

God Willing 2021

The Lakes AGM
Reviewing 2020; setting goals for 2021 & beyond



The Lakes



Dave & Ruth Sheath

Our Vision

Our desire is to see a flood of disciples following Jesus. To this end we want Jesus' love, God's word and the Spirit's power to so fill us and overflow from us that everyone in our region has compelling reason to follow Jesus.

From Dave

2020: what a year! Change is always challenging, yet we have been through a year of constant change.

Just as we were celebrating the opening of our Ministry Centre, our society plunged into a year of isolation and social distancing. Our ministries oscillated between physical face-to-face meetings and online virtual meetings, and this took place with a diminished staff team.

However, our vision has remained the same: making and growing disciples. It has been so encouraging to see our various ministry teams working hard to keep focussed on this vision in the midst of an ever-changing context. One of the things I love about our church is our trust in God to continue to build his church in the midst of changes, challenges and uncertainties.

You may notice over the page that we've now included "gathering" as one of our core church values. Over the past year we realised just how much our church family values face-to-face gathering. As we look back over the past 19 years there have been many challenges and obstacles, and on each occasion we have resolutely sought to prioritise the gathering of God's people around his word. This past year, many of our

gatherings shifted online. We have been blessed by so many technically capable members who have served us diligently to enable high quality live-streaming of our services. But we have also worked incredibly hard to enable face-to-face gatherings as much as restrictions will allow. God has created us as physical beings and there is no substitute for physically gathering together around God and his word.

As we head into a new year, and with restrictions easing, we have every reason for godly optimism: we're seeing many new people attending church each week; our regulars are returning to our face-to-face gatherings; we have three new staff members; and we have Jesus' personal assurance "I will build my church".

In spite of all the challenges we still want to evaluate our church's goals and re-focus our plans for the years ahead. As you read the rest of this booklet, please take time to give thanks for God's blessing on us so far and pray that he continues to bear fruit through us into the future.

Dave Sheath

Our Values

There are seven things we believe that really shape our hopes and dreams as a church:

1. God gets the glory

We believe that God's glory is the ultimate goal of our lives, our church and our world. Everything we do needs to be placed under this great goal!

2. God's word sets the agenda

We believe that God's word is the powerful means that God uses to accomplish his purposes. God's Spirit takes his word and brings new birth, growth and perseverance. We want God's word to set the agenda for everything we do as a church.

3. Prayerful

We believe God is in control of all things. As a result, all our goals and desires ought to be brought to God in prayer with humility, striving for God's will to be done, not ours. We will only reach our goals through God's generosity and power.

4. Urgent and sacrificial

We believe we are living in the last days. With Jesus' death and resurrection the last days began. Jesus could return any day to bring judgement and usher in the kingdom

of God in its fullness. This brings an urgency to Christ's commission to make disciples of all nations. We want to be sacrificial, intentional, and accountable for outcomes as we strive to fulfil the great commission.

5. Loving

God wants us to love each other. No matter the size of our church, we want everyone in our church community to be loved and cared for.

6. Generous

We worship a God of immense grace. He wants us to be generous to the work of the gospel: not just generous to the ministries of The Lakes, but also to the mission beyond The Lakes.

7. Gathering

God does not merely save individuals, he is building his church. The word *church* simply means gathering. We want to ensure we are regularly gathering together as God's people around God and his word.



Our Mission

We seek to make disciples as we **engage** with everyone in our region with the good news of Jesus. We seek to grow disciples as we **connect** with each other; **grow deep** in God's word; **grow Godward** in prayer and praise; and **serve** God and his people with joy.



Engage

“ *[The Life series]...was so simple in explaining how to become a Christian and explaining the life of Jesus.*”

Life series attendee

2020 HIGHLIGHTS & CHALLENGES

2020 began with a flourish, welcoming loads of new people into our Ministry Centre, holding our Grand Opening, running Good News Week on site, and hosting our largest Life and Connect series ever.

We give thanks for the success of our Grand Opening and 18th birthday celebration which was held the weekend before COVID-19 sent us all into lockdown.

COVID-19 restrictions forced us to pivot in our activities, but by God's grace people were still introduced to Jesus and called to repent. We ran Life and a newcomer lunch over Zoom and baptised two people. Perhaps surprisingly, over the year the number of people attending Life was up by 43% over 2019's numbers! Our series was run by a consistent team throughout the year, enabling follow-up of participants and improving the series as we went.

Good News Week is our flagship Engaging event and after a hard year of planning, GNW21 was sadly cancelled at the last minute due to COVID-19 restrictions. The teams' efforts to make the best of a tough situation were encouraging and the leaders of the kids programs still benefited from ministry training provided during the week the program would have run.



Our livestream efforts also enabled many friends and family who don't normally attend church to 'visit' us and we pray that God will work through the word that has gone out in that way.

A major milestone was the recruitment of Geoff Cuschieri to the role of Engaging and Serving Pastor. We welcome the whole Cuschieri family to The Lakes and look forward to the energy and experience that Geoff will bring to this foundational area of church life.

2021 GOALS

We're looking forward to mobilising our growing Life team to lovingly and persuasively speak the gospel into even more lives than last year. We're praying both our Easter and summer baptisms go ahead and especially want to encourage our youth to be baptised.

Thomas
McConaghey



Geoff & Robyn Cuschieri



Connect

2020 HIGHLIGHTS & CHALLENGES

Moving into the Ministry Centre at the beginning of 2020 brought a wave of new attenders to The Lakes. We ran regular newcomers welcome events and kicked off our Connect series early in the year.

Jesus said that people would be able to identify us as his disciples by our love for one another and as opportunities to gather were restricted by COVID-19, our community needed to rally to support one another in creative ways. People loved seeing photos and videos of one another on our livestream gatherings, and the Helping Hands team kicked into overdrive to manage a food bank and make sure no-one 'fell through the cracks' during a time when it would be easy to fall out of contact. The work of the Spirit amongst our community was clearly visible during these trying times.

New people continued to come and join us throughout 2020. In July we were one of the first churches to resume Sunday gatherings and week after week new people joined us. In early 2021, 19% of our Sunday attendance is made up of people who joined us in 2020.

Thirty seven people attended a Connect series in 2020 and it has been a pleasure to watch people get to know others and start to feel at home at The Lakes.

“

Thank you for all your work to make us feel connected and welcome at The Lakes. Your friendly chats and interest in our lives and our growth have been greatly appreciated.”

(Juli Groves)



2021 GOALS

Our Welcome and Check-in teams work hard every week to make people feel welcome and find their way, despite the sometimes daunting appearance of face-masks and social distancing. We pray that these teams will continue to joyfully serve in this way. When new people join us, we want to make it as easy as possible for them to meet people, get to know our church and grow in faith and maturity. We're always aiming to improve people's experience of being 'new' at church. We have reviewed the timing of our courses and events to create a smooth 'pathway' into our church community. We pray that the influence of COVID-19 would diminish and that during this year we will be able to return to our fuller gatherings to sing God's praises together in community.

Thomas
McConaghey



Thomas & Laura McConaghey



GROW

“*I love being part of the music team, but a huge COVID-19 challenge has been the Livestream. It is daunting to be in such a ‘performing’ role each week but I remind myself to put my fears aside to serve God’s people - ‘Yet not I, but through Christ in me.’”*

Anonymous

2020 CHALLENGES & HIGHLIGHTS

Our normal structures enabling gathering together as a church were thrown into disarray with COVID-19. During March 2020, in the space of a week, we went from uncapped, to a hundred person cap, to no gatherings at all.

A small team scrambled to collect what equipment they had, transforming the Ministry Centre into a small broadcast hub. This was a blessing as unlike many churches, we were enabled to do church ‘live’ online immediately. Although we were all isolated in our homes, we still participated together in the one shared experience of praising and hearing from God. Singers, musicians, MCs, and preachers all had to step outside their comfort zone with cameras zooming up close. Critical to this moment was a group of key leaders who had to work fast and tirelessly to bring about church online for us all each Sunday. COVID-19 worries and restrictions reduced teams down to a bare few members.

Let’s pause to thank God together for the provision of expertise, equipment, and generous time given by Geoff Nott, Conrad Smith, James Peterson and Kirsten Pratt. All led very small teams through the emotions and chaos, bringing church to us each week.

In the tumble, we’ve seen God work and bless The Lakes. We reached people we



Tim & Deb Lynn

previously hadn't. We've now added livestream technology into our everyday abilities. We've purchased audio-visual equipment.

The biggest blessing? God underlined for us how special and important meeting together is. The contrast has renewed our appreciation for how merely turning up to gather displays to us personally, as a group, and to the world, that God is on the throne; he's calling people; and we are responding with the public statement that we believe that Jesus is Lord of the world!

2021 GOALS

Through research conducted by Reach Australia, we've identified that our growing church needs to prioritise Growth Groups as a key investment. For people to find a home within our church, build friendships, and receive pastoral care, we need Growth Groups ready to welcome them in. We've begun investing into multiplying leaders and groups anticipating significant growth this year.

This year we introduce a new purpose area. The former purpose area *Grow* will be split into *Grow Deep* and *Grow Godward*. *Grow Deep* continues to invest in encouraging us to put deep roots into God's word as our foundation (Growth Groups, PTC, discipleship courses etc). *Grow Godward* recognises that God's grace is not without effect (1 Cor. 15:10). God causes us to cultivate a life where we experience being Christ-centred and Spirit-filled. We pray, we gather, we praise, we sing, we testify to God's work in our lives. We don't just know the things of God but our deepest affections find their highest enjoyment in him and seek to glorify him forever (1 Cor. 6:20; Rom. 12:1).

Tim Lynn



Serve

2020 CHALLENGES & HIGHLIGHTS

Every single ministry of The Lakes was drastically affected by COVID-19. Some ministries went into hibernation. Ministries which continued found their teams were reduced to a skeleton crew as team members' personal circumstances prevented them from participating and many have still not come back to church.

With very small teams, additional and constantly changing restrictions, and along with the heightened emotions and concerns of everyone, the 'basics' of ministry became complex. I want to thank God for our team leaders. We saw godly sacrificial leadership during this time, people going the extra mile to find creative ways to keep core ministries in motion. Often the only solution was for them to step in and carry it all. We've seen them do this while seeking to be pastoral to those within their teams.

As restrictions have eased, ministry teams have expanded, some returning to normal, but others still struggling to form a team. Our current challenge is to make the most of every opportunity to make disciples and make deeper disciples. It is us together, as Jesus' disciples, who are tasked with this privilege. We need the energy and wisdom from God's Spirit to enable us all to have self-sacrificial love and together seek to leave no one behind. Please be praying for this.

“

Demands upon volunteers during the COVID-19 period have been demanding, with constantly changing needs. We recognise the willing support by many regulars who stepped up to assist during this period.”

Lee Beaman – Sunday Logistics Team Leader



God has worked through these challenges. He's brought clarity to make sure we are a church keeping the main things the main things. He's highlighted that we are indeed the 'body' of Christ. It takes every person playing their part in building up others to unity and fullness of Christ.

2021 GOALS

Our team leadership development has come out of its COVID-19 pause. Our 2020 strategy to intentionally raise up and equip leaders is back in motion. Likewise, we've strengthened aspects of our pathway, enabling people to find a place to offer their gifts and serve within a ministry team. More than ever, we appreciate that these initiatives are needed to bring about stronger, more robust teams; teams that find joy in serving the Lord together in making disciples and making deeper disciples.



Tim Legan



Kids

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Connections during COVID-19

Despite not being able to connect physically during the middle of the year, our children were still able to connect with one another and pray together over zoom after the service. We also ran SaltLite online for a term where children engaged with one another and heard from God’s word. It was great to explore the unchanging nature of God in our ever-changing world.

New lesson material

On a Sunday morning, our children have been learning about the same Bible passages in kids church as the Sunday service. This has provided a richness of opportunities for families to be talking and praying about what is learnt in church.

“ *I was a little nervous about the girls being in a new environment, but they loved [Kids Church] this morning. I think we can call The Lakes our home church.*” **Newcomer**

2021 GOALS

In 2021 we pray:

- that we will continue to grow gospel centred partnerships with parents as we minister to the kids in our care;
- that families from our community will connect in from engaging events to kids church;
- that we would see fruit from children growing spiritually in their knowledge and love of Jesus and relationally with one another.



Mel Clement

In 2021 we welcome the addition of Mel Clement as the Children's Ministry Coordinator. We're excited to see the way in which God will grow this ministry through her leadership!



Youth

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- We loved moving into the Ministry Centre and beginning to utilise that space in various ways for the growth of our youth ministry. We've spent less time on logistics and more time with the kids – challenging and encouraging them to love Jesus more and more.
- It was fantastic that we were still able to 'meet' during lockdown via Zoom and other online means.
- We were encouraged to see our youth flock back once restrictions began to ease. It took us a while to reestablish connections and rapport but by term 4, it really began to feel like youth again!
- The persistence of our leaders who served faithfully throughout COVID-19 restrictions displayed their love for Christ, and for the youth in our church and wider community.



Pete & Sonya Cheng

2021 GOALS

- Grow deep disciples of Jesus by ensuring Growth Groups become a focus and priority.
- Create a growing and sustainable leadership model.
- Ensure the purposes of church are being applied to the youth context, with key individuals heading up those roles.

Pete Cheng



SRE

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Scripture in our local primary and high schools continues to be an amazing opportunity to share the good news of Jesus with such a large number of students who otherwise have very limited contact with Christians or the gospel.
- We have a highly committed group of teachers who give themselves wholeheartedly for the cause of Christ.
- We were thankful for the opportunity to keep running SRE post COVID-19 when most other extra-curricular activities were shut down.

“

What a great opportunity to share Jesus with the kids in our community. I'd love others to join us too!” **SRE teacher**



2020 CHALLENGES

A significant challenge is that an increasing number of students are choosing not to opt into SRE classes.

2021 GOALS

In 2021, God willing we plan to:

- partner with other key stakeholders to grow the ministry;
- continue to recruit and train up a new generation of teachers;
- continue to make the most of the outreach opportunities in schools.

Fete Cheng

“When I first came to The Lakes, the thing that struck me was just how welcoming everyone was. Everyone was so approachable, even the pastors themselves.” **The Lakes Survey**



Young Adults

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- We are loving the vibe and mood that the Ministry Centre allows us to build.
- A strong welcoming culture has led to newcomers being warmly received.
- Church@5 has evolved to become a more diverse and broad group. It's been a joy to see youth, young adults and more mature adults come together to honour our Heavenly Father.
- One challenge imposed on us by COVID-19 has been the inability to meet and gather and connect with one another as we would like.

2021 GOALS

Throughout 2021 the young adults desire to:

- establish avenues where young adults can connect with one another and encourage each other in Christ. COVID-19 has made this very difficult;
- ensure youth and young adults are well connected into the life of our church;
- raise up new Growth Group leaders to ensure this vital area of church life is well resourced.



Felix Cheng



Men

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Men's Weekend Away

2020 started really well with a record number of men and kids (98 in all) attending the Men's Weekend Away at Tahlee. We had the privilege of hearing from our new FIEC National Director and great Christian author and speaker, Al Stewart, about what it is to be a Real Man according to God's purpose.



I love The Lakes Men's Ministry events and so does my wife. She thinks I come home a better and more godly husband, father and man after getting together with the blokes of The Lakes." Anonymous

2021 GOALS

- To run a variety of events providing opportunities to invite others to hear God's word in a non-threatening way.
- To build up, strengthen and connect all the men of The Lakes by meeting together and hearing God's word taught.
- To continue to grow and strengthen the mentoring program which connects those more mature in Christ with other men, so that "doing life together" may build a deeper love of Christ and a fuller understanding of being a Christian man.

Basecamp

Basecamp was different this year, with social distancing, masks and watching via livestream. However we were blessed to be in the Ministry Centre so we could still meet together to hear God's word and grow as Christian men.

Men's breakfast

While most of our events were cancelled, as restrictions eased we took the opportunity to have a men's breakfast with legendary bacon, sausage and egg rolls while hearing from our own Steve House. This was our first opportunity in 2020 to have an event where we could invite non-Christians to hear the gospel.

Andrew Stephens



Women

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Despite restrictions, changes and uncertainty, one way or another, women regularly met together around God's word to encourage each other to be faithful, godly and loving.

Our GNW Ladies night in 2020 and Women's Encouragement Breakfast were encouraging and enjoyable successes, but unfortunately all other events were cancelled due to COVID-19.



While we were unable to fellowship at our usual events during 2020, the women's Growth Group I belong to became even more important as a source of support, encouragement and growth. We were able to keep meeting via Zoom and not feel so alone or disconnected. I love my group." Marnie Hanlon

2021 GOALS

We aim to hold women's events in 2021 however possible, to provide opportunities for women of The Lakes to enjoy meeting together, to encourage one another and grow together. We'd also like to invite others to connect with us and hear the good news. We're eager to make the most of our own venue with women's Growth Groups and Junior Jivers having space to thrive and meet regularly together.



Ruth Sheath



2020 HIGHLIGHTS & CHALLENGES

In 2020, our core group increased by 12% to 146, despite the disruption of COVID-19. Our events are a great opportunity for us to connect with each other and also invite friends and neighbours into a relaxed environment. It's great to see many younger seniors in our church joining us. One highlight for the year was our Seniors Christmas Afternoon Tea, which was enjoyed by over 30 seniors and friends.

We are encouraged by our seniors' ministry in school scripture, nursing homes, retirement villages and church ministries (such as GNW and Helping Hands). This year a Growth Group was also established in Glengara Retirement Village.



2021 GOALS

- A new visitation initiative to provide company, friendship and prayer in seniors' own homes.
- A Seniors Day where we hope to be encouraged by God's word, prayer, some good old hymn singing and then pampered with a delicious lunch.
- Recommence a church service in Glengara Retirement Village (and Berkeley Village later in the year), mature Christians willing to lead these services and a team to support this initiative.
- Additional Growth Group leaders to increase the number of groups and allow for smaller, more intimate group sizes.

Russ Winder

“PTC New Testament 1 helps us understand the big picture of the Gospel of Mark. Everyone should come!” PTC participant

提摩太牧师的课程《新约一 马可福音》太棒了，讲解非常清晰易懂，帮助我们认识《马可福音》的整体。真希望每个人都来听课！”



2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Connecting & growing during COVID-19

God brought seven newcomers to Sunday services during this difficult time. Two of them are interested in the Chinese (Cantonese) Life series and Growth Group. God also gave tremendous strength, wisdom and patience to our Chinese brothers and sisters who have little IT experience to learn Zoom and join online prayer meetings and Bible studies.

PTC New Testament 1

Last year about 15 brothers and sisters purchased the textbook PTC New Testament 1 in Chinese and started the course with Tim Lynn and translators. Six people were able to continue and finish the course during COVID-19.

2021 GOALS

In 2021, God willing we plan to:

- Make pathway courses in Chinese available throughout the year;
- Raise up and equip six leaders to support pathway courses and core ministries.



Susie Schubert

Susie Schubert



Missions

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Our desire is for everyone to know Jesus and we actively partner with Christians around the world to help that become a reality. The need to livestream our gatherings in 2020 gave us the unexpected opportunity to hear from each of our mission partners via video-conferencing. Jeremy and Miri, as well as Matt and Lisa Pearson encouraged us and we partnered in prayer for them and their regions.

We also had the great blessing of having Norm and Janelle Gorrie regularly gathering with us for around six months. They inspired and built up whoever they met with, and in November 2020 we held a commissioning event to send them back to Kenya, hosting representatives from seven partner churches around NSW. We grew a strong sense of partnership with Norm and Janelle which we hope will spur us on to encourage, support and pray for them regularly.

We also continued to partner with Compassion, our church community remaining committed to significant financial contributions to their work. We look forward to a visit and an update on their work in 2021.

By God's grace and through the generosity he gives to his children, we were able to keep all of our financial commitments to supporting these mission partners.



2021 GOALS

We pray that under God we will maintain and strengthen our connection with all our mission partners. We consider these relationships to be real partnerships, and we'll continue to support, encourage and contribute to these ministries through prayer and the sharing of resources.

Thomas
McConaghey



MTS

At The Lakes we feel the joy and responsibility of raising up the next generation of gospel leaders. We're committed to creating a pathway of leadership to mature young leaders in Christian character, competency and conviction. A key part of this pathway is the Ministry Training Strategy (MTS), a full-time ministry apprenticeship.

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

In her third and final year of MTS, Mel Clement was instrumental in overseeing our Children’s and Youth Ministries as they transitioned to online formats due to COVID-19. Among other ministries, Mel faced the challenge of leading and preparing the Good News Week Children’s and Youth Team and then making the most of the opportunity for training time when GNW had to be cancelled. Mel continued part-time theological study with Moore College and as part of MTS received training, coaching, support and supervision.

Through advertising and interviewing we employed two new full-time MTS Trainees who started at the beginning of 2021, Erin Roberts and Joel Fletcher.



Joel Fletcher



Erin Roberts

2021 GOALS

We want to strengthen our training and coaching for those considering MTS in the future.

We want to increase our capacity to train people for ministry by growing the “MTS future fund”.

Fete Cheng



FIEC

Our denomination

Beyond The Lakes, we have continued our commitment to fostering and supporting church planting throughout Australia. Our church is part of a small but growing denomination called the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC). I am part of the Executive of FIEC. We now have 49 member churches across Australia and we continue to see new churches added each year.

Our church continues to financially support FIEC in two ways: giving to support the national office and giving to new churches as the need and opportunity arises. In 2020 Al Stewart was appointed National Director and he is making a big difference to our network in his vision, energy, experience and spiritual leadership. It was a blessing to have Al join us for our Men's Weekend Away last year.

“We had a fantastic week at our FIEC Conference... I feel very blessed to be in fellowship with brothers and sisters working in church planting across the country.” **Mike Plaege**

Reach Australia

Reach Australia is an umbrella organisation which has the goal to raise up and equip church leaders and churches throughout Australia to better reach our nation. This is an excellent initiative and The Lakes staff team are excited to be learning and engaging with this network of churches and church leaders.

During 2020, I joined a cohort of pastors to learn about leadership. Andrew Heard from EV Church is my coach and I have greatly appreciated our regular sessions together. Reach Australia also conducted a thorough evaluation of our church and will soon give us a report with recommendations. The bottom line is that our church is healthy, but we have identified ways we can improve and



Al Stewart

transform our ministries as we seek to make and grow disciples in our region. The Lakes' leadership is committed to thoughtfully working through these recommendations in the year ahead.

Dave Sheath

It's exciting that we now have a permanent home with greater opportunities to reach out to our local community." Church member



Ministry Centre

2020 PROPERTY MANAGER REPORT

What a blessing the Ministry Centre has been over the 14 months since we took up occupancy. Our goal has been for the Ministry Centre to become "a place to gather and to grow." To that end, in so many ways, we have been busy and diligent in ensuring that the property works for us. Additionally, we want to enable the Ministry Centre to be used effectively for ministries to flourish and for the office building to be comfortable, safe and suitable for staff.

When we took up occupancy of the Ministry Centre in November 2019, a number of projects were in progress and required completion. Others required planning and completion. Additionally, a number of items required Pluim Construction's attention and rectification. We also needed to set up teams who would maintain the property.

Pluim construction warranty

We have worked with Pluim to resolve building issues that were identified at building occupancy and issues that were not evident at time of handover. Most issues have now been resolved. Pluim will continue to provide ongoing support when required.



Projects completed

- **Cabinetry:** cabinets installed in Upper Room, Upper Hall, Main Hall Store Room and Stage Access Store Room.
- **Rear walls of Main Hall:** sound treatment of walls.
- **Entry area beautification:** plans being prepared.
- **Gravel car parking area:** barriers installed that clearly indicate the extent of the car park in this area.
- **Upper Hall ventilation:** three reverse cycle air conditioners installed.
- **Grass area:** top dressed in October and turf laid in December to complete the grassed area. Two flood lights installed.

2021 Projects

- Investigate and implement, if appropriate, measures to reduce noise in the café and undercover area.
- Develop plans and implement formal children's play area at the Wyong Road end of the building.
- Complete plans and implement beautification of entry area.
- Install wall shelving in a number of the store rooms.
- Develop plans and implement expanded storage in Main Hall Store Room.
- Develop plans and implement refurbishment of the Office Building to accommodate staff and construction of private offices.

Car park landscaping

Under the leadership of Ray Lowe, a garden club has been established whose focus is to enhance the presentation of the car park area and to maintain the landscaping.

Bookings

Rentals included three weddings, Generocity Church two-day conference and Lighthouse Church training days. We've also had three regular hirings for a couple of hours at a time and individual room bookings have been approximately 120 per month.



General maintenance

A facility of this size requires regular systematic cleaning, special cleaning, pest treatment, grass mowing, weeding, plant watering, planting of new plants and ad hoc repairs.

Appreciation

Thank you to the many volunteers, especially our three cleaning teams, who make themselves available on a regular basis to ensure the property is well maintained, clean and well presented. Special thanks to Rod Smart for his technical advice and practical assistance; Ray Lowe for his dedication to maintaining the grounds over a number of years; Paul Edwards for being the contact person with Pluim and providing advice and guidance; and Geoff Nott for his technical expertise and practical skills relating to audio visual equipment and lighting.

John Watson

AV INFRASTRUCTURE

COVID-19 brought sudden and unexpected challenges to the audio visual aspects of church and required a speedy ramp up of equipment and expertise to facilitate livestreaming. Cameras, computers and switching equipment was all loaned in the short term and later purchased to allow a seamless transition from a live to a virtual congregation. Fortunately, the pandemic also provided key personnel plenty of extra time to run cabling and configure the necessary gear!

With over 30,000 views on YouTube during the lockdown, the livestream also gave us the opportunity to spread God's word further afield than our regular congregation and we are confident this has been a blessing for many people.

Moving forward we have plans to continue both the English and Mandarin livestreams using the new equipment and a growing team of trained operators. This will also offer a broader range of technical capabilities to other users of the space.

We have been blessed to have people with expertise and commitment to ensure an extremely professional installation and operation which is there for "all to see and hear" via livestream. Our enhanced capability adds to our ability to attract future hirers of our Ministry Centre.



CAFE & KITCHEN

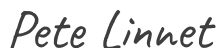
The café is a wonderful part of our Ministry Centre and like all things had its challenges in 2020. COVID-19 created stop/start issues as restrictions came and went. Throughout much of 2020 we only had around ten regular volunteers serving in this ministry which became a stretch. A big thank you to those people.

Serving quality espresso coffees, milkshakes and other drinks at very affordable prices, the café has been well received by many. It is a great meeting place through the week and is being utilised by Lakes Youth on Friday evenings as well as Sunday services and other events.

A new floor behind the serving counter, stainless steel doors to the benches, and an LCD Screen have been great improvements. We look forward to welcoming new recruits in 2021 and extending the food menu once COVID-19 issues settle down.

Our kitchen is an awesome facility which has been of great benefit for catering during the Life and Connect series, two weddings and other smaller events.

Nearly 60 people have done the Safe Food Handling course with around 20% also completing our Kitchen Induction. Throughout 2021 we will be looking to better equip the kitchen with smaller items and improve our storage systems.





COVID-19 REPORT

Since the occurrence of the first COVID-19 case recorded in Australia on 25 January 2020, our operations in all areas at The Lakes have been vastly different from normal. Along with all businesses in Australia we have been required to reduce risk and implement plans to cater for COVID-19 issues within our church community. These include all our worship services and activities undertaken as a part of The Lakes operations.

The Lakes Church has a COVID-19 Management team consisting of Allan Asher, John Watson and Owen McKay. This team monitors conditions and government orders and their interpretation to develop protocols to ensure we comply with these orders. We receive additional advice from several other sources such as the Sydney Anglicans and the Baptist Union.

Our Sunday services have a COVID-19 Safety Plan registered with the government and we are a registered COVID-Safe business. All our other events are also required to complete and register a separate and specific COVID-19 Safety Plan which is an ongoing undertaking.

The biggest challenge, apart from keeping up to date with ever changing government health orders and the production of COVID-19 Safety Plans, has been to comply with the directions contained within them and still maintain our services as close to normal as possible.

One of the most difficult restrictions was not being allowed to sing in services, even with masks on. Other challenges included:

- physical distancing and spacing
- room capacities
- sanitising and cleaning
- hygiene
- attendance recording
- mask wearing
- reduced on-stage personnel
- Growth Group number restrictions
- modifying activities such as offering collection, morning tea and Lord's Supper



The variation in numbers permitted at the Ministry Centre has been an ongoing issue for the running of our services, resulting in plans changing almost on a weekly basis. However, with the assistance of many volunteers and the cooperation of our members and guests we have been able to continue running our services for most of the year. We even managed four Sunday services for a few weeks to cater for growing attendance during a time of heavily capped numbers.

There were several months when we were unable to have on-site services but with the dedication and commitment of our livestream team we produced virtual services through YouTube. We have continued to produce our livestream in both English and Mandarin to enable people to join us from home each week.

We'd like to thank our members and guests for helping us comply with government restrictions, even though it has been frustrating at times. Our compliance has enabled people to feel safe to attend our



services in person and we believe the importance of this has been worth every inconvenience and extra effort.

Lastly, we give God thanks and praise for our amazing livestream team who have faithfully, often under difficult conditions, produced a high-level service each week for those unable to attend physically. Well done team.

Hopefully 2021 will be a better and less restrictive year for all of us.

Owen McK



Treasurer's Report

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

God continues to be faithful! It has been another year to give praise to God for the financial blessings he has given our church.

Generous giving

Over the course of the year our overall income reduced by \$270,236, primarily due to the ceasing of large contributions to the Building Fund. General giving, despite COVID-19, did increase by \$29,019. Government assistance to the value of \$235,100 was also received.

Total expenditure increased by \$154,682 mainly due to increased employment expenses, loan interest charges and depreciation. General Giving was an average of \$49,316 per month, not quite meeting the budget of \$53,302. However, our overall shortfall was assisted by the receipt of Jobkeeper and other initiatives along with a reduction in our expenditure as a result of restricted activities under our COVID-19 Safety Plan.

The result for the year in our 'operating level' (ie excluding missions, building fund and church departments) was a surplus of \$297,086.

Building fund

Pledges to the Building Fund dropped off during the year from an average of \$28,539 per month earlier in the year to just \$21,512 in December which did not cover our loan repayments. At the beginning of April 2020 the Ministry Centre loan was fully drawn at \$3.850M. On 31 December 2020 the balance was reduced to \$3.755M. The loan balance has been reduced by \$95,000 in nine months!

2021 GOALS

Responding to growth

2021 will be a challenging year. In recent years our key focus from a financial perspective, has been on the building and fit out of the Ministry Centre, while from a ministry perspective we have continued to focus on our vision of making and growing disciples in our region. God has continued to bless us with increasing numbers year by year.

While welcome, this growth has increased the pressure on our pastoral team which has not expanded for some time. In 2021 we've sought to alleviate some of that pressure by increasing our staff capacity to better sustain the growing ministry responsibilities that now exist. Consequently, staff numbers have grown from ten (equalling seven full time staff) to thirteen (equalling 9.4 full time staff).

This year will also see us paying the first complete year of loan repayments on the full amount of the loan, along with all the operating costs of the Ministry Centre.



In seeking to meet these challenges we have established a budget for 2021 of \$61,510 per month which will require a monthly increase in our general giving of \$12,404 when compared with the actual result for 2020. This represents an increase of 25%. Fortunately, the JobKeeper support we received in 2020 and will also receive for the first quarter of 2021 will assist with this large increase for the early part of this year and allow us to ramp up to this new level. In addition to the commitment of our current members, the Admin Committee believe the increase in new people joining us in fellowship over recent months will allow us to achieve this target over 2021.

As with all of our budgets, acceptance of the 2021 Budget includes a call to action: for each of us to prayerfully review our regular giving and to update Direct Deposit instructions or cash giving to a new increased amount as we are able.

Ministry Centre

Our final payment to Plum Construction will be paid in March 2021 which will finalise the construction of the Ministry Centre. There is a possibility for a claim of around \$11,000, associated with further work on the Electrical Sub-station, but at this stage is not definite.

Monthly pledges

It will be critical to the success of our General Budget that during 2021 we are able to take our monthly pledge commitments back up to \$26,000.

Loan offset

We have continued to grow the Loan Offset account with a combination of member loans and surplus funds and our accumulated balance of \$1,335,000 is helping to reduce our interest charges.

Maurice Wighton.



Admin Committee

Willing service

The Admin Committee is charged with the responsibility of managing the financial affairs and property matters on behalf of members of The Lakes. The Committee is chaired by Senior Pastor Dave Sheath, and its members include Lois Asher, Michael Lowbridge (Secretary), Greg Mason and Maurice Wrightson (Treasurer). The Committee meet on a monthly basis to pray, review a number of tabled reports and consider a range of other matters that support The Lakes operations. Each member considers it a privilege to serve our church community in this way and value your prayers as we seek his wisdom in managing the resources that he has provided in a way that does not distract from our primary purpose of serving our Lord and Saviour.

Pivot for COVID-19

The impact of a global pandemic was not something that the Admin Committee had foreseen or planned for. However, we were blessed yet again by a demonstration of resilience and sacrificial giving of time, expertise and finances by members of The Lakes. While many contributed, it is appropriate to highlight in particular the contribution of Geoff Nott and the AV team, without which we could not have livestreamed our services; John Watson and the Property team who faithfully served us by cleaning and completing a myriad of other tasks; Owen McKay, Allan Asher and the COVID-19 Committee, who provided guidance and an interpretation of the ever-changing rules; and of course our pastoral and office staff team, who served us so faithfully and continued to ensure that the gospel was preached to us and the broader community!

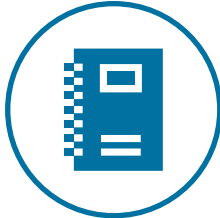
Other objectives

Following on from the governance review in 2019 and initial feedback from the Reach Australia Church audit in 2020 the Committee is continuing to work on the development of a number of new policies and procedures, plus providing support for the Senior Pastor as he leads a growing staff team.

2021 GOALS

While delayed as a consequence of COVID-19, the Committee continue to see a need to modify our legal structure from *incorporated association* to *company limited by guarantee* and will continue planning for this in 2021. It is intended that a proposal will be tabled at an upcoming general meeting.

Michael Lowbridge



AGM Agenda

SUNDAY 28 MARCH, 2021

Welcome/opening remarks: Michael Lowbridge

MOTION 1: that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 31 May 2020 be confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record.

Report on Association's Activities: David Sheath & staff team

MOTION 2: That the Report on Association's Activities be adopted.

Admin Committee Report: Michael Lowbridge and Lois Asher

MOTION 3: Acceptance of the Admin Committee Report.

2020 Financial Report: Maurice Wrightson (audited financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2020)

MOTION 4: That the audited financial statements and Financial Report for the year ending 31 December 2020 be accepted.

2021 Budget: Maurice Wrightson

MOTION 5: Acceptance of the 2021 Budget of the Association.

Admin Committee vacancies: As per clause 24(2) of the Constitution, the term of the following members of the Committee concludes: Michael Lowbridge and Greg Mason.

NOMINATIONS: Michael Lowbridge and Greg Mason.

Selection Panel nominees: The term of current members of the Selection Panel has expired. As per clause 19 of the Constitution the following nominations have been received for consideration.

NOMINATIONS: Darren Box, Steve House, Michael Lowbridge, Darren Milligan and Nathan Stanbridge.

Close in prayer: Greg Mason

Board of Reference notice:

The Board of Reference of external clergy available to be accessed in extenuating circumstances is made up of John Woodhouse, Andrew Heard, Andrew Mitchell, Connan O'Shea and Roger Burgess.



AGM Minutes

SUNDAY 31 MAY 2020

This year the 2019 AGM Minutes, the Pastors' Reports, and the Financial Report and proposed Budget for 2020 were distributed to the partners of the Association in the two weeks leading up to the proposed meeting on 29th March 2020 and were also made available on the church website. Attention was drawn to the two vacancies needing to be filled on the Admin Committee and to the names of nominees being proposed by that Committee. This enabled partners to read the reports, to submit considered questions and also to propose any further Admin Committee nominees either prior to or at the meeting. Subsequently, due to lockdown associated with COVID-19, it was decided to hold the AGM via Zoom to facilitate the business of the Association.

Senior pastor Dave Sheath opened the Zoom meeting in prayer at 11.00am. The meeting was chaired by Michael Lowbridge who welcomed partners and confirmed that there was a quorum of partners participating in the meeting. Counting for voting was streamlined by calling for any wishing to abstain from voting and any who disagreed with the motion to indicate by show of hands. Three methods for questions were offered: chat window, text message and unmute.

Motion 1: Acceptance of the Minutes from previous Annual General Meeting held on 31 March 2019

The Chairman moved acceptance of the Minutes of the 2019 AGM which was carried.

Report on Association's Activities

Senior Pastor, Dave Sheath introduced the reports reminding us of The Lakes mission encompassed in the parable of the sower. The good news must go out, resulting in a healthy vine, bearing fruit. In church life we have invested in the Ministry Centre aware that it is not the work of the gospel but is a vital support (like a trellis), especially in a society that is clamping down on proclamation of the gospel. Since the last AGM the building has been erected and occupied as a result of the sacrificial giving of finance, time and talents. Dave flagged the prospect of employing another support person to take an organisational role, like a business manager, to relieve him of this increasingly complex task thus freeing him up to pursue gospel ministry for which he is specifically trained. He stressed the importance of raising up the next generation to become gospel workers.

The team leaders' reports were set forth in the 'God Willing 2020' booklet and each leader spoke briefly in relation to their area of responsibility.

Thomas McConaghey – Starting/Engaging/Connecting: This framework offers a clear, consistent pathway. During the year, 23 people were baptised and 36 joined us as Partners. Impacts of the pandemic resulted in physical dis-ability, livestream visibility and caring for one another in innovative ways.

Tim Lynn – Growing/Serving: A fantastic year to date. There has been a transition from rosters into teams, making ministry easier and more focused. The music ministry has been headed by Darren Box but James Peterson has now stepped into this role freeing Darren to focus on Growth Groups. We give thanks for Darren's faithful work in our music ministry. The Ministry Centre has triggered reorientation and even in this time of restriction we are thankful for the facility. Other churches have been unable to stay in schools.

Pete Cheng – Children/Youth/Young Adults: Minimites have been doing well. A good number of non-church kids have been coming along because the teens have been inviting friends. Numbers were up in the first quarter. Our goal is to work closely with parents and guardians. Although isolation has been forced upon us, we have done well remaining connected. Young adults have formed two new Growth Groups.

Motion 2: Acceptance of the report of the Association's activities

The Chairman moved acceptance of the Reports of the Association. Carried.

Continued over...

2020 AGM Minutes continued...

Admin Committee Report

Michael Lowbridge and Lois Asher reported that the Admin Committee is developing new policies.

Michael advised that we are an incorporated association registered with the New South Wales Government. However we are now too big to fit that structure. We need to transfer to something else, possibly a company limited by guarantee, over the next ten months.

Lois advised that we are proactively creating a safe space in line with safe ministries policies and procedures which incorporate training, working with children checks, follow-up of any notification of abuse or neglect. Guidelines for faithfulness in service are adhered to.

Ruth Sheath has been officially employed for the next year for two days a week to train and supervise female leaders, to capitalise on ministry opportunities for women within The Lakes.

Motion 3: Acceptance of the report of the Admin Committee's activities

The Admin Committee Report was accepted.

Financial Report

The Treasurer's Report and the proposed Budget were included in 'God Willing 2020' booklet

Motion 4: Acceptance of the 2019 Financial Report

Maurice moved acceptance of the audited financial statements and Financial Report for the year ending 31st December 2019. Carried.

2020 Budget

Motion 5: Acceptance of the 2020 Budget

Maurice moved acceptance of the 2020 Budget. Carried. The Chairman expressed our thanks to Maurice.

Vacancies on Administration Committee

Nomination of Lois Asher to the Administration Committee

The Chairman proposed that Lois Asher be elected to the Administration Committee. Carried.

Nomination of Maurice Wrightson to the Administration Committee

The Chairman proposed that Maurice Wrightson be elected to the Administration Committee. Carried.

Michael Lowbridge closed the meeting and handed over to Greg Mason for prayer. The meeting closed at 11.30am.

The Lakes Church cares about the gospel and about ensuring the safe and ethical environment for worship, fellowship and Christian growth for all who come into our care.



**Safe
Ministries**

In each of our areas of ministry, staff, leaders and volunteers are trained to understand their responsibilities and are required to commit to the Faithfulness in Service Code of Practice (see web link below).

Incident reporting and referral processes ensure that matters of concern are swiftly and properly addressed.

When someone has reason to believe a person associated with The Lakes Church (including a pastor, staff member or leader) has failed to meet the code, that person may notify any of the following:

- any pastor
- a staff member
- a leader
- one of our Safe Ministries representatives:
Matt Stubbs or Lois Asher

Should a person believe the matter has not been adequately dealt with by the church, he or she can refer the matter to the Board of Reference which is comprised of five highly respected people who are not members of The Lakes Church. Matters can also be referred directly to the Board of Reference if an individual prefers.

Board of Reference

The Board of Reference has the power to mediate a dispute or even call a General Meeting to resolve serious issues including the removal of the Senior Pastor.

The Board of Reference of external clergy available to be accessed in extenuating circumstances is made up of John Woodhouse, Andrew Heard, Andrew Mitchell, Connan O’Shea and Roger Burgess.

For more information:

https://safeministry.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FaithfulnessInService_May-2018.pdf



Admin Committee

Bios

DAVE SHEATH

Dave (married to Ruth) is the founding pastor of The Lakes Church which was planted in 2002. He is a qualified Civil Engineer, having completed a Bachelor of Civil Engineering in 1991.

Dave is engaged in mentoring church planters through the Geneva Push network. He has been the Secretary of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) since its formation more than 19 years ago. He has been the Chairman of the Admin Committee of The Lakes since its inception. He has also been a member of The Lakes Building Committee since its inception.

LOIS ASHER

Lois (married to Allan) has attended The Lakes since 2012. She serves in a range of ministries and alongside her husband Allan has been a Growth Group leader for eight years. Lois has served on the Admin Committee for the past six years and is the Women's Advocate and responsible for the Safe Ministries policies.

Lois's career has mostly been in TAFE teaching and training TAFE teachers. She has also been involved in educational management and policy development within TAFE NSW. Lois has a Bachelor of Arts, Diploma in Education, Diploma of Training and Assessment and Graduate Certificate in Management Communication.

GREG MASON

Greg (married to Jenny) has attended The Lakes since its very first service, 19 years ago.

Greg has led a Growth Group at The Lakes for over ten years, organised church and youth camps, and has served in various other ministries. Greg has been an active member of the Admin Committee for close to four years.

Greg is an Electrical Engineer, having completed a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering in 1991. He has spent 30 years working in power, mining, manufacturing and heavy industry in various locations around the world. Currently he is a Senior Reliability Engineer at ALS Global.



Dave Sheath



Lois Asher



Greg Mason



Maurice Wrightson



Michael Lowbridge

MAURICE WRIGHTSON

Maurice (married to Frances) has attended The Lakes since 2013. Maurice is The Lakes Treasurer and has held this position for three years. From 2015 he headed up the Ministry Centre Building Committee.

Maurice holds a Bachelor of Business Degree as well as a Diploma from the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is currently Chairman of the Australian Post Tel Institute; Independent Director with the Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association; Chairman of Headspace Consortium Gosford/Lake Haven and Correspondence Secretary of the Ourimbah Public School P&C. As part of his Board responsibilities, Maurice chairs a Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, a Property Committee, and sits on two Governance Committees.

MICHAEL LOWBRIDGE

Michael (married to Vicki) is a founding member of The Lakes Church. He has been a member of the Admin Committee for almost eight years over two different terms and since 2019 has served as Secretary. He is actively involved in a range of other ministry activities including the Audio Visual team and a Growth Group.

In his professional capacity, Michael serves as Business Manager and Company Secretary at Green Point Christian College. Previous roles as Science teacher, Head of Department and ICT Director in a number of schools has provided Michael with the opportunity to develop practical experience in leadership and a strong understanding of the governance obligations of Christian organisations.



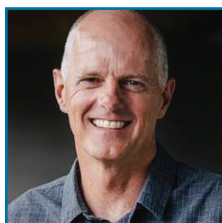
Board of Reference

Bios



ANDREW MITCHELL

Andrew completed studies at Moore College in 1992 and then served in pastoral ministry at Gladesville Anglican Church until 2008. He was appointed to a senior role at Wesley Mission overseeing many social service initiatives. In 2013 he moved to the Central Coast to be Executive Pastor at EV Church, Erina. Prior to Bible college, Andrew held senior executive positions in the insurance and merchant banking industries. Andrew is married to Helen with three sons in their twenties.



ANDREW HEARD

Andrew has been involved in Christian ministry for over 25 years. In 1996, together with his wife Cathie, he established Coast Evangelical Church (now EV Church). In 2005 he was elected the founding President of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC). In 2009 he became a founding Director of Geneva Push. In the last couple of years he has led the founding group of Reach Australia. Andrew and Cathie have four grown children and three grandchildren.



JOHN WOODHOUSE

John served as Principal of Moore Theological College in Sydney from 2002 to 2013. Previously, he worked in pastoral ministry in a suburb of Sydney. He has published articles in various academic journals and is the author of two volumes in Crossway's *Preaching the Word* commentary series. He also pastored Christ Church St Ives (Anglican) for more than 10 years.



CONNAN O'SHEA

Connan is the Senior Pastor of Lighthouse Church on the Central Coast where he has served since 2006. Connan was ordained in the Sydney Diocese of the Anglican Church. He has previously worked as a minister at Richmond Anglican Church and as a Christian staff worker at the University of Western Sydney (Hawkesbury) for three years. Connan has also undertaken a Masters in Theology whilst planting Lighthouse Church. He is married to Belinda and they have three children.



ROGER BURGESS

Roger is married to Carolyn and they have four children. He is in his 15th year of pastoring Maitland Evangelical Church (MEC) and is a member of the Executive of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC). Every year Roger is part of a team from MEC that serves at the Katherine Christian Convention which brings together Indigenous sisters and brothers from 30 remote communities in the Top End.



Financial Report

“*...go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...*”

Matthew 28:19-20



THE CALL TO MAKE DISCIPLES

It's easy to forget that it takes finances to make disciples. Few people get excited about covering the cost of rent, electricity bills, staff wages or office supplies. But these things are a means to an end, the end being the urgent work of making and maturing disciples. It is our bold prayer and confident expectation that God will continue to use the ministry of The Lakes to call men, women and children to himself and to grow his people in their love and knowledge of him. This is the vision we invite our members to give to.

THE LAKES BANK DETAILS

Account Name: The Lakes Online Savings Account

BSB: 704-922

Account Number: 100017667

THE LAKES EVANGELICAL CHURCH INC

2021 BUDGET

(Excludes departmental income/expenses)

	2021 BUDGET
	\$
INCOME	
Giving - AM	686,450
Giving - PM	51,668
Missions Income Overseas	18,600
Missions Income Local	120
Other Giving	362,000
Other Income	5,000
TOTAL INCOME	1,123,838
 EXPENDITURE	
Administration Expenses	17,000
Employment Expenses	694,138
Finance Expenses	294,000
General Expenses	31,200
Ministry Expenses	15,000
Property Expenses	47,000
Mission Disbursements Overseas	24,000
Mission Disbursements Local	1,500
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,123,838
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	-
 GIVING NEEDED	
General giving	738,118
	÷ 12
Monthly giving needed	61,510
 OVERSEAS MISSIONS COMMITMENTS	
CMS/SIM Missions Support	24,000
	24,000

Association Financial Statements

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc

ABN 40 227 130 382

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Prepared by Beda Pty Ltd

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Committee's Report

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc For the year ended 31 December 2020

Committee's Report

Your committee members submit the financial report of The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

Committee Members

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

Committee Member	Position
David Sheath	President
Maurice Wrightson	Treasurer
Michael Lowbridge	Secretary
Greg Mason	Administrator
Lois Asher	Administrator

Principal Activities

The association is established for the principal purpose of conducting the affairs of the church. The mission of the association is: "Building Christ's Church by Proclaiming His Word so that God is Glorified".

Significant Changes

- During the 2020 financial year, the loan from Baptist Financial Services to The Lakes Evangelical Church was completed.
- Government Grants, such as JobKeeper and Cash Flow Boost, provided financial assistance to the Church totaling \$235,100. JobKeeper will continue until March 2021.

Operating Result

The surplus for the financial year amounted to, as per below:

\$307,272

The following are some of the key points from the Financial Reports as at 31 December 2020:

- Total income decreased from \$1,498,569 to 1,228,333, primarily due to the ceasing of large contributions to the Building Fund.
- General giving increased from \$571,953 to \$600,972.
- Giving to the building fund decreased from \$768,313 to \$311,337.
- Total expenses have increased from \$766,379 to \$921,061 mainly due to increases in employment expenses, loan interest charges and depreciation.
- Employee expenses increased from \$515,228 to \$572,172.
- The net surplus for the year was \$307,272

- Cash at bank at the end of the year was \$1,447,444

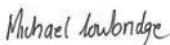
COVID-19

After the outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID - 19 outbreak") in early 2020, a series of precautionary and control measures have been and continue to be implemented to across the world. The Committee has continued to closely monitor and respond to the impact on the financial position of the Church. As at the date on which this set of financial statements were authorised for issue, the Association was not aware of any material adverse effects on the financial statements as a result of the pandemic.

Going Concern

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the association to generate sufficient cashflows from operations to meet its liabilities. The members of the association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on:



Michael Lowbridge (Secretary)

Date 25 / 2 / 2021



Maurice Wrightson (Treasurer)

Date 26 / 02 / 2021

True and Fair Position

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc For the year ended 31 December 2020

Annual Statements Give True and Fair View of Financial Position and Performance of the Association

I, Maurice Wrightson, being a member of the committee of The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc, certify that –

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 31 December 2020

Signed: *M Wrightson*

Dated: 26 / 02 / 2021

Certificate By Members of the Committee

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc For the year ended 31 December 2020

I, Maurice Wrightson, certify that:

1. I attended the annual general meeting of the association held on [/ /].
2. The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

Dated: / /

Auditor's Report

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc For the year ended 31 December 2020

Independent Auditors Report to the members of the Association

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc (the association), which comprises the committee's report, the assets and liabilities statement as at 31 December 2020, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, cash flow statement, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents a true and fair view in all material respects in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW), the financial position of The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc as at 31 December 2020 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW).

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc to meet the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Dan Kruze

Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia

Member Number: 434536

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. A.', followed by a horizontal line.

Beda Chartered Accountants

Dated: 01 / 03 / 2021

Income and Expenditure Statement

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
Income		
Grant Operating	235,100.00	-
General Income	600,972.39	571,953.41
Interest Income	177.26	8,515.09
Missions Income	17,840.20	30,345.70
Designated Giving (MTS Support)	18,829.40	43,029.40
Building Fund Receipts	311,337.41	768,313.00
Fundraising	34,076.84	61,412.02
Genesis Grant Income	10,000.00	15,000.00
Total Income	1,228,333.50	1,498,568.62
Gross Surplus	1,228,333.50	1,498,568.62
Expenditure		
Bank Charges	472.93	1,157.39
Church Expenses	3,752.05	4,710.91
Council Rates	5,594.87	994.40
Depreciation	16,235.45	6,317.84
Electricity & Gas	21,867.02	7,567.78
Employment Expenses	572,172.55	515,228.68
FIEC contributions	4,250.35	6,368.27
General Office Expenses	542.19	2,357.57
Hall Rental	-	29,015.39
Insurances & Licences	22,240.85	19,384.23
Ministry Expenses	5,332.31	7,641.76
Missions Disbursements	27,150.00	32,689.92
Ministry Centre Loan Interest	155,302.21	70,900.28
Other Expenses (GNW, Camps, Departments etc.)	32,813.42	42,677.42
Printing, Postage, Stationery & Computer Costs	16,827.01	15,480.65
Property Maintenance	1,311.23	844.04
Telephone & Internet	1,564.67	3,042.86
Music/Sound/AV/IT Expenses	2,152.59	-
Gas - Ministry Centre	98.41	-
Caretaking/Cleaning Expenses	911.84	-
Ministry Centre Improvement Expenses	12,127.74	-
Low Cost Assets	18,341.42	-
Total Expenditure	921,061.11	766,379.39
Current Year Surplus/ (Deficit) Before Income Tax Adjustments	307,272.39	732,189.23
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit) Before Income Tax	307,272.39	732,189.23
Net Current Year Surplus After Income Tax	307,272.39	732,189.23

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditor's report.

Assets and Liabilities Statement

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc As at 31 December 2020

	NOTES	31 DEC 2020	31 DEC 2019
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	1,447,444.14	800,869.10
GST Receivable	6	-	21,023.00
Total Current Assets		1,447,444.14	821,892.10
Non-Current Assets			
Land and Buildings	3	7,186,529.33	7,099,367.74
Plant & Equipment	4	76,345.19	63,718.97
Total Non-Current Assets		7,262,874.52	7,163,086.71
Total Assets		8,710,318.66	7,984,978.81
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables			
Accounts Payable	5	14,677.20	16,957.75
When God Speaks Conference	5	6,749.18	6,749.18
Employee Entitlements	7	(17,630.71)	15,488.26
ATO Payables	6	11,196.00	-
Total Trade and Other Payables		14,991.67	39,195.19
Total Current Liabilities		14,991.67	39,195.19
Other Current Liabilities			
Loans to offset Ministry Centre loan	8	740,000.00	240,000.00
Ministry Centre Loan (CL)	8	291,552.00	-
Vehicle Loans (CL)	8	7,465.44	-
Total Other Current Liabilities		1,039,017.44	240,000.00
Non-Current Liabilities			
Other Non-Current Liabilities			
Ministry Centre Loan (NCL)	8	3,463,795.12	3,847,941.56
Vehicle Loans (NCL)	8	27,399.98	-
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities		3,491,195.10	3,847,941.56
Total Non-Current Liabilities		3,491,195.10	3,847,941.56
Total Liabilities		4,545,204.21	4,127,136.75
Net Assets		4,165,114.45	3,857,842.06
Member's Funds			
Capital Reserve		4,165,114.45	3,857,842.06
Total Member's Funds		4,165,114.45	3,857,842.06

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditor's report.

Statement of Cash Flows - Direct Method

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
Operating Activities		
Receipts From Grants	235,100.00	-
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(46,073.55)	(46,109.85)
Cash Receipts From Other Operating Activities	993,427.19	1,498,568.62
Cash Payments From Other Operating Activities	(848,247.49)	(723,365.41)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	334,206.15	729,093.36
Investing Activities		
Proceeds From Sales of Property, Plant and Equipment	3,251.32	46,920.41
Payment for Property, Plant and Equipment	(142,289.96)	(5,132,560.49)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(139,038.64)	(5,085,640.08)
Other Activities		
Other Activities	451,407.53	3,978,441.97
Net Cash Flows from Other Activities	451,407.53	3,978,441.97
Net Cash Flows	646,575.04	(378,104.75)
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	800,869.10	1,178,973.85
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	1,447,444.14	800,869.10
Net change in cash for period	646,575.04	(378,104.75)

Movements in Equity

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
Equity		
Opening Balance	3,857,842.06	3,125,652.83
Increases		
Profit for the Period	307,272.39	732,189.23
Total Increases	307,272.39	732,189.23
Total Equity	4,165,114.45	3,857,842.06

Notes to the Financial Statements

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc For the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW). The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

Cash on Hand

Cash on hand includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The building will be carried at cost until complete, where the final claim from the builders will total approximately \$40,000.

Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

The Lakes Evangelical Church Incorporated is a non-profit organisation and exempt from income tax under current legislation.

Income Tax

The Lakes Evangelical Church Incorporated is a non-profit organisation and exempt from income tax under current legislation.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached auditor's report.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

	2020	2019
2. Cash on Hand		
BFS Offset account	1,335,000.00	240,000.00
BFS Online Saving Account	33,827.24	23,295.38
BFS Savings Account	711.02	210.43
ING Account	-	370,196.32
NAB Building Fund Account	18,159.99	38,764.99
NAB General Account	59,565.89	128,401.98
Petty Cash Float	180.00	-
Total Cash on Hand	1,447,444.14	800,869.10
	2020	2019

3. Land and Buildings

Land

Land at Cost	1,193,312.00	1,193,312.00
Total Land	1,193,312.00	1,193,312.00

Buildings

Buildings at Cost	5,993,217.33	5,906,055.74
Total Buildings	5,993,217.33	5,906,055.74

Total Land and Buildings	7,186,529.33	7,099,367.74
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	2020	2019
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4. Plant and Equipment, Motor Vehicles

Plant and Equipment

Plant and Equipment at Cost	93,609.14	72,299.85
Accumulated Depreciation of Plant and Equipment	(17,263.95)	(8,580.88)
Total Plant and Equipment	76,345.19	63,718.97

Total Plant and Equipment, Motor Vehicles	76,345.19	63,718.97
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	2020	2019
5. Trade and Other Payables		
Trade Payables		
Accounts Payable	14,677.20	16,957.75
Total Trade Payables	14,677.20	16,957.75
Other Payables		
When God Speaks Conference	6,749.18	6,749.18
Total Other Payables	6,749.18	6,749.18
Total Trade and Other Payables	21,426.38	23,706.93
	2020	2019

6. ATO Payables

	2020	2019
Tax Payable/(Refundable)		
GST	(628.00)	(25,536.00)
PAYG Withholding Payable	6,627.00	4,513.00
BAS Amendment	5,197.00	-
Total Tax Payable/(Refundable)	11,196.00	(21,023.00)
Total ATO Payables	11,196.00	(21,023.00)
	2020	2019

7. Employee Entitlements

	2020	2019
Superannuation Clearing	12,615.40	12,703.68
MEA & UEA Owing	(30,246.11)	2,784.58
Total Employee Entitlements	(17,630.71)	15,488.26
	2020	2019

8. Loans

	2020	2019
Current Liability		
Loans to offset Ministry Centre loan	740,000.00	240,000.00
Ministry Centre Loan (CL)	291,552.00	-
Loan - VW Amarak (CL)	7,465.44	-
Total Current Liability	1,039,017.44	240,000.00
Non Current Liability		
BFS Loan account	-	3,847,941.56
Ministry Centre Loan (NCL)	3,463,795.12	-
Loan - VW Amarak (NCL)	27,399.98	-
Total Non Current Liability	3,491,195.10	3,847,941.56
Total Loans	4,530,212.54	4,087,941.56

Depreciation Schedule

The Lakes Evangelical Church Inc For the year ended 31 December 2020

NAME	COST	OPENING VALUE	PURCHASES	DISPOSALS	DEPRECIATION	CLOSING VALUE
Office Equipment						
Air Conditioners	1,580.00	955.05	-	847.99	107.06	-
Alarm Installation	800.00	103.47	-	-	103.47	-
AV Equipment	17,195.08	-	17,195.08	-	1,489.30	15,705.78
Computer Networking	3,570.00	3,243.97	-	-	1,190.00	2,053.97
Dell Latitude Computer	4,497.00	2,118.32	-	-	1,504.25	614.07
Dell Touch Screen Monitor	418.18	117.16	-	-	117.16	-
Insulation/Drapes	8,245.91	-	8,245.91	-	237.31	8,008.60
Lakes AV Equipment	2,347.20	2,205.72	-	1,423.32	782.40	-
Laser Projector	8,430.00	7,498.47	-	-	2,810.00	4,688.47
Music Stand	116.36	96.70	-	57.91	38.79	-
NEC Projector	1,266.00	292.80	-	-	292.80	-
Security Installation-Office	4,350.00	-	4,350.00	-	599.02	3,750.98
Shure Wireless Mic	704.55	197.39	-	-	197.39	-
Sony Camera	3,234.55	-	3,234.55	-	35.35	3,199.20
Sound and AV Equipment	3,572.52	-	3,572.52	-	338.71	3,233.81
Speakers	187.20	165.49	-	103.09	62.40	-
Speakers & Cables	877.27	-	-	-	-	-
Total Office Equipment	61,391.82	16,994.54	36,598.06	2,432.31	9,905.41	41,254.88
Plant & Equipment						
Air Conditioning	8,400.00	-	8,400.00	-	75.74	8,324.26
Back Bar Chiller	500.00	496.23	-	433.73	62.50	-
Chairs	16,968.16	16,387.06	-	-	2,121.02	14,266.04
Coffee Machine	1,200.00	1,165.48	-	1,015.48	150.00	-
Conference Table	973.24	930.91	-	809.26	121.65	-
Deep Fryer	2,087.76	2,051.30	-	1,790.33	260.97	-
Dishwasher	1,090.91	1,069.24	-	932.88	136.36	-
Furniture	806.64	771.56	-	670.73	100.83	-
Gas Conversion	227.27	222.83	-	194.42	28.41	-
Glasswasher	979.00	958.21	-	835.84	122.37	-
Joinery Handle	865.80	849.20	-	740.97	108.23	-
Kitchen Equipment	6,122.18	5,845.42	-	-	765.27	5,080.15
Kitchen Fittings	2,331.45	2,268.37	-	1,976.94	291.43	-
Kitchen Supplies - Coffee Area	318.14	313.89	-	274.12	39.77	-
Kitchen Supplies - Ministry Centre	9,023.74	8,547.83	-	-	1,127.97	7,419.86
Kitchen Utensils	1,363.92	1,351.31	-	1,180.82	170.49	-
Plumbing & Electrical Fittings	1,173.12	1,152.63	-	1,005.99	146.64	-
Pumps & Valves	764.05	759.86	-	664.35	95.51	-
Secondhand Stove	200.00	195.62	-	170.62	25.00	-
Supply of cabinets	2,205.03	-	2,205.03	2,002.00	203.03	-
Trueheat Units	863.92	848.83	-	740.84	107.99	-

Depreciation Schedule

NAME	COST	OPENING VALUE	PURCHASES	DISPOSALS	DEPRECIATION	CLOSING VALUE
Wire Shelving Unit	550.91	538.65	-	469.79	68.86	-
Total Plant & Equipment	59,015.24	46,724.43	10,605.03	15,909.11	6,330.04	35,090.31
Total	120,407.06	63,718.97	47,203.09	18,341.42	16,235.45	76,345.19



The Lakes

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