase homelessness support	Increased Cronulla support	Men's mental health group - Cronulla	2 nd intake	Hope+Love (pre-loved clothing)
Christmas hampers	EAP Program review	Black Box Parenting for dads - Cronulla		AXA Volunteer day
		Mums group - Lismore		Mental health month
		Hope After Abuse - Kirrawee		Volunteer thank you
		Black Box Parenting - Kirrawee		Sutherland 2 Surf

- 2024 Annual Reports now available <https://hopefield.org.au/about-us/annual-reports/>

Questions:

None

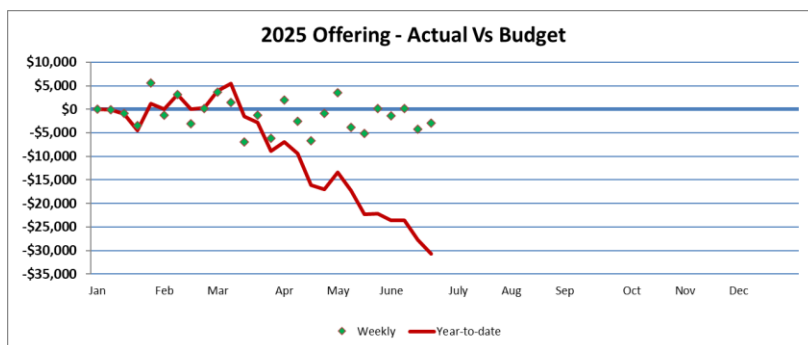
ii. Finance – Glen Smith

Updates below covered on YTD

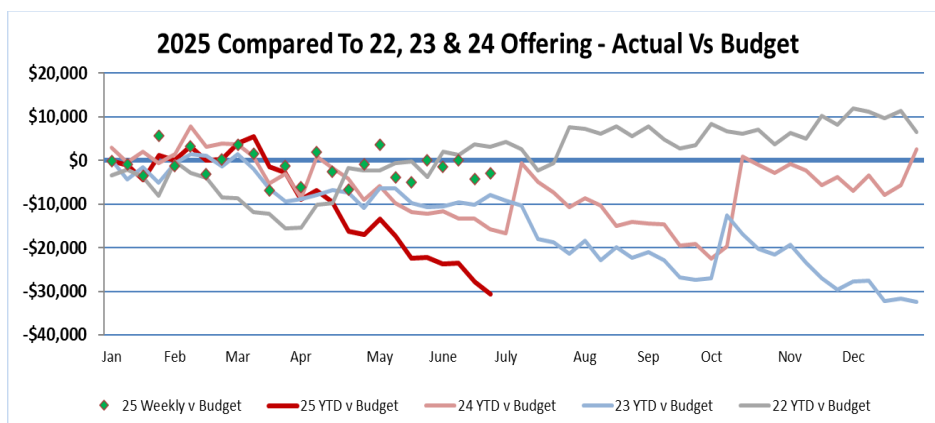
- May accounts review
 - Update on Income
 - Update on Expenses
- Cash Available
- May Mission Month

Income

- Offerings
 - At 22nd June, we are 7.7% or \$31k behind budget ytd.
 - Fell behind in April. Continued slide in May and June.
- Interest income is in line with budget but held within Property Trust.

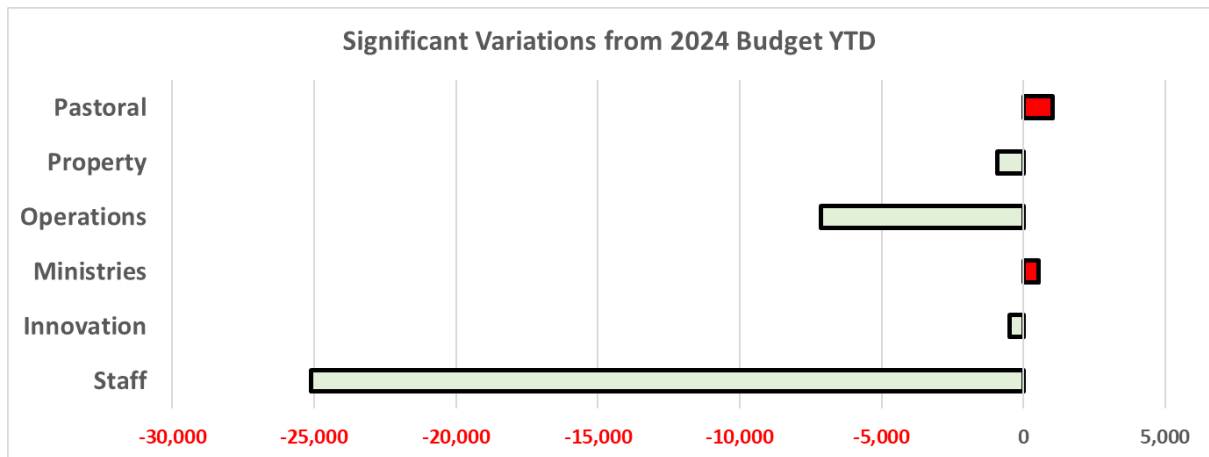


- Worst ytd budget relative performance of Offerings, in past 4 years.
 - Red line is this year 2025.
 - Orange line is last year 2024
 - Blue line is 2023.
 - Grey line is 2022.



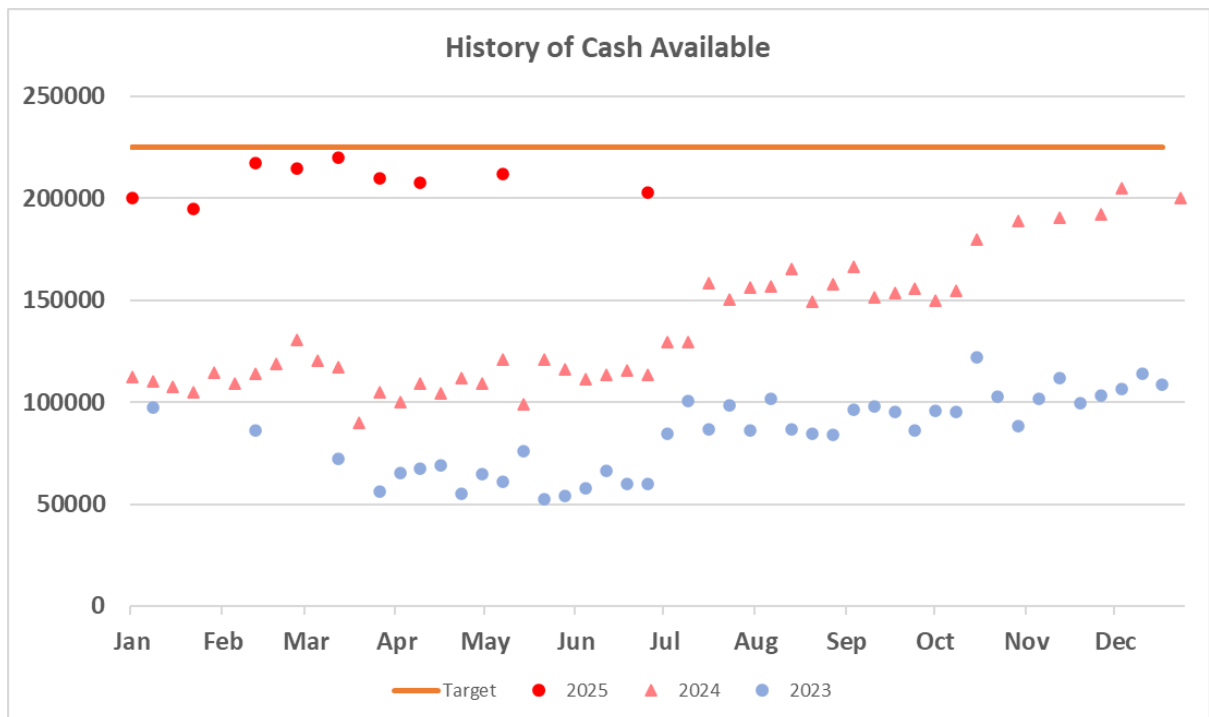
Expenses

- At the end of May, overall \$32k under budget.
 - Operations -\$7k
 - Staff expenses -25 (roles to be filled)
 - All else very close



Cash Available

- “Cash available” is approximately \$203K.
 - Up \$90k since this time last year.
 - Driven by meeting budget offerings and not hiring in past year.
 - Flat this year.



Questions:

Chris Moffat – Is the implication that if we hire a new pastor we will start losing money (red dots will decline)?

Glenn – Yes that is true but we have some money in the bank that makes this more feasible than last year. But we do need to increase giving.

David Beresford – Noted that the timing of the drop was in May. Does this mean one of our objectives was not achieved?

GS – Yes. We had more people involved and raised the right amount but the third objective (stable offerings) was not achieved.

Darren Robertson – If we are below on income and about to hire, how can we reduce operational expenditure.

GS – We are not going to reduce operational costs but we are prayerful that the new hire will grow the church and this will grow income. We need to put resources into outreach to bring more people to faith.

Steve Ford – Comparing each year of cash available, we usually do see an increase after July. Can we hope for the same?

GS – Yes we are at a pivot point. Yes we have achieved this but at the expense of staffing.

May Mission Month

- Thank you.
- Each of the three tax-deductible Projects has received \$57,352.
- Over \$14k for additional July distribution to GBC Frontline Missionaries.
- Money and individual donor details were sent to the Projects on Monday.
- If you do not receive a receipt in July, please let me know.

Planning for 2026

- Expenditure limited to about the same level as budgeted for this year.
 - Significant pivot point now, as adding staff.
- Income figure lifted with inflation, so a little higher than this year?
 - Is this achievable?
- Desire to again have a modest surplus budget.
- “Cash available for business”
 - End 2023 \$70K achieved
 - End 2024 \$200k achieved
 - End 2025 >\$180k aspiration

Questions:

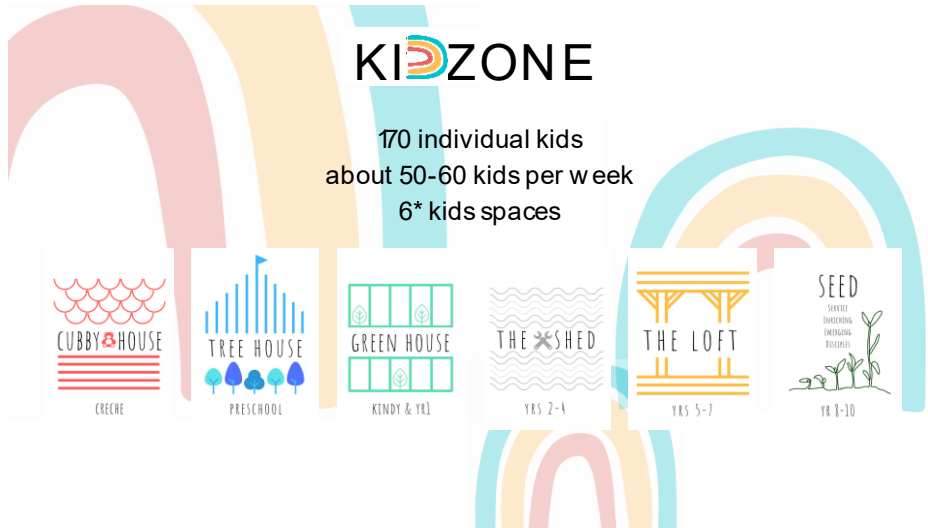
Chris Moffat – How many contributors to mmm compared to last year

GS – 168. Last year was 172. However, there were also 40 families involved in the bake sale. This would imply a much broader involvement. We could look to more activities next year.

iii. *Children's Ministry – Rebecca Venum*

Just under \$1000 was raised for MMM by the children and families in Kidzone.

Number of children in Kidzone has increased by 20 in total but weekly attendance has decreased (down from 70 per week). In other words, regularity of attendance has declined.



School scripture

116 kids in GyMEA North Public School
9 teachers, 6 from GBC
Lessons from God Space curriculum

Engaging 30 minute lessons
enjoyed by teachers and kids



KIDZONE Renovation opportunities



Moving downstairs provides greater ease of check in
Numerous increased safety aspects
Tailored fit out of spaces



Moving to a more visible space
Increased fit for purpose
Greater opportunities for vital fellowship time



Increased opportunities to minister through Playtime and connect Playtime families to the wider church



No impact within current plan*



Opens up more spaces which will allow us greater potential to run SEED programs

Help

PRA Y

For the 116 scripture kids and 170 Kidzone kids
For our wonderful Kids teams that they will be strengthened and see the fruit of their ministry

VOLUNTEER

More scripture teachers
More Kidzone leaders (especially semi-regular and occasional)
Playtime leaders

they know God's love and come to understand what He has done for them. Pray for our ministry team. Consider volunteering for scripture or Kidzone.

Questions:

Jackie Donnelly – As a grandparent could we perhaps survey young children and their families about whether they are spiritually filled themselves to understand why they are not bringing the children regularly.

RV – We do want to consider how we reach out to our families this term.

iv. *Council Chair* – Phillipa Lowe (also see Chair's report)

Want to look at Council as a ministry. We want to actively participate in ministry to oversee health of the church and governance. We have a reminder to now store up our treasures on earth and therefore we should be encouraged to step out in faith to employ our new pastor.

Council reached decisions on building and staff appointments. Members have also sat on committees for appointments and looked at employment procedures. We have gained some new insight into Rox's role.

Phillippa thanked members of the chair and the Church for support.

Questions: none

v. *Senior Pastor*

Renovation committee have been formed and have met once (David Beresford, Brian Stewart, and....)

Second renovation was the fixing of the flooding cause. Extensive, piping and trenching has occurred. Now the carport will be replaced.

We have been understaffed for the past 18 months. Now we are ready to appoint after consideration of greatest need.

Karen Watkins has been out due to medical issues. Please continue to pray for Karen.

Marc has had a full semester with extra marking at Morling and time in Perth. Hosted two conferences (April and May).

Questions - None

8. Close with prayer – 12:40

Extraordinary Member's Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** 12:45

2. **Quorum achieved:** see above

3. **Confirmation of Minutes from last meetings:**

Extraordinary Members' Meeting – Sunday 18 May 2025.

Moved to accept: Marc

Seconded: Marie Renneberg

Moved: Show of hands

4. The Appointment Process

-Introduction of Candidate – Adam Stewart

- Relational leadership, strategic implementation, and called to transformative environments.
- The Tops Conference Centre (2012-present)
 - 600 bed group accommodation with 130 staff
 - 2023-present – Site Manager
 - 2012-2023 – Program Manager
- Engadine Church of Christ (2001-2012)
 - Families Minister/Interim Senior Minister
- 2024 Christian Camping International
 - Global Leadership Program – Executive Leadership
- 2002 Bachelor of Ministry (Tabor)
- Recently began attending GBC with his family.

- Background to role & report on nominating process

- Community Engagement Pastor role
 - To cultivate space for faith in Jesus to grow.
 - To develop, resource, and align the evangelistic efforts of GBC.
 - To help GBC be a community of faith for our community.
- Nominating Committee
 - Hannah Fraser, Susan Kusch, Phil Lowe, Derek Mullins, Glen Nelson, Marc Rader
- Considered five CVs and extended interviews to three candidates.

- The committee was unanimous in affirming Adam be considered further and recommended that Marc and Vicki Sherry have a follow up conversation.
- Marc contacted referees and sent a brief report to the committee and brought the recommendation to the Church Council.

Hannah Fraser and Phillippa Lowe spoke to their positive experience of Adam as part of the nominating committee.

- Recommendation to appoint

That the membership of GBC affirm the appointment of Adam Stewart to the role of Associate Pastor (Community Engagement).

Moved: Marc Rader

Seconded: Phillippa Lowe

Passed: vote – paper (onsite) and poll (online) Unanimous

Questions: Martin Johnston – Can he still play keyboards if he has the role???

Robyn Southworth – Is this a fulltime role?

MR – Yes. To start mid August so that he can have time to process and have a holiday with family

RS – What was the other appointment that the church has recently made?

MR - Communication officer was Lucy Rader

Chris Larmer – Is it a permanent role

There will be a probation period and then permanent

Janelle Drake – Are you all as pastoral staff fulltime?

MR: MR is four days/week. Other pastors and Jeremy are FT. Most others are part time.

Meddwyn Hinton – Spoke in praise of Adam and his family. Adam is very good with groups and individuals.

Brie Watkins – Spoke in favour of Adam as her boss at The Tops

- Appointment of scrutineers – Marc Rader moved that Chris Moffatt and David Beresford be scrutineers. Accepted by show of hands.

- Member's vote (see above) Unanimous

Adam asked to be allowed to speak with his team before others spoke about it.

4. Prayer

5. Close – 1:15pm

GYMEA BAPTIST CHURCH	2024 Budget	2024 Actual	2025 Budget	2025 Estimated Actual	Proposed 2026 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense					
Income					
Tithes & Offerings					
Tithes and Offerings	\$ 822,000	\$ 824,580	\$ 855,000	\$ 855,000	\$ 900,000
Franking Credits Received	\$ -	\$ 5,835	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ 5,000
Total Tithes & Offerings	\$ 822,000	\$ 830,415	\$ 855,000	\$ 855,750	\$ 905,000
Miscellaneous Income					
Camps & Conferences	\$ 11,000	\$ 8,474	\$ 9,000	\$ 3,500	\$ 9,000
Coffee Station	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,071	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,500
Catalyst	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,566	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Other Miscellaneous Income	\$ 8,000	\$ 13,739	\$ 11,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 15,000
Total Miscellaneous Income	\$ 23,500	\$ 26,851	\$ 24,500	\$ 25,500	\$ 28,500
Mission and Evangelism Income					
May Mission Appeal	\$ 184,950	\$ 200,805	\$ 192,375	\$ 205,274	\$ 202,500
Total Mission and Evangelism Income	\$ 184,950	\$ 200,805	\$ 192,375	\$ 205,274	\$ 202,500
Operational Income					
Turner Lodge Residents rents	\$ 7,150	\$ 7,150	\$ 7,150	\$ 7,150	\$ 7,150
Room/Facilities Hire Income	\$ 7,000	\$ 13,667	\$ 15,000	\$ 13,500	\$ 15,000
Weddings	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -
Funerals Income	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,495	\$ 2,000	\$ 700	\$ 1,000
GST recovery - Ministry Account	\$ 1,000	\$ 392	\$ 500	\$ 550	\$ 500
Interest Received	\$ 200	\$ 3,430	\$ 5,500	\$ 8,500	\$ 9,000
Total Operational Income	\$ 19,350	\$ 26,127	\$ 30,650	\$ 30,400	\$ 32,650
Total Income	\$ 1,049,800	\$ 1,084,198	\$ 1,102,525	\$ 1,116,924	\$ 1,168,650
Expenses					
Salaries Expenses					
GBC Salary - PAYG	\$ 280,152	\$ 246,030	\$ 306,389	\$ 286,000	\$ 322,046
Allowances/Benefits	\$ 234,180	\$ 199,719	\$ 248,674	\$ 226,000	\$ 255,463
Total Salaries	\$ 514,332	\$ 445,748	\$ 555,063	\$ 512,000	\$ 577,509
Superannuation	\$ 59,148	\$ 50,157	\$ 68,439	\$ 62,000	\$ 69,301
Long Service Leave	\$ 3,489	\$ 3,461	\$ 4,600	\$ 4,000	\$ 6,000
Annual Leave Provision	\$ -	\$ 14,737	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Workers Comp Insurance	\$ 7,974	\$ 7,402	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,500	\$ 9,000
Staff Development and Training	\$ 1,995	\$ 2,737	\$ 2,750	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,000
Workers Comp on Leave Provision	\$ -	\$ 149	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Salaries Expenses	\$ 586,938	\$ 517,470	\$ 639,852	\$ 588,500	\$ 664,810
Innovation	\$ 20,000	\$ 2,209	\$ 2,000	\$ 500	\$ 2,000
Ministries Expenses					
Copyright and licensing	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,635	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,369	\$ 2,500
School Scripture Teacher	\$ 750	\$ 753	\$ 750	\$ 800	\$ 750
Services, Music, Recordings etc	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,211	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Training	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,125	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,000
Camps & Conferences	\$ 13,200	\$ 16,857	\$ 11,700	\$ 13,722	\$ 12,000
Other Resources and Supplies	\$ 16,000	\$ 14,430	\$ 17,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 17,000
Total Ministries Expenses	\$ 41,950	\$ 43,011	\$ 41,950	\$ 40,891	\$ 42,250
Mission and Outreach					
Mission					
Christian Surfers	\$ 9,636	\$ 9,636	\$ 9,636	\$ -	\$ -
OM - Heather Druce	\$ 6,048	\$ 6,048	\$ 6,048	\$ 6,048	\$ 6,048
CCCA - G&J Speckman	\$ 3,612	\$ 3,612	\$ 3,612	\$ 3,612	\$ -
WEC - Jonathan McCallum	\$ 6,048	\$ 6,048	\$ 6,048	\$ 6,048	\$ 6,048
ECM - Shane & Ruth Sparks	\$ 2,412	\$ 2,412	\$ 2,412	\$ 2,412	\$ -
SIM - Ben Hurley	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
School Chaplaincy - Kath Ansell	\$ 2,424	\$ 2,424	\$ 2,424	\$ 2,424	\$ 2,424
FEBC - Kevin Keegan					\$ -
Jesus Racing - Andrew Fisher					\$ -
May Mission Appeal	\$ 166,860	\$ 182,715	\$ 174,285	\$ 186,684	\$ 202,500
Church Partnership Support	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -
Kids Hope Expenses	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,598	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Sutherland Board Christian Education	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Hopefield	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Total Mission	\$ 225,540	\$ 241,493	\$ 227,965	\$ 235,728	\$ 240,520
Outreach					
Catalyst	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,816	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Other Outreach Events	\$ 9,000	\$ 2,816	\$ 8,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Total Outreach	\$ 11,500	\$ 4,632	\$ 10,200	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500
Total Mission and Outreach	\$ 237,040	\$ 246,124	\$ 238,165	\$ 241,228	\$ 246,020
Operational					
Advertising & Promotion	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 200	\$ 500

Audio Visual					\$	7,500
Communications	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,642	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,000	\$	2,500
Office Equipment	\$ 300	-	\$ 300	\$ 100	\$	300
Computers	\$ 20,000	\$ 7,821	\$ 20,000	\$ 12,000	\$	20,000
Consumables	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,380	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,500	\$	3,000
Photocopying	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,939	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,000	\$	2,500
Photocopy Recovery Income	-\$ 1,000	-\$ 942	-\$ 1,000	-\$ 900	-\$	1,000
Postage	\$ 25	\$ 15	\$ 25	\$ 10	\$	25
Printing & Graphics	\$ 1,000	\$ 100	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$	1,000
Stationery	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,385	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,500	\$	2,000
Telephone & Internet	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,361	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,500	\$	7,200
Total Operational	\$ 42,325	\$ 23,700	\$ 40,325	\$ 26,410	\$	45,525
Finance Costs						
Auditor's Fees	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,350	\$	1,500
Bank Fees	\$ 5,500	\$ 4,244	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,805	\$	5,000
Bank Merchant Charges	\$ 1,000	\$ 760	\$ 1,000	\$ 855	\$	1,000
Merchant Card Surcharge Income	-\$ 250	-\$ 157	-\$ 200	-\$ 172	-\$	200
Loan Interest		\$ 1,050	\$ 1,050	\$ 1,050	\$	-
Total Finance Costs	\$ 7,750	\$ 7,196	\$ 7,850	\$ 7,888	\$	7,300
Property and Equipment Costs						
Cleaning	\$ 22,000	\$ 21,920	\$ 23,000	\$ 19,000	\$	21,000
Council, Water and Garbage	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,239	\$ 7,500	\$ 8,300	\$	8,000
Insurances	\$ 47,000	\$ 41,185	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$	42,000
Light and Power	\$ 20,000	\$ 23,337	\$ 23,000	\$ 22,000	\$	23,000
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 37,000	\$ 25,324	\$ 30,000	\$ 40,000	\$	40,000
Security	\$ 3,000	\$ 736	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$	1,000
Property and Equipment	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,126	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$	8,000
Work Health & Safety	\$ 8,000	\$ 9,066	\$ 8,000	\$ 12,000	\$	12,000
Strata Levies & Management	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,416	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$	2,000
Total Property and Equipment Costs	\$ 154,000	\$ 139,349	\$ 142,500	\$ 152,800	\$	157,000
Pastoral						
Life Groups, Welcoming	\$ 2,000	-	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$	1,000
Hospitality costs	\$ 7,000	\$ 4,063	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,665	\$	4,000
Total Pastoral	\$ 9,000	\$ 4,063	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,665	\$	5,000
Christian Growth						
Guest Preachers & Speakers	\$ 1,000	\$ 702	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$	1,000
Total Christian Growth	\$ 1,000	\$ 702	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$	1,000
Total Expenses	\$ 1,100,003	\$ 983,825	\$ 1,119,642	\$ 1,065,382	\$	1,170,905
Net Ordinary Income	-\$50,203	\$ 100,373	-\$17,117	\$51,542		-\$2,255
Other Entities						
Grays Point Christian Musc Promotion Trust Account						
Opening Balance		\$ 64,597		\$ 52,706	\$	40,640
Income						
Grays Pt Cultural Trust Income	\$ 45,000	\$ 20,517	\$ 30,000	\$ 18,000	\$	30,000
Grays Pt Cultural Sponsorship	\$ 10,000	-	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$	-
Grays Pt Cultural Trust Interest	\$ 1,800	\$ 2,625	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,900	\$	1,500
Total Income	\$ 56,800	\$ 23,142	\$ 37,500	\$ 19,900	\$	31,500
Expenses						
Grays Pt Cultural Trust Events	\$ 20,000	\$ 23,366	\$ 20,000	\$ 30,000	\$	35,000
Grays Pt Cultural Trust P&E	\$ -	\$ 152	\$ 25,000	\$ 1,000	\$	2,000
Total Expenses	\$ 20,000	\$ 23,518	\$ 45,000	\$ 31,000	\$	37,000
Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	-\$	376	-\$	11,100	-\$	5,500
Prior Year Adjustments		-\$ 1,128		-\$ 966		
Net for year	-\$	1,504	-\$	12,066	-\$	5,500
Closing Balance		\$ 63,093		\$ 40,640	\$	35,140
GBC Endowment Account						
Opening Balance		\$ -		\$ 32,045	\$	43,345
Income						
Donations/Thank Offerings	\$ -	\$ 32,045	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$	10,000
Endowment Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,300	\$	1,600
Total Income	\$ -	\$ 32,045	\$ 11,300	\$ 11,300	\$	11,600
Expenses						
Endowment Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-
Endowment Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-
Total Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-
Closing Balance		\$ 32,045		\$ 43,345	\$	54,945
Baptist Property Trust Account						
Opening Balance		\$ 538,100		\$ 569,690	\$	497,338
Income						

Proceedes of Sale	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Baptist Property Trust Interest	\$	20,000	\$	31,590	\$	25,000	\$	19,000	\$	2,500
Total Income	\$	20,000	\$	31,590	\$	25,000	\$	19,000	\$	2,500
Expenses										
Complying Property Works	\$	-	\$	-	\$	80,800	\$	91,365	\$	499,838
Total Expenses	\$	-	\$	-	\$	80,800	\$	91,365	\$	499,838
Closing Balance			\$	569,690			\$	497,325	\$	-

Proposed 2026 Budget. Note from the Treasurer to AGM1 30th November 2025.

Background

When reading this note, please also make reference to the spreadsheet “Proposed 2026 Budget” that has been distributed with the meeting Agenda. This spreadsheet has the 2024 Budget and Actual figures, and the 2025 Budget and Estimated Actual figures for your reference. Column L has the figures for the Proposed 2026 Budget.

Current cash position

Cash available to pay bills as of 10th Nov 2025 was \$228,000. Last year at the same time we had \$190,000 cash available. I expected to end this year with around \$210,000, marginally ahead of our 2025 forecast. This is due in large part to the staff positions which were filled later in 2025 than expected.

Offerings so far this year

We have received Offerings of \$730,000 to 9th Nov 2024.

- 1.2% behind YTD Budget.
- \$9,000 behind YTD Budget.
- \$21,000 ahead of last year’s actual YTD offerings.

I hope to end 2025 with Offerings very close to our 2025 full year budget of \$855,000.

Key observations from our Estimated Actual for the full year 2024

Refer to the “Proposed 2026 Budget” spreadsheet, columns I and J.

Income

- Offerings – Expect to end 2025 in line with the budget.
- Miscellaneous income is slightly above the budget.
- MMM \$13,000 over budget this year.
- Operational income should go close to meeting budget, with some notable overs and unders:
 - Room hire is expected to end the year similar to last year’s actual, not having the repeated uptick we forecast.
 - Weddings and funerals have remained low post covid. Near zero.
 - Interest received is above budget. This increase is due to more money in the bank and higher interest rates in the new products we are now invested in. Please note that interest from Property Trust money is found “below the line” as it is not available for general Church expenditure.

Expenses

- Salaries expected to end \$51k below budget.
- Innovation, we do not expect to spend the majority of this line item this year.
- Ministry expenses are broadly in line with budget. Camps and Conferences are up, Training and Other Resources are down.
- Total Mission is above budget. MMM was over and support for Christian Surfers ended in January of 2025.
- Outreach down. Please note that Outreach funded by the Music Trust e.g. the Christmas Festival has moved below the line.
- Operational expenses are down, driven primarily by lower purchases of Computers.
- Finance costs are broadly in line with expectations.
- Property and Equipment is significantly over budget, driven by Repairs and Maintenance and Work Health and Safety costs.

Overall, we expect to end the year with a surplus in the general account i.e. cash that is available for use to run day-to-day Church activities.

Below the Line

At line 118 of the “Proposed 2026 Budget” spreadsheet you will see the items we have placed below the line. This year, these below the line items have been presented in a different way to the 2025 Budget. We need to budget and account for three separate entities or accounts that do not sit within the normal accounts of GBC. They are:

- the Grays Point Christian Music Promotion Trust,
- the GBC Endowment Fund, and
- the Baptist Property Trust account.

For the 2026 Budget I have set out the history and budget expectations for each of these three entities separately, so that we can easily see what is expected for each of them. For 2025 you will see:

- The Music Trust has received and spent significantly less than forecast.
- The Endowment Fund, which commenced in November 2024, has had small growth in 2025.
- The Baptist Property Trust account has:
 - earned less interest than expected,
 - paid for the plumbing works which were budgeted, and
 - paid preparation works for the planned renovation, which were not included in last year’s budget deliberations.

Key observations of 2026 Draft Budget

Refer to “Proposed 2026 Budget” spreadsheet, column L.

Income

- Tithes & Offerings – We are planning for \$900,000, a \$45,000 or 5.2% increase over the 2025 Budget figure. This is the largest increase that I have proposed in my tenure. The general view of is that there is significant optimism about overall Church growth in 2026 now that we are fully staffed.
- Mission and Evangelism income will increase with MMM up to \$202,500 (22.5% of Tithes & Offerings).
- Operational income to remain similar to 2025.

Expenses

- Salaries:
 - Built in a 2.5% increase for all staff.
 - One staff member has been recommended to be raised by one level.
 - Superannuation remains at 12%.
 - There are no plans for new roles
- Innovation allocation has been retained at the same level.
- Ministry expenses remain very similar to 2025.
- Mission expenditure
 - Three Frontline Missions will no longer appear in 2026.
 - MMM up in proportion with the income expected
 - Partnership Support, is proposed to be dealt with in the same way as 2025.
- Operational expenses up due to the inclusion of an allocation to Audion Visual expenditure for the first time.
- Finance costs are stable.
- Property and equipment up significantly, primarily due to increased allocations to Repairs and Maintenance and Work Health and Safety.

Overall, the draft budget for 2026 as presented to you is a balanced budget. I believe that these figures most accurately reflect what we should expect for 2026 with what we know today.

At their meeting on 5th November 2025 the Church Finance Committee unanimously resolved to recommend the Draft 2026 Budget to the Church Council for their acceptance.

The Church Council has accepted the recommendation of the Church Finance Committee to present the 2026 Budget as it set out in the “Proposed 2026 Budget” spreadsheet to the AGM on 30th November 2025.

Glenn Smith

Treasurer