



# 2025 AGM Reports

**Please submit any AGM Motions, Questions or Suggestions and Nominations  
to the Dean by Sunday 16 March 2025  
AGM 8:30am Sunday 23 March 2025  
[lachlan@anglicandnwa.org](mailto:lachlan@anglicandnwa.org)**

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# Dean's Report

2 Timothy 2:2

*The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.*

I continue to be grateful for our threefold missional objectives to 1. Reach others to Christ; 2. Build one another up in Christ; & 3. Live for Christ. These objectives have helped to sharpen our plans for the year. In 2024 our primary mission was to Reach others to Christ. Several ministries and events have focused on this through 2024, and now into the first 6 months of 2025 until we then refocus onto Building each other up in Christ for the following 12 months (July 2025 -June 2026)

## **Key REACH ministries**

### 1. REACH Sermon Series

These were through August and September 2024 and included a) The Great Commission to go! (Matthew 28:1-20); b) Paul's evangelistic efforts into the market place (Acts 17:16-34); c) The beautiful feet of those who bring the good news of the gospel to others (Romans 10:1-21); d) The foolishness of the gospel to the world, yet the power of God to those being saved (1 Cor 1:18-31); e) the call to be ambassadors for Christ (2 Cor 5:1-21); f) being prepared to give an answer for the hope of the gospel (1 Pet 3:13-22). I trust these were both instructive and inspiring to REACH our family, friends, neighbours to Christ.

### 2. Trinity in Town Evangelism Lectures

These 6 lectures, run in August and September 2024, went deeper into the biblical imperative to Reach others to Christ and gave practical ways with real life experiences in sharing the gospel with others.

### 3. Church Camp

We were greatly blessed to have David Mansfield, who has spent a life-time sharing Jesus with others, as our speaker. These talks spurred many on to just jump in and share Jesus with others.

We have decided to continue in the Reach mission until the middle of 2025. This will also incorporate the HOPE25 national Anglican evangelism initiative. We will conduct several events under this banner including stalls at community festivals, Back to Church Sundays, The Mark Drama production, and Hope Explored courses.

## **Staff**

2024 has included some significant staff changes including the arrival of Nathan Hiscock as our first Ministry Apprentice in our Ministry Training Pipeline. Nathan has been a patient and humble Guinee-pig. I am deeply thankful for his jumping in the deep end of ministry and his desire to grow in knowledge and ministry ability during this time. Nathan is still working toward heading to Trinity Theological College in 2026, so I am actively seeking our next apprentice to start next year. A suitable apprentice is anyone who has a desire to serve more effectively in ministry and/or is

considering future vocational ministry. Anyone at any age, at any stage can be an apprentice. Mike Welham has now graduated from the Ministry Training Pipeline to take on his own parish at Carnarvon, and Mal Walker has willingly stepped into the Assistant Ministry role in the MTP. We praise God for Bush Church Aid's willingness to financially assist us in this Minister in Training role. Bec also offered to become a volunteer administrator in term 2, 2024. We are grateful for Bec's ongoing voluntary administrative support of the Cathedral.

### **Ministry Training Pipeline**

I am very thankful to God for his raising up of the financial support for our MTP initiative. Our fundraising will be ongoing as we seek to raise \$40k p.a. for the Apprentice Role plus \$20k p.a. for the theological student role; plus \$80k p.a. for the Curate role (which BCA has agreed to support with \$40k p.a. for two years!)

### **Church Services**

In the middle of the year, we made the hard decision to close down the Sunday 5pm service. 90% of those regularly attending were also attending or able to attend the 10am service. The Sunday 8am and 10am service continue to show signs of theological, numerical and community growth. The 10am service has moved from an average adult attendance of 55 at the beginning of 2024 to an average of 75 at the end of the same year. Children have increased in numbers from around 16 to 30. The 8am service was averaging 31 now closer to 35 each Sunday. This is a fantastic outcome for our REACH initiatives.

### **Bible Studies**

Bible Studies are an important part of being equipped and learning to live as the body of Christ. We have again increased the number of Bible Study groups engaging each week.

- 9am Monday women's study
- 7:30 pm Tuesday mixed study
- 7am Wednesday men's study
- 4pm Wednesday retiree's study
- 6:15am Thursday women's study
- 6pm Thursday mixed study
- 10:45am Friday women's study
- Potential for future families; youth; and young adults' groups.

I am very thankful for our bible study leaders and hosts – keep up the great work!

Bible Study groups seek to be three things: 1. A safe place to dig deep into the bible and apply it to our lives; 2. A place to share and pray for each other; 3. A group to pastorally care for each other.

### **Voluntary Ministry Workers**

We are a family. Brothers and sisters in Christ, who love to build one another up. And like any family we all work at contributing. We have over 80 people who regularly volunteer in various ministries of our church. We simply could not continue to be a vibrant active church without everyone's faithful input. Thank you

## **Parish Council**

Our Parish Council has worked hard this year to keep a close eye on our income and expenses and spent several meetings reviewing the variable weekly offertory amounts and subsequent investigated areas for expenses savings and presented regular monthly reporting to the Sunday congregations.

## **2025**

The Cathedral has a dual role of being both the parish church for Geraldton and the Cathedral of the diocese of North West Australia. While most of what we do is as a parish church, the staff also seek to serve in a greater capacity for the benefit of the entire diocese. There are three particular ways we do this. 1. By hosting diocesan events such as ordinations; 2. By providing resources such as recorded sermon series for churches without ministers; & 3. By providing training particularly through the MTP program.

Finally, it is Bec and my great joy and honour to serve the body of Christ at the Cathedral. We are enjoying the role and are loving developing both pastoral relationships and friendship with you.

Our regular prayer for our Cathedral is, may God build his kingdom through this church.

Lachlan Edwards  
Dean

# Wardens' Report – WHS & Compliance

## **WORKS UNDERTAKEN ON THE CATHEDRAL STRUCTURE SO FAR.**

### **BUSS Stucco Repairs**

Buss Stucco Repairs arrived on site with the appropriate equipment for the checking, testing, and removal, of the current stucco on the Cathedral structure. On the day of their arrival Daryl De Vos and I had a meeting with the Site Manager and the two workers. A very good meeting and very suitable conversation relating to safety.

Over the period of the work, I made sure I visited at least every few days. I just wandered through and said hello and ensured they were working safely. They had the elevated work platform set up at different times and were very safe operators following correct procedures.

At the end of the contract, they had completed multiple checks around the Cathedral, both externally and internally. They repaired the damage we had identified and after checking and covering all the exposed re-bar they concreted them over. The next step will be to put the stucco on. This will take place at a later date. Their checks identified other concrete and stucco damage. These they fixed well and swiftly.

When they carried out the interior works, they did have a dust problem, with the concrete dust covering a wide area. This has all now been cleared away thanks to the good team of volunteers.

*Photos of the works are to be found at the back of this document.*

## **OTHER CONCERNS IDENTIFIED IN AND AROUND THE CATHEDRAL**

### **Carpark Safety**

The surface is not compliant. It is a problem for people to have safe pedestrian access. There needs to be lighting installed for night use. There are limited drains and pipework. This will require fixing soon. There are many potholes around the car park, and some, particularly near the street entry on the south side are quite deep. The same goes for the drive-in section to the northwest of the Cathedral.

Following the Ordination Service on Tuesday 04 March, I noticed the very limited lighting on the ramp outside and down onto the carpark. This became even worse as you move into the carpark on the south of the Cathedral. A suitable answer to this problem would be lighting powered by batteries and Solar Cells.

### **Security/Safety**

There is a need for Cameras and lighting. There are a couple of people who sleep near the Diocesan Office at night. There are also a lot of school students who hide amongst the trees to get out of school.

### **Safe Play Spaces**

These need to be set up outside in a suitable area that is readily accessible and can be safely fenced.

### **Disability Access to Ablutions**

A number of our parishioners are limited in safe and suitable ambulation. Access to the ablutions is somewhat limited if they try to walk around to the Hall. It is not safe or timely for a person who moves in a wheelchair or walker who needs access to the ablutions from inside the Cathedral.

### **Cooling and Heating**

There is a desire to keep the congregation cool in summer and warm in winter. Ideally we should be able to do this without cooling and warming the whole facility. For example, in the room where the Cathedral Minis muster.

### **Water Ingress into the Cathedral**

Near the front entrance, there has been considerable amount of water ingress, through the roof with a steady trickle down the wall, passing through the Light Switch Box. This has caused slight damage to the wall, but more of a concern is how close it is to power switches. The cause of this is the disrepair of the roof.

### **Cathedral Carpet**

This great-loved carpet is reaching the end of its life. We will need to consider a replacement in the not-too-distant future. It will steadily start to become a hazard for those who have walking disabilities.

### **Incidents**

There has only been one incident this year. A member tripped in a hidden hole on the northeast side of the Cathedral. This problem has been fixed and will be monitored, and the person involved has not reported any further action required.

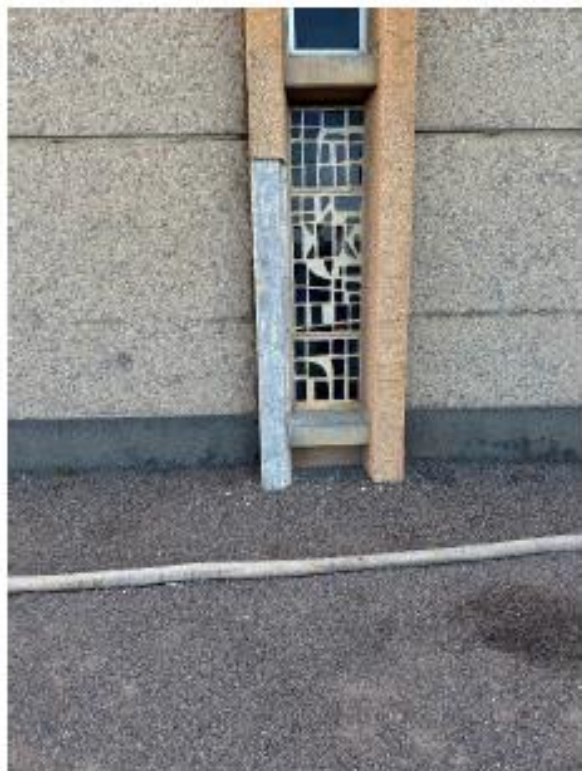
### **Youth Activities**

These are well managed and well run. I thank the people involved and pray they continue to have the fun, knowledge gaining activities they are currently controlling.

Youth are the future of our Church.

Thank you one and all for the support of our much-loved Cathedral.

PHOTOS OF THE WORKS COMPLETED BY BUSS











Yours in Christ

Peter 'Spike' Jones  
Warden | Safety and Compliance  
Phone: 0439 215 772  
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08/03/2025

## Wardens' Report – Property

With grateful hearts, we reflect on a year filled with God's blessings as we, with God's help, focus on functioning well as God's church, spreading the Gospel, and bringing praise to His name. Our Parish Council has worked diligently to ensure that our ministry work remains a priority while also addressing the practical needs of our cathedral, hall, deanery and grounds. First and foremost, we give all glory and thanks to God for His unwavering guidance, provision, and grace throughout the year. It is by His hand that we have been able to come together as a church community to worship, serve, and grow in faith. We are deeply thankful for each member who has helped with cleaning, maintenance and repairs. While our focus on ministry work is unwavering, we also recognize the importance of maintaining and improving our physical spaces to support our activities and provide a safe and welcoming environment for all.

**Concrete Repairs:** This year, one of the major undertakings in partnership with the diocese, has been the concrete repairs to the Cathedral. We are grateful to God for providing the resources and skilled hands to complete this essential work. The progress made has ensured the structural integrity of our building, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed their time, resources, and skills to this project.

**Leaking Roof:** Despite the work that has been completed, the leaking roof continues to be a significant problem that requires urgent attention. We trust in God's provision as the Parish Council actively seeks solutions and funding to address this issue. We appreciate the patience and understanding of our congregation as we work towards a resolution and continue to pray for God's guidance in finding a solution.

**Other Maintenance:** In addition to the major repairs, routine maintenance and improvements have been carried out - in and around the Cathedral, the hall, Deanery and 18a Carson Street (formally the assistant ministers house). The Deanery is now being used to house our assistant minister Malachi Walker and 18a Carson Street is being rented out. A couple of the larger maintenance items we are still working on are the deanery fencing, replacing multiple aircon unit's, carpark repairs and dealing with some trees around the buildings and grounds.

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for God's faithfulness and for the dedication and support of our congregation, volunteers, and staff. Even though the repairs and maintenance needed are significant, by God's providence we are still able to continue in our ministry work. I pray for the continued growth of our church community in the year ahead, always giving thanks and praise to God alone. I ask that we all pray that The Lord will provide wisdom and clarity as to how we move forward to solve some of the larger and long-term maintenance issues with the cathedral and grounds. Let the buildings and grounds not distract us from what it is to be a Church, a gathering of God's people.

### **Colossians 3:16-17**

*16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Daryl de Vos  
Property Warden

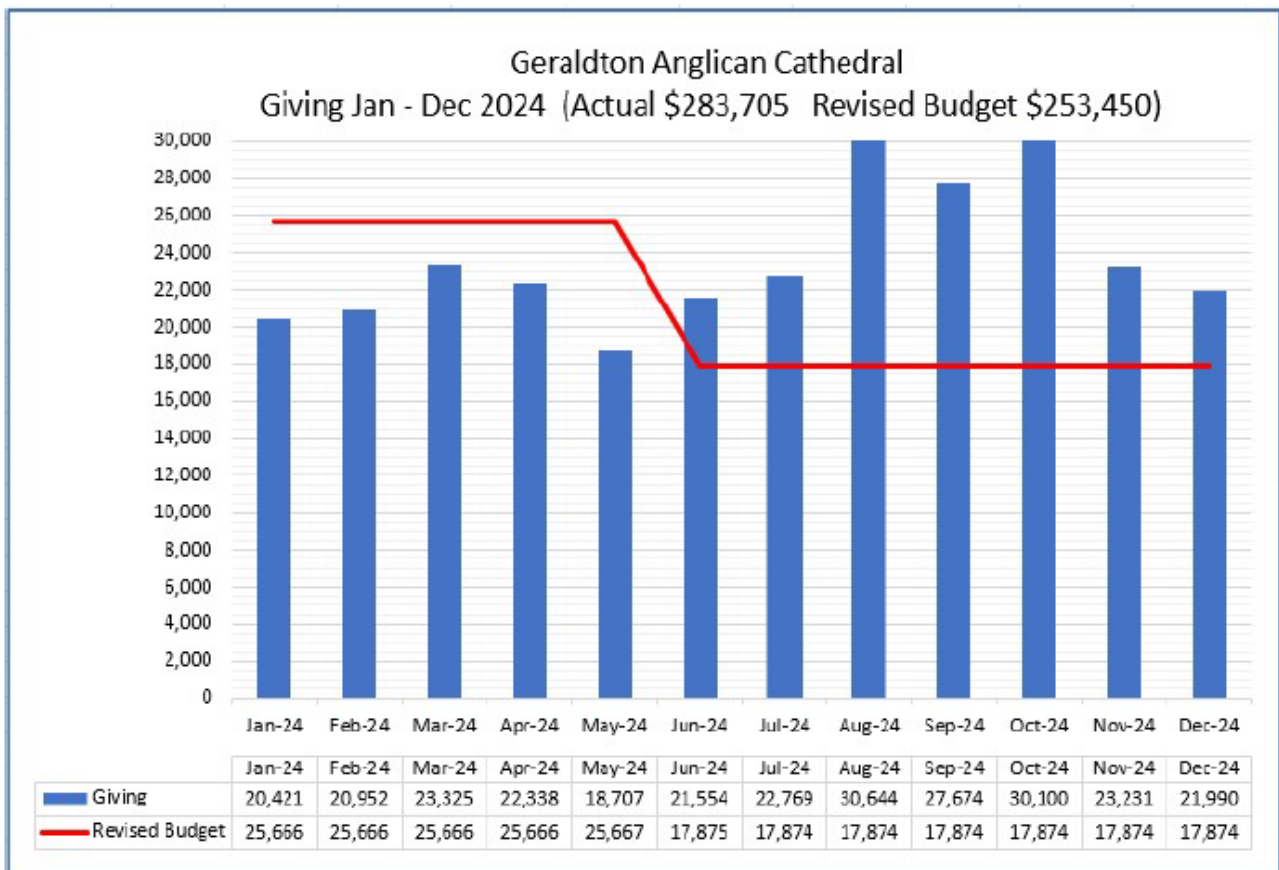
# Treasurer's Report

## Profit and Loss for the year ending 31 December 2024:

The Total giving' budget of \$308,000 was reviewed during May 2024 and adjusted to a Revised giving' budget of \$253,450. The calculation for the revised offering budget (\$253,450) was based on the average giving received for 5 months from Jan to May 2024 (\$105,743).

The Actual 2024 giving received was \$283,705. This was 12% (\$30,255) above the Revised Budget expectation of \$253,450, but still 8% (\$24,295) below the original giving' budget of \$308,000. Please refer to Profit and Loss statement.

Below graph is a summary of the 2024 monthly Actual Giving versus the Revised Budgeted Giving:



Fees and Specific Contributions of \$14,174 consisted mainly out of \$7,000 for ministry training support provided (as per agreement in place), Boys Brigade fees received of \$4,147, Youth group income of \$1,280 (\$1,000 contribution from St Georges Anglican Church) and Other contributions (\$1,747).

The Profit and Loss had a loss at the end of May 2024 of \$21,195 and one of the measures identified and reported by Parish council to counteract the loss and bring the budget back on track, was to reduce the Mission giving of 10% (of Estimated 2023 Giving) to 5% (of Actual 2023 Giving).

Repairs and Maintenance on Cathedral and Grounds of \$2,641 was funded by the Cathedral Repairs and Maintenance fund to ease the cost burden on the 2024 Budget.

The Net Profit of \$21,881 was attributed to Actual giving which exceeded the Revised Budget's expectation and several savings made on actual cost versus the Revised Budget.

Please refer to "Comments" on the Profit and loss for above and further Expense lines' explanations.

**Balance Sheet 31 December 2024:**

The Total Cash balance is \$104,605 and includes the balances of the Funds held in trust of \$34,902. The Accounts Payable, Pass thru and Corporate card balances in total of \$24,295 are also still payable from the cash balance (\$104,605) as at 31 December 2024.

After taking above into consideration, the Net Cash available is \$46,858.

Please note the Cash of \$383,686 for the Funds held in Trust with the Diocese, is as indicated, indeed held by the Diocese and not reflected in the Cathedral's cash balance.

Carina Strydom

# Independent Assurance Practitioner (IAP) Report of 2023 Finances

*W & G Sutton*

Principals: Wayne & Gladys Sutton

PO Box 4  
Three Springs WA 6530  
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## 2023 AUDITORS REPORT

### GERALDTON ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL

#### SCOPE

I have audited the accounting books, comprising electronic (Xero) entries for receipts and expenditure of the Geraldton Anglican Cathedral for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. The Management Committee is responsible for the Special Purpose Financial Statements and has determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the Geraldton Anglican Cathedral. My audit covered the accounts as electronically presented to me by the Treasurer. I have conducted an independent audit of these accounts in order to express an opinion on them to the Geraldton Anglican Cathedral Management Committee (Parish Council). No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, and described in Note 1, are appropriate to the needs of the Geraldton Anglican Cathedral.

I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements to which it relates to any person other than the Geraldton Anglican Cathedral, or for any purpose other than that for which it is prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian auditing standards. My procedures included examinations, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the accounts and the evaluation of accounting policies. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material aspects, the accounts are managed according to accounting policies in Note 1. These policies do not require the application of all Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.



**Geraldton Anglican Cathedral**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS  
FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> January 2023 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> December 2023**

**Note 1- Statement of Accounting Policies.**

These financial statements are special purpose financial reports prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of Geraldton Anglican Cathedral. The Geraldton Anglican Cathedral has determined that the Geraldton Anglican Cathedral is not a reporting entity. The Geraldton Anglican Cathedral is registered for GST.

The statements have been prepared in accordance with the following Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory reporting requirements:

AAS1	Profit and loss or other operating statements.
AAS3	Accounting for Income Tax
AAS5	Materiality.

No other Australian Accounting Standards or other mandatory professional reporting requirements have been applied.

The Statements are prepared on a cash basis.

**AUDIT OPINION**

I have examined the Income Statement (Profit & Loss). Documentation (Bank Statements, Creditors Invoices, and Receipts) has been electronically recorded and entered and filed by the Treasurer. Security has been maintained by having any two of the signatories to sign/approve all payments and approved by the Parish Council and offerings are counted by two persons and banked by a third party. The Treasurer reports to the Parish Council based on the Xero accounting system reports. Parish Council Minutes record the receipt of a Treasurers Report and approved payments.

**Comments/Recommendations:**


These recommendations are suggested/noted to protect the Committee Members from exposure to legal challenge re the accounts.

- a) The Treasurer has advised that 4 Counting (Offering) Sheets are still to be accounted for.
- b) There is a discrepancy of \$200 on the Bank Reconciliation that requires attention.

**Conclusion:**

In my opinion, subject to the foregoing comments/recommendations, I am satisfied that the financial reports are a true and fair statement of parish finances, that the parish maintains adequate financial records, and nothing has come to my attention to the contrary.

At Three Springs  
6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

  
.....  
Wayne J Sutton.

# Financial Report 2024 (un-reviewed by IAP)

## Profit and Loss Geraldton Anglican Cathedral For the year ended 31 December 2024

Account	Actual	Budget Revised	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget 2024	Comment
<b>Income</b>						
Giving	283,705	253,450	30,255	12%	308,000	12% above Revised Budget / 8% below Original Budget
Donations - General	900	0	900	0%	0	
Fees and Specific Contributions	14,174	10,702	3,472	32%	3,700	BB \$4,147; Training Support \$7K; Youth \$1,280; Books \$217; Other \$1,530
Recoupments	3,811	0	3,811	0%	0	Insurance claim Tree removal & fence replacement
Interest Income	262	120	142	118%	120	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>302,852</b>	<b>264,272</b>	<b>38,580</b>		<b>311,820</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>						
Staff	183,453	183,655	(202)	0%	189,660	Saving 6K ID on Original Budgeted Admin & Garden services
<b>Property Costs</b>						
Repairs and Maintenance - Cathedral and Grounds	0	0	0	0%	0	\$2,641 Expenses funded from Cathedral Repairs & Maint. Fund
Repairs and Maintenance - Hall & Deanery	5,652	4,989	663	13%	5,000	Dean's house tree branch removal \$3K; Pest Control \$1,172 Pest control, \$1,480
Gas and Electricity	7,332	8,000	(668)	-9%	8,000	
Water	5,466	6,300	(834)	-13%	6,300	
Council Rates	1,365	1,700	(305)	-18%	1,700	
Furniture and Equipment Expense	327	500	(173)	-35%	500	
<b>Total Property Costs</b>	<b>20,173</b>	<b>21,499</b>	<b>(1,326)</b>	<b>-6%</b>	<b>21,500</b>	
Advertising	787	2,000	(1,213)	-61%	2,000	
Bank Fees	453	267	186	70%	267	
Books and Resources	1,121	1,000	121	12%	1,000	
Copyright and Compliance	1,727	1,420	307	22%	1,420	
Diocesan Assessment	30,318	30,360	(42)	0%	30,360	
Food and Hospitality	588	500	88	18%	500	
Gifts, Donations and Honoraria	500	1,000	(500)	-50%	1,000	
Insurance Premiums	16,979	17,667	(688)	-4%	17,667	
Mission Giving	12,638	12,638	0	0%	28,706	5% of 2023 Giving
Printing and Photocopying	1,585	1,900	(315)	-17%	1,900	
Software and Subscriptions	1,072	3,200	(2,128)	-66%	3,200	
Stationery, Postage and Supplies	3,763	3,820	(57)	-1%	3,820	BB \$737 included
Subscriptions and Memberships	1,882	2,900	(1,018)	-35%	2,900	
Telephone and Internet	1,747	1,920	(173)	-9%	1,920	
Training and Conferences	500	1,000	(500)	-50%	1,000	
Youth & Children	1,885	3,000	(1,315)	-44%	3,000	Youth 747; Children Ministry \$838
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>280,971</b>	<b>289,746</b>	<b>(8,775)</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>311,820</b>	
<b>Net Profit / (Loss)</b>	<b>21,881</b>	<b>(25,474)</b>	<b>47,355</b>		<b>0</b>	

# Balance Sheet

Geraldton Anglican Cathedral

As at 31 December 2024

Account	31 Dec 2024
<b>Assets</b>	
<b>Bank</b>	
Geraldton Cathedral	104,605.95
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>104,605.95</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Accounts Receivable	851.00
Loans and Recoverables	599.33
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,450.33</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>	
<b>Funds in Trust with Diocese</b>	
Cathedral Ministry Fund aka Harrison Endowment	9,547.93
Greenough Donations Fund	30,539.72
Greenough Walkaway Fund	38,928.51
Groser Estate Walkaway Fund	9,714.74
Cathedral Restoration Fund	294,956.08
<b>Total Funds in Trust with Diocese</b>	<b>383,686.98</b>
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>	<b>383,686.98</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>489,743.26</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	24,023.31
Pass thru donations payable	110.00
Corporate Cards	162.29
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>24,295.60</b>
<b>Non-current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Funds Held in Trust on behalf of third parties</b>	
Cathedral Ministry Training Fund	23,031.54
Cathedral Dean's Discretionary Fund	1,710.64
Cathedral Fund	1,295.04
Cathedral Piano & Organ Fund	1,869.55
Cathedral Repairs & Maintenance Fund	3,947.45
Cathedral Women's Ministry	2,162.14
Cathedral Camping Fund	885.47
<b>Total Funds Held in Trust on behalf of third parties</b>	<b>34,901.83</b>
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>	<b>34,901.83</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>59,197.43</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>430,545.83</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
Current Year Earnings	21,881.35
Historical Adjustment	383,686.98
Retained Earnings	24,977.50
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>430,545.83</b>

# Budget 2025

## Profit and Loss

Geraldton Anglican Cathedral

Budget 2025

Account	Budget 2025
<b>Income</b>	
Giving	292,216
Donations - General	0
Fees and Specific Contributions	12,260
Recoupments	0
Rent 18a Carson Tce	27,840
Interest Income	120
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>332,436</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
<b>Staff</b>	
Staff cost - Gross	184,235
Less: BCA Contribution	(36,666)
Staff cost - Net	147,569
Locum costs	3,000
<b>Total Staff</b>	<b>150,569</b>
<b>Property Costs</b>	
Repairs and Maintenance - Cathedral and grounds	0
Repairs and Maintenance - Hall & Deanery	12,250
Furniture and Equipment Expense	2,000
Gas and Electricity	7,000
Water	4500
Council Rates	1,535
<b>Total Property Costs</b>	<b>27,285</b>
Advertising	1,000
Bank Fees	440
Books and Resources	1,200
Copyright and Compliance	1,800
Diocesan Assessment	34,536
Food and Hospitality	500
Gifts, Donations and Honoraria	500
Housing Allowance	20,052
Rental expense (maintenance etc)	5,392
Insurance Premiums	17,419
Mission Giving	28,370
Printing and Photocopying	1,250
Software and Subscriptions	3,200
Stationery, Postage and Supplies	5,865
Subscriptions and Memberships	3,744
Telephone and Internet	1,800
Training and Conferences	1,000
Children	1,500
Youth	1,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>308,422</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>24,014</b>

# Assistant Minister's Report

I have officially commenced work as assistant minister at the Cathedral on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2025, with ordination and licensing as deacon occurring on the 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2025. This is my first ministry position post college, and the position slots into the cathedral's 'Ministry Training Pipeline' at the level of 'Curate.' The overall goal of this position is both the ongoing delivery of ministry to the Geraldton Parish, as well as the training and development of myself for the next 2-3 years into a well-rounded minister.

Onboarding to both the role, the diocese, the parish and its ministries continues. This is a slow process that will continue to take some time. I ask for your patience in this, and your prayers, especially as I continue to build relationships with you all. Thank you to everyone for your warm welcome!

## **Reaching others for Christ**

Current ministries that have a significant focus on reaching others for Christ include: Our regular Wednesday and Sunday services, the combined Youth Group (Amplify) and chaplaincy with Geraldton Grammar.

Each of these ministries have significant opportunity to interact with non-Christians. With regards to church services, I have already had the privilege to preach several times and will continue to preach roughly once a month. Care is taken to communicate the gospel message as clearly as possible for non-Christians, as well as include application specific for non-Christians as appropriate. Regarding the combined youth group at St Georges Bluff Point, I serve as one of the regular leaders and will rotate through responsibilities there. It is consistently drawing in non-Christian youth, and provides an excellent context to proclaim the gospel. Lastly, chaplaincy to Geraldton Grammar staff and students is in the process of development, but it is hoped that the current weekly (lunchtime) meeting of Christian students which I attend will provide a context for non-Christians to engage with Christians and the gospel.

Potential plans for the coming year in this space include considering evangelism training and opportunities for the church. Likewise, chapel services at Geraldton Grammar are in the process of being negotiated and will ideally include some gospel presentation. Additionally, I will likely take on some prison chaplaincy while David Hilton is on leave, which provides another context to share the gospel. We are also in the process of redesigning our church website which I will assist with – this is an important part of our ministry as it is likely the first interaction many people will have with us. Lastly, I am hoping to contribute to the Cathedral's reengagement with mission organisations and missionaries.

Personally, I am continuing to engage with local family and friends who are all non-Christians. And I have a particular interest in engaging with Christian Cults such as Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, as well as other religions such as Muslims, and will take those opportunities as they present themselves.



## **Building each other up in Christ**

Current ministries that have a significant focus on building each other up in Christ include: Our regular Wednesday and Sunday services, bible studies, meeting one-to-one, the combined youth group (Amplify), chaplaincy at Geraldton Grammar, and staff team meetings.

Church services are the major item here. It is the one ministry that every person is expected to be regularly attending, and which every component of the services is included because it in some way helps to build people up to greater maturity in Christ. Again, my major contribution to the services is through preaching, and care is taken to both explain and apply God's word to Christians for their continued edification. I also currently lead one bible study and meet one-to-one with two people (Lachlan Edwards & a parishioner). These ministries provide a more focused context to apply God's word and pray for each other. Youth group and chaplaincy at Geraldton Grammar likewise have excellent potential for people to build each other up in Christ. Staff team meetings are an ongoing opportunity to refine our ministries and continue to develop each other into more fruitful servants.

Plans in this space include my specific focus as assistant minister on developing ministries for Youth, as well as Young Adults. With the exception of Youth Group, there are no formal ministries currently orientated to these demographics at the Cathedral. Exactly what this looks like is still under discussion, though will most likely begin with some form of bible study. Additionally, we are planning on transitioning much of our administration to the church management software called 'ChurchSuite.' This will significantly improve our ability to roster church services, as well as plan and manage events, ministries etc – with the overall goal being to better facilitate the delivery of ministry that build each other up in Christ. Prison chaplaincy will also hopefully serve to build those Christians there up in Christ.

Personally, I am currently undertaking a unit of study online via Sydney Missionary & Bible College (it's a Greek exegesis unit on the gospel of John). This will continue to expand and refine my ability to handle God's word and then teach it to others. I am also about to begin two training courses, both run by Peter Adam, one on prayer and the other on preaching. These will run for a couple of hours every 6ish weeks for 2-3 years. Lastly, in addition my ad hoc prayers, I am slowly developing a system of prayer that ensures I am praying regularly for our parish (church members, ministries etc), diocese, and local context etc. Much of the focus of these prayers is petitioning God on your behalf, asking him to be at work to grow, defend and persevere you in the faith.

## **Living for Christ**

As Christians, we are called to live for and obey Christ in everything that we do, think, and say. Thus, our mission of 'living for Christ' will rightly pervade throughout all our ministries and daily life. One of the joys of beginning ministry here at the Cathedral is getting to observe and encourage people to do just that – live for Christ in everything they do. And it has been a great encouragement for me to listen as people have shared of their faith and to see people live it out and grow in

godliness. None of us do it perfectly, but even in that it is a joy to see people respond to sin and failures with grace, repentance, and forgiveness. Thank you.

My personal bible reading and prayer habits at the moment largely consist of following the morning and evening daily office from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer (International Edition), though the evening sessions have been frequently omitted of late. I've also greatly enjoyed and benefited from ongoing theological readings and some devotional poetry. Lastly, I'm currently seeing a clinical psychologist for the ongoing management of depression, as well as the very recent diagnosis of ADHD. This is a Christian psychologist who has experience working with clergy, and my hope in seeing them is ultimately better connect my thoughts and feelings (and actions which flow from that) with the gospel.

Malachi Walker

Assistant Minister

## Wednesday Service Report

The mid-week service at the Cathedral is held at 10am on Wednesdays. This service could be described as a traditional, orthodox Anglican prayer book service. It is a pared back version of what you could expect to find on a Sunday service, as we seek to keep it to around a 45-50 minute duration each week, before breaking off for morning tea and fellowship in the hall afterwards. Attendance levels at this service have remained relatively steady over the course of the year with numbers normally in the low to mid-teens. The service roster is split between Rev Dave, with Rev Bill Ross and the Dean both taking the service once a month.

Most weeks we seek to follow the lectionary, with a preaching focus on the set Gospel reading. During 2025 (Year C), our focus is on the Gospel of Luke, with the occasional trip into John's Gospel. Such an approach takes the weekday congregation on an annual trip from anticipating and celebrating the birth of Christ (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany), onto the journey to the cross and beyond from the resurrection (Lent, Easter, and up to Pentecost). By following the lectionary, the key aspects of the Gospel stories of Jesus are highlighted, as we seek to discover for ourselves what the practical implications are of the person and work of Jesus as presented in the Gospels in our own lives. This is a rather helpful way to make sure that as we reach, build, and live for Christ, we are able to 'keep the main thing the main thing' throughout the year.

Blessings,  
Rev Dave Hilton  
Honorary Minister  
Cathedral of the Holy Cross

# Children's Ministry Report

2024 saw Mike Welham conclude his time with the Cathedral as Assistant Minister overseeing children's ministry. On 1 January 2025, Alison Morgan stepped into the role of Children's Ministry Team leader: overseeing the development of curriculum; rostering teams; recruiting and training new volunteers and managing resources.

Children's Ministry at the Cathedral includes Cathedral Kids for children aged 6-11 (Primary School), Cathedral Minis for children aged 3-5 (Preschool – Pre-primary), maintaining the play area in the Cathedral and Kids Spots.

## **Building Each Other Up In Christ**

In 2024, The Biggest Story curriculum was implemented. This is based on the children's storybook bible by Kevin DeYoung. This is a three-year curriculum that will take the students through an overview of the entire bible, focusing on the overarching metanarrative of God's salvation plan for humanity, realised in Christ. The aim is that the students will be equipped to understand the gospel and how the promises of the Old Testament are fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Lessons include a video retelling of the story for each week, a summary taught by the teacher connecting each chapter to the Gospel, discussion questions and a craft and/or game. Each week students are also given a memory verse activity with an aim to learn one to two memory verses each term.

Cathedral Minis was launched in Semester 2 of 2024, to meet the needs of a growing number of pre-school-aged children attending the Cathedral. There was also a need to separate some of the younger children (those aged 4 and 5), previously attending Cathedral Kids, into a more suitable curriculum for their developmental abilities. The focus for the Semester was an introduction to God as the creator, highlighting why it is important that we know him – it is where we came from and why we exist. Through Term 3 we worked through the seven days of creation and concluded with a basic introduction to The Fall and the reason why we need a saviour. In Term 4 we spent some time looking at the spiritual disciplines of reading the bible, praying, attending church and worship. We concluded the year looking at the Christmas story in preparation for Advent season. The aim of Cathedral Minis is to introduce children to who God is and why He is important in our lives. Each week students hear a short message, sing songs, read a story, do a craft activity and work on their scripture memory verse for the term.

In 2024, Kids Spot segments were run by members of the congregation as well as the clergy to equip other members of the church to learn how to share the Good News with children.

## **Reaching Others to Christ**

By providing a suitable and safe space for children to go and learn truths of the bible at a level suitable for their age and abilities we hope to create an environment that invites families into our community. Parents/carers are able to, hopefully, hear the sermon of the day without distraction, while knowing that their equally important child is being served in the same way at their level. The

dedicated children's ministry team aims to provide a fair, structured environment with a variety of learning activities to meet various needs. The hope is that it continues to grow as a place that children want to return to each week and hopefully invite others along to. We equip our Kids and Minis to have a firm grounding in what it is that we believe. That they are always ... "prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks [them] for a reason for the hope that is in [them]." (1 Peter 3:15)

Our play space at the back of the Cathedral provides a space for parents/carers of babies and toddlers to have a comfortable place to let their young one play while they, hopefully still feel included and able to participate in the service. The addition of a change table is another gentle way of communicating that babies are welcome in our services and that these are not 'lost years'. When a new family walks into our Cathedral for the first time, exploring the faith or seeking a church community, the hope is that the play space communicates that we are a body of believers that starts with the youngest baby and includes those who may feel isolated as new parents.

### **Living For Christ**

The aim for children's ministry is that we are working alongside parents/carers to encourage and disciple our children in the faith. We are only offering approximately 45 minutes of a week of opportunities to speak the truth of salvation into these precious lives. To that end, parents/carers are encouraged to get involved in volunteering with Cathedral Kids or Cathedral Minis, providing Kids Spots and other opportunities that may come up throughout the year.

In 2024 the play space was updated with current Christian children's books to provide examples of good resources for parents/carers to share with their children. These were showcased during a series of Kids Spots earlier in the year.

In 2024, Cathedral Kids was lead and supported by Mike Welham, Emmy Abetz, Alisha De Vos, Daryl De Vos, Annalise Edwards, Tochi Eze, JoyEze, Melody Eze, Pam Eze and Jenni Hiscock. Cathedral Minis was lead and supported by Ali Morgan, Bec Edwards, Tenielle Fowler, Nathan Hiscock, Jocelyn Ross and Emma Welham. I am so blessed and encouraged by each of these incredible stewards of the faith. Children's Ministry truly couldn't run without their time and effort. They showcase joy and faithfulness to our children in a way that amplifies how we are to live for Christ.

### **Goals for 2025 (and beyond)**

- Building a team of helpers for Cathedral Kids and Minis with an aim to have all parents/carers of our children involved in the team in some capacity
- Training and supporting the team to feel equipped to lead lessons
- Creating opportunities throughout the year for children to invite friends along to Sunday School events (i.e. Harmony Week, Easter, Christmas)
- Utilising the play space as a way to network with parents, particularly new parents (i.e. promote St George's playgroup, Liz Parker's parent groups and kid-friendly bible study groups with flyers in the space)
- Purchasing a three-year curriculum for Minis

- Raising funds to install an air-conditioning unit in the Minis room
- Sourcing a new space to create a separate class for lower primary aged children to better meet such a large range of abilities in one class
- Producing a newsletter to showcase what we offer in children's ministry and providing resources and ideas for continuing the mission at home

Alison Morgan  
Children's Ministry Team Leader

## Women's Ministry Report

### **Parenting Seminars & ongoing discussion groups - *Living for Christ***

With the financial assistance of Mothers Union Australia, the Cathedral in conjunction with St George's Bluff Point hosted 3 parenting seminars presented by James and Simone Boswell in May 2024. James and Simone Boswell are from Wollongong NSW and have 25 years experience of running parenting courses and seminars and have spoken widely at different events. The seminars were attended by 15-25 people each time and covered "Raising Kids in an Online World", "How to Raise a Happy Family" and "Teaching Your Kids to Make Right Choices".

Those who attended were positive about the input and engaged with the material. The launch of ongoing parenting discussion groups was advertised at each seminar and 18 people put their names down expressing interest in further information. In July 2024 Elizabeth Parker launched two groups - one on a Friday night once a month for Parents of Teens (held at Bluff Point during Youth group) and a mothers group once a month on a Tuesday morning in the Cathedral hall. The Parents of Teens group only had a maximum of two parents attend, while the Tuesday morning group swings between 4 and 7 mothers in attendance. Topics so far have included "Starting With Us - the Parents", "Raising my Children - whose job is it?", "Character in our children", "Routines" and "Family Traditions".

In 2025 only the Tuesday morning mothers group has recommenced with some new members and 7 mums at the first get together in February.

### **Monday Morning Women's Bible Study - *Living for Christ***

12 ladies continue to meet around the bible and cuppas on a Monday morning during school term to delve into God's word, spur one another on and walk together as we live for Christ. Over the past year we have journeyed with Israel through the book of Numbers, come to understand Jesus as our great high priest in the book of Hebrews, learnt how to be confident to give an account of the hope we have in Jesus in the Two Ways to Live course and are now examining John's epistles in the New Testament. New members are welcome.



## **Geraldton Christian Women's Conference 2024 - *Building for Christ***

A committee to organise the women's conference was established in early 2024 with 3 nominees from Bluff Point, 3 nominees from the Cathedral and 1 nominee from the Bishop. The Cathedral nominees were Dynika Abetz, Alisha de Vos and Charlotte Jones. The committee met every 6 weeks leading up to the conference in late August. Michelle Underwood from Perth was the speaker focussing on "The Unexpected Jesus" in John's Gospel, and there were mission focuses on Pregnancy Problem House and our Diocesan partnership with Karamoja.

The conference faced a few issues as the event drew closer, including Elizabeth's absence with a conflicting visit to Karamoja and illness amongst a number of the committee members at the last minute, but the surviving committee did a fantastic job of pulling things together and the prior work into the content of the conference was borne out. 65 women attended the conference at Geraldton Christian College and were very appreciative of Michelle's talks and Melinda Spackman's role as MC.

A review is currently underway as to whether the Women's Conference will go ahead as usual in 2025 or if the committee will take a break and encourage the local Anglican churches to make the most of the livestream of the Equip Women's Conference on Saturday 21 June 2025.

## **Ladies Christmas Devonshire Tea - *Reaching for Christ***

In the lead up to Christmas 40+ women of all ages met together for a Devonshire Tea at the Central Greenough Café to hear Analise Edwards journey with Jesus over the past few years, were encouraged to focus on Jesus in over advent with excellent book reviews and enjoyed a craft activity recycling old books into Christmas decorations.

## **New women's bible study Thursday mornings 6:15-7am - *Building for Christ***

A new women's bible study which echoes the early Monday morning group previously run by Emma Welham and Alison Morgan has recently commenced on a Thursday morning in the Cathedral hall. Elizabeth Parker is leading the group and currently there are 7 members. The aim of the group is to get into the bible as quickly as possible and finish promptly to enable the members to return to their families or head off to work.

*Elizabeth Parker & Bec Edwards*

# Boys' Brigade Report

**The object of Boy's Brigade Australia:** The Advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-respect and all that tends towards a True Christian Manliness

## 1. Reaching others for Christ

Boys Brigade focusses on advancing Christ's kingdom in the local community, and to that end, we welcome all boys regardless of church background. Most of the boys do attend a local church, but not all do. We are actively seeking more boys to join our company and are hoping that in 2025 we will see yet more boys join us. We would love for members of our church to invite boys from their neighbourhood and friends to come along! Our boys love the Company and are very vocal about it to their friends and school mates and regularly invite others to come along.

## 2. Building each other up in Christ

The mission of Boys' Brigade is to build the habits listed in our object (see above) with the ultimate aim of helping them achieve true Christian manliness, that is, a true faith in Christ and a maturity in all areas of life. To meet this object, all sections of our company have a time of Bible Study at every meeting. With the Anchors (PP-Yr2), this is often in the form of a simple Bible story with a focus on helping them understand God's love for them followed up with a craft or activity to reinforce the lessons. The Juniors (Yr3-6) delve more deeply into topics, often going through a series such as the Ten Commandments, focussing on a book of the Bible, and in first term of 2024 they learned about the plight of Christians in other parts of the world and how they can best pray for them. The Seniors (Yr7-9 at the moment) are using Bible study material from CRU West, and will go deeper into specific books of the Bible. The Seniors are also able to earn a Bible Knowledge badge, and part of that is to encourage them to lead a Bible study for one of the younger sections.

## 3. Living for Christ

Boys Brigade has a very practical focus, and we aim to equip boys with some of the skills they will need in life. We often focus on 'outdoors' topics such as sports, camping, orienteering and other similar topics, though cooking is always a popular activity! In 2024 we relaunched the Senior Section, and we see this as a very important area where we can shape the boys' lives as they go through their teenage years. A key part of this is community engagement as part of their badge program.

Our leaders are the heart of the program, and they are instrumental in achieving the Build and Live aspects of our church mission. They are role models for the boys, who look up to them with a lot of respect. This enables us to Live for Christ and so Build up the boys (and each other) in Christ. On that note, a huge thanks to our leaders - Mike Welham who was leading Anchors for part of the year, Sam de Vries leading Juniors, Dan Abetz leading Seniors, and our faithful helpers Mitchell de Vries, Gaetan Dalle and Mike Coughlan. We are still looking for some further helpers if available!

Dan Abetz  
Captain, 13<sup>th</sup> WA (Geraldton) Coy.

# Church Camp Report

On the 4th to the 6th of October 2024 various members of Geraldton Anglican Cathedral set up tents, campers, and settled into chalets at Horrocks for church camp. It was an encouraging time of sharing life together and encouraging one another, with over 70 adults and children attending either one or both of the days.

Friday consisted of casual games in the evening whilst everyone gathered their bearings, and Saturday was the beginning of the teaching and sharing sequences led by David Mansfield. The first two sessions titled "The Purpose of John's Gospel" and "The panorama of John's Gospel" were a detailed unpacking of the context around John, the disciples, and the culture in which it was written, with the overall scope of how the gospel was influential when it was written, and still now. At the beginning of each session we would sing praises to God, led by different music teams, and at the end of each session, we would break into small groups to discuss clarifying and application questions.

Sharing meals was another highlight throughout both days, with morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner being graciously prepared for and served to us by Belinda and Peiter Overmeire, with helpers on hand.

Saturday also consisted of a few fun 'opt in' events of a Sandcastle competition at the beach in the afternoon, which saw three Old testament themed builds, and the Quiz night held in the Recreation centre in the evening, having multiple rounds of biblical, historical, and general knowledge themed questions. Both of these events were great opportunities for collaboration with people of all ages, from all different families.

Sunday was extra special with a sense of anticipation in the air as Adele Lang was to be baptised in the ocean, surrounded by campers and invited guests. Lachlan set up a PA system on the beach so that people near (on the beach) and far (at the look out) could hear the readings and responses take place, and it was a blessed time for all to be a part of.

Back to the recreation centre for morning tea, singing, and the final session "The Power of John's Gospel" to begin. In this session David shared personal stories and anecdotes from his life, which deeply impacted himself and others, whilst coming back to the meaning and significance of John's writing. Lunch was the final meal shared together, thank-you's were had to all the organisers behind the scenes, and before packing up and heading back to Geraldton, many heart-warming words of encouragement were shared – most saying they were looking forward to camp again next year!

We Praise God for a smooth and injury free time together, with beautiful weather and food, and the ability to meditate on his Goodness in creation and those he has placed around us for a weekend gathering as His church in a different place.

Annalise Edwards,  
(On behalf of the Church Camp Captains)

# Mark Drama Report

To reach our community for Christ, the Cathedral performed a powerful and engaging dramatization of the gospel of Mark for Easter in 2024. About 200 people attended *The Mark Drama*, a 90-minute retelling of almost every incident in the gospel, performed as theatre in the round by members of the congregation. There is no script for the 15-member cast (apart from the role of Jesus), no costumes and no acting experience needed.

The Director, who came from Perth, worked with the cast to produce a faithful and powerful production. As a result, four people signed up for the Hope Explored course for enquirers to find out about Jesus. The play ends with an actor challenging the audience to consider for themselves if what they had seen was true? Many good conversations were had during refreshments after the show.

One of the actors wrote in her diary that the experience was life-changing. "Being a part of the cast for The Mark Drama has rocked me deeply to the core of my being and through it, God has reached down once again to claim me as His own. I felt God's hand on my soul as he reawakened the Holy Spirit that dwelt within, but which great suffering had caused me to bury these past 7 years."

We thank God for the cast who faithfully took part, especially Nathan Hiscock who took on the challenging role of Jesus. Nathan did an amazing job of pointing people to Jesus, with no spotlight on himself at all.

The Mark Drama will be performed again in 2025 for Easter on Good Friday and Easter Saturday.

Eugenie Harris

# Cathedral Ministry Resourcing Report

We at St. Marks Kalbarri have been without a resident minister for four years now and thanks to the constant support we have received from within the Diocese and the Registry we have been able to provide a Sunday service for our local congregation and many visitors, every Sunday during that time.— *Praise God!*

We have been able to offer a service of The Lord's supper one week each month, thanks to the Diocese arranging visiting clergy, mostly from Geraldton. We have also been blessed with a locum minister from outside the diocese offering us their services for a 6 to 12 week period for the last three years. But most weeks, we hold services of Morning Prayer, or Prayer and Praise, led by myself as Warden.

For these services, we were using sermons from other churches in the Diocese, namely Exmouth and the Cathedral. These were recorded from a camera located at the rear of the church and although high quality in content, the recordings and production were poor, which meant the Sunday services we were offering in Kalbarri were sadly lacking.

However that all changed during the past year when the Cathedral Parish upgraded their recording equipment and the Dean began recording specially produced Face to Face sermons for the benefit of parishes like ours, that are without a minister.

The difference is amazing and we at St. Marks consider ourselves richly blessed to be able to include these quality biblical, Christ-Centred sermons in our services most weeks of the year. The Sunday services we now offer our local congregation and visitors, lack nothing.

From a Missionary perspective, we have had five adult baptisms in the past two years and three new local families attending regularly. As you are aware, it is so important for new Christians to be firmly grounded in the vital truths of the gospel. Being equipped with the Dean's face to face sermons greatly assists us to achieve our missionary goal of **reaching others for Christ.**

It is understandable that when a church loses its resident minister, that some of the local congregation will fall away. Whilst we at St Marks have lost some elderly couples who have left town for medical reasons, the number of local parishioners attending regularly has in fact increased in recent times and we praise God for that.

Our quality recorded sermons provided by the Cathedral parish are contributing significantly by enabling us to fulfil our duty of keeping our parishioners feeling adequately nourished and nurtured in God's word, which in turn helps us to **build each other up as brothers and sisters in Christ.**

We at Kalbarri are very grateful to the Dean and to the Cathedral parish for this much valued ministry assistance in our time of need.

Graham Dunn (Kalbarri Rector's Warden)

# Mission Partners Report

## Praise

- For the numerous occasions when we have been able to welcome visitors to our church. Our usual fundraising event for the Hospital Chaplaincy was with a difference as Revd Jeremy Rice was retiring after eleven years. A very large crowd gathered in the cathedral in appreciation for Jeremy's love and compassion as he served the Lord in this capacity. They wished Jeremy and his wife Virginia health and happiness in their retirement.
- The fundraising morning tea for our CMS Missionary, Sister Joan serving the Lord in Southeast Asia. As her term there has now finished, we have welcomed her to Geraldton where she now lives and worships with us.
- For the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Cathedral to which many past and present parishioners came to enjoy sharing the Gospel and the fellowship and hospitality that followed.

## Prayer

- God will raise up someone to fill the role of Hospital Chaplaincy.
- That as a church community we can continue to raise funds for CMS WA to support another missionary.
- If and when the cruise ships recommence calling at Geraldton, we can welcome them to our cathedral.
- We continue to provide leaflets and other updates to the Tourist Information Centre .
- Thank you to all those who provide hospitality and fellowship for the morning teas and other special events such as "Songs of Praise" and "Sing Noel".

Judy Critch

# Hospital Chaplaincy Report

I am writing to give you an update about the future of the Hospital Chaplaincy ministry in Geraldton.

I would like to again thank you for your support for me in my former role as Chaplain at Geraldton Regional Hospital. I am very grateful for the encouragement, prayer and financial support that I received over the eleven years that I was privileged, under God, to hold that position.

As you may know I retired from hospital chaplaincy on 31/08/2024. It had become clear to me that I had to stop as I was burnt out and could no longer fulfil the role with the energy and ministry drive that is needed.

However, I remain convinced that it is an important and strategic ministry. It is showing Christ's love and compassion to people whose lives have been turned upside down by an accident, or disease with a confronting prognosis.

The role is a ministry of the Christian churches of Geraldton and is supported by the Geraldton Ministers Fellowship. It was agreed that the Anglican Diocese of North West Australia continue to oversee the employment.

The position will soon be advertised in Geraldton, Perth and online, as we seek God to raise up the right ministry-minded person. The role can be an opportunity to gently and respectfully share the gospel of Jesus Christ and to pray with people who are going 'through the mill' in all sorts of ways.

I remember middle of the night holy moments in the Emergency Department or the Hospice and yes, there were also times when I was told to go away. Chaplaincy is ministry in the public square. And there were funerals, many funerals, all important, all a privilege.

Another consideration is that having a dedicated Chaplain to the hospital takes some of the pastoral pressure off local pastors to be in the hospital space. It might be that the chaplain gets the 3 am call and not the pastor, and their own people are being ministered too when in hospital even though they cannot be present themselves.

Along with others, it is my prayer and hope that chaplaincy at Geraldton Hospital will continue. So, as well as thanking you for past support, I ask that you consider praying for God to raise up a new chaplain for Geraldton Hospital, and if you are already doing so, I praise God and thank you.

Employing a chaplain three days a week now costs \$55,000 p.a. I understand that, in God's kindness, St. John of God Hospital has pledged to give \$20,000 a year. If not already, could you consider a regular gift to help make this ministry possible? If you know of someone who might be suitable for the position, I'm sure the Anglican Bishop, Darrell Parker, would love to hear from you (contact details below). Thank you.

Love in Christ,

Jeremy Rice



# Prison Ministry Report

Prison Chaplaincy in Western Australia is contracted through the Council of Churches WA, in which the Diocese of North West Australia is sub-contracted for 2 days per week at Greenough Regional Prison, though we have been fortunate to have picked up an extra day a week for most of the last 12 months. At the time of writing, Greenough holds approximately 360 prisoners, which is 120 more than the same time last year, and represents a considerable degree of overcrowding. The women's estate which was "permanently" closed has now been re-opened in a smaller venue, but with the same number of women as the larger unit held.

Chaplaincy is conducted on an ecumenical basis, as we seek to engage with as many members of this prison population as possible. On-site chaplaincy time includes up to six weekly Sunday church services, a group bible study session, and time spent within the six operational units at Greenough, providing pastoral support, counselling and spiritual/religious support. Engaging with prisoners on entry into Units 1 and 5 is a priority, as we attempt to set up relationships with chaplaincy that will continue throughout their time in incarceration. A grant from the Bible Society enables us to place copies of God's Word into prisoner's hands. There was one occasion during the year where I heard a prisoner reading passages from one of these Bibles to his partner over the phone. His partner asked if she could have one too, and I was able to deliver a copy of God's Word to her in the prison carpark after she had her next visit with him.

Where practical, Chaplaincy also seeks to minister to officers and their families, as well as undertaking post-release follow-up with prisoners and their families. We have also been able to conduct a number of funerals in the last few months for family members of prisoners and ex-prisoners.

Chaplaincy is seen to be part of the bigger picture of prisoner support. This has become more formalised in recent years, enabling chaplaincy access to the prison management system. This has enabled internal referrals from prison staff for prisoners requesting religious support, or those deemed to be 'at risk' individuals who would benefit from chaplaincy input. In the last year, Chaplaincy has become an integral part of the multi-disciplinary Prisoner Risk Assessment Group. This acts as a formal acknowledgement of the central importance of chaplaincy in prison pastoral care, as well as the way in which faith can impact the lives of the prisoners we care for.

Blessings,  
Rev Dave Hilton  
Co-ordinating Chaplain  
Greenough Regional Prison

# AGM 2024 Minutes



## Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting Sunday 23 March 2024

### 1. Opening, Bible Study & Prayer

The Dean declared the AGM open at 9.03am and that the Call for Nominations had closed. The Dean opened in prayer and a Bible reading from 1 Peter 1:3-4. The Bishop addressed the AGM via a video message. The Dean declared that there was a quorum.

#### Resolution

That Eugenie Harris be appointed the AGM Minute Secretary.  
Moved: Richard Porter; seconded: Nathan Hiscock; CARRIED

### 2. Attendance

#### Attendance

33 signed the Participation in AGM Form of Declaration  
Refer to attachment 1.

#### Apologies:

Darrell Parker  
Ray & Ann Fishwick  
Barton Smioth  
Daryl de Vos  
Audrey Leuty  
Spike (Peter) Jones  
Mitchel de Vries  
Emma Welham  
Ester Tilinger  
Dynika Abetz  
Sy & Catherine Dalton  
Dick and Hettie Ackerman

### 3. Reports

#### 4.1 Dean

The dean spoke to his tabled report. See summary at Attachment 2.

#### 4.2 Churchwardens

The Wardens' reports were tabled.

#### 4.3 Treasurer

The 2022 Financial Statement has been reviewed by an Independent Assurance Practitioner (IAP).

Resolution

That the 2022 Financial Statements be received and passed.

Moved: Carina Strydom; seconded: Richard Porter; CARRIED

The unreviewed 2023 Financial Report was tabled by the Treasurer Carina Strydom on behalf of the wardens.

Resolution

That the unreviewed 2023 Financial Report be received.

Moved: Brett Hiscock; seconded: Martin Ballinger; CARRIED

2024 Budget

Resolution

That the 2024 budget be approved and that the Treasurer is thanked for her work.

Moved: Judy Critch; seconded: Brett Hiscock CARRIED

The following reports were tabled:

Reach for Christ. Build up in Christ. Live for Christ

Dean

Warden – Safety and Compliance

Warden – Finance and Property

Treasurer

Independent Assurance Practitioner

Ministry Apprentice

Assistant Minister

Wednesday Service

Youth ministry

Children's Ministry

Choir

Music Ministry

Nurture

Play Space

Boys Brigade

Mission Partners

Hospital Chaplain by Jeremy Rice.

Prison Ministry by Dave Hilton.

Resolution

That all reports be received.

Moved: Bill Ross; seconded: Barbara Tapscott; CARRIED

**4. Elections**

The dean gave notice that he has appointed Spike Jones (Safety and Compliance) as Dean's warden.

Two nominations for warden have been received.

Resolution

That Brett Hiscock be elected Church Warden (Finance).  
Moved: Bill Ross ; seconded Ann Fishwick; CARRIED

Resolution:

That Daryl de Vos be elected Warden (Property).  
Moved: Bill Ross; seconded: Barbara Tapscott; CARRIED

Resolution

That the AGM elect a Parish Council.  
Moved: Brett Hiscock; seconded: Richard Porter; CARRIED

The dean reminded the AGM that the *Church Administration Statute 2020* allows for a Parish Council to consist of two (2), four (4) or six (6) elected persons.

The dean advised that five nominations for Parish Council were received, and asked for a motion to how many the AGM should elect.

Resolution

That six councillors be elected to Parish Council.  
Moved: John Tilinger; seconded: Barbara Tapscott; CARRIED

The dean advised as there were fewer than six who had been nominated then there was no voting required. The dean called for the nominations to be put.

Resolution

That Judy Critch be elected to Parish Council  
Moved Richard Porter, Second Faith Chikomo; CARRIED

Resolution

That Jenni Hiscock be elected to Parish Council  
Moved Jocelyn Ross, Second Barbara Tapscott; CARRIED

Resolution

That Carina Strydom be elected to Parish Council  
Moved, Marjorie Smith, Second Jocelyn Ross; CARRIED

Resolution

That Eugenie Harris be elected to Parish Council  
Moved Nathan Hiscock, Second Jocelyn Ross CARRIED

Resolution

That Mitchell de Vries be elected to Parish Council  
Moved Charlotte Jones, Second Spike Jones CARRIED

The Dean advised that an elected Parish Councillor Position vacancy now exists. The parish may call another meeting to elect a person to this position if desired.

The Dean advised that he would retain his right to nominate two Parish Councillors to Parish Council.

The dean recommended that Parish Council identify and appoint an IAP for 2023 financial statements.

Resolution

That Parish Council identify and appoint an IAP.

Moved: Marjorie Smith Seconded Richard Porter CARRIED

The *Church Administration Statute 2020* allows for the appointment of two lay Synod representatives and two alternates. Three nominations have been received.

Resolution

That one alternate Synod representative be elected

Moved Richard Porter; Second Nathan Hiscock; CARRIED

Resolution

That two Synod representatives s be elected

Moved: Jenni Lang; seconded Al Lang; CARRIED

Resolution

That Lindsay Graieg be duly elected as Synod representative.

Moved Richard Porter; Second Judy Critch CARRIED

Resolution

That Bec Edwards be duly elected as Synod representative.

Moved Khim Harris, Second Eugenie Harris; CARRIED

Resolution

John Tilinger be elected as an alternate synod representative.

Moved Khim Harris, Second Lindsay Graieg; CARRIED

**6. Motions and suggestions for Parish Council to Consider**

Resolution

To give thanks to God for Barbara Tapscott, for faithfully depositing the offering until her 'retirement' towards the end of the year.

Moved Carina Strydom Second Mike Welham CARRIED

Resolution

That the Parish gives thanks to Almighty God for the more than 20 years faithful and competent ministry of Marjorie Smith as organist and Music Director, to the glory of God and the blessing of our church. May she enjoy a whole and relaxing life not having to climb the stairs to the organ loft.

Moved Bill Ross, Second Barbara Tapscott CARRIED

Resolution

That the Parish thanks Nathan and the choir members for their faithfulness and encouragement to each other in singing to God and leading the worship in song during the 8am worship.

Moved Bronwen Peet, Second Peter Eccleston CARRIED

### Suggestion

Bec Edwards proposed a trial that Sunday Morning Service times change to:

9am Family Service with Sunday School

10:15-11am Combined Services Morning Tea

11am-Noon Traditional Prayer Book Service

### Benefits:

This would better support our valued 8am congregation. 8am is very early and cold in Winter, causing us to lose people. It will provide a time each week to fellowship together over food. Our lovely older folk won't need to move heavy furniture and fill urns and we LOVE their baking.

It will ease roster pressures.

A hurdle is that the Cathedral does not have a good cooling system in Summer.

### Suggestion

Kerry Short asked for a volunteer to do flowers in the Cathedral or learn the trade from her.

### Suggestions

Pauline Winrow submitted a range of suggestions.

### Resolution

That Pauline Winrow's suggestions be considered by Parish Council

Moved Khim Harris, Second Bill Ross CARRIED

## **7. Close**

The meeting closed at 10.07am with a prayer by the Dean.

*Confirmed as an accurate record.*



April 2024

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The Very Revd Lachlan Edwards  
Chairman

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Date

# Business of Annual General Meetings

- (a) to receive the declarations of those persons present (section 69, Schedule 1)
- (b) to determine whether a quorum is present (section 71)
- (c) to elect a minute secretary
- (d) to receive apologies
- (e) to receive a report from the Dean;
- (f) to receive a report from the Churchwardens;
- (g) to receive and pass, or otherwise determine on, the duly reviewed financial statements for the preceding Financial Year ending 31 December and a proposed budget for adoption for the Financial Year commencing on 1 January of the year in which the meeting is held;
- (h) to receive reports from other ministry leaders and ministries within the Parish or Provisional Parish;
- (i) to make recommendations to the incoming parish council for it to consider;
- (j) if the Minister-in-Charge has appointed a person as Churchwarden under section 16, to receive notification of the name of that person
- (k) to elect up to two (2) qualified persons to be Churchwardens
- (l) to determine whether or not qualified persons should be elected as members of the parish council and if in the affirmative
  - i. to resolve if there will be 2 or 4 or 6 elected persons, and
  - ii. to elect qualified persons to be those members.
- (m) to appoint one or more persons as Independent Assurance Practitioner to review the Parish or Provisional Parish's financial statements and accounts for the year in which the Annual General Meeting is held;
- (n) in the case of a Parish, to elect, if the Bishop's mandate has been received, up to two (2) Lay Synod Representatives and, if the meeting so determines, of one or two alternate Synod Representatives in accordance with the *Synod Statute 2016*.
- (o) any other business as may be required from time to time by any statute.





# Annual General Meeting Motion, Suggestion or Question

*Please complete a separate form for each submission*

*Forms must be received by the dean by 16 March 2025 to be included in the AGM*

**Name/Mover:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Seconded** (if a motion): \_\_\_\_\_

Motion

- Requires a seconder
- Allows for timed debate
- Is "put" to the AGM
- If majority carried, then it must be acted upon by the relevant body (eg. Parish Council)

Suggestion  
or comment

- Seconder not required
- No discussion
- Forwarded to relevant body (eg. Parish Council)

Question

- Seconder not required
- No discussion
- May be answered, or forwarded to relevant body (eg. Parish Council)

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submission:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature Mover: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Seconder: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit by hand or email to the dean by 16 March 2025.

[lachlan@anglicandnwa.org](mailto:lachlan@anglicandnwa.org)



# Annual General Meeting Nomination Form

To be submitted to the Dean by 16 March 2025  
before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting.

*Please complete a separate form for each position nominated*

**I hereby nominate (name):** \_\_\_\_\_

- For the position of:
- Warden (2 required – 1 year term)
  - Parish Councillor (2, 4 or 6 required – 1 year term)
  - Synod Representative (2 required - 1 year term)

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**Nominator (name):** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Secunder (name):** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Nominee Acceptance

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

WWCC Number (or will supply before taking office): \_\_\_\_\_

I give approval for my image or quote to be used in publications. YES / NO

I have read and understood the Administration Statute qualifications for election. YES / NO  
(see overleaf)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please read qualification overleaf before signing)

Please submit by hand or email to the dean by 16 March 2025. [lachlan@anglicandnwa.org](mailto:lachlan@anglicandnwa.org)

## Church Administration Statute 2020 (Diocese of North West Australia)

### Qualifications for election as a member of Parish Council

(29) Any Church Member is qualified to be appointed or elected as a **member of a parish council** provided he or she:

- (a) is a layperson who has attained the age of 18 years;
- (b) has been a communicant Church Member for the past three months, and is not a member of another denomination;
- (c) accepts the Christian faith which is grounded in the Bible, expressed in The Thirty-nine Articles and The Book of Common Prayer;
- (d) is willing to be bound by Faithfulness in Service, or any successor code of conduct adopted by the Synod or the Diocesan Council;
- (e) is not holding a similar office in another denomination, whether within or outside the Diocese;
- (f) is not an undischarged bankrupt, unless declared suitable by the Bishop having consulted with the Minister-in-Charge and parish council;
- (g) has not been declared by a court or tribunal as being incompetent to manage his or her own affairs;
- (h) has not been convicted of a disqualifying offence listed in the Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004 (WA);
- (i) has not been disqualified from managing a corporation within the meaning of the Corporations Act 2001;
- (j) has not been disqualified by the ACNC Commissioner from being a responsible person of a registered entity under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012; and
- (k) is willing to participate in the Diocesan safe ministry screening and training program.

### Qualifications for election as a Churchwarden

(63) Any Church Member shall be qualified to be appointed or elected to the position of **Churchwarden** provided he or she:

- (a) Is a layperson who is not less than 18 years of age;
- (b) accepts the Christian faith which is grounded in the Bible, expressed in The 39 Articles and The Book of Common Prayer and is willing to be bound by Faithfulness in Service, or any succeeding code of conduct;
- (c) has been a Church Member of the Parish or Provisional Parish concerned for at least six months;
- (d) is a communicant member of the Parish or Provisional Parish and does not hold office in any other Parish or Provisional Parish in the Anglican Church of Australia, or in any other denomination;
- (e) is not the spouse, parent, sibling or child of a Clergyman licensed to the Parish or Provisional Parish;
- (f) is not the spouse, parent, sibling or child of a Churchwarden of the Parish or Provisional Parish;
- (g) is not a person engaged as an employee to work in the Parish or Provisional Parish;
- (h) is not an undischarged bankrupt, unless declared suitable by the Bishop having consulted with the Minister-in-Charge and parish council;
- (i) has not been declared by a court or tribunal as being incompetent to manage his or her own affairs;
- (j) has not been convicted of a disqualifying offence listed in the Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004 (WA);
- (k) has not been disqualified from managing a corporation within the meaning of the Corporations Act 2001;
- (l) has not been disqualified by the ACNC Commissioner from being a responsible entity of a registered entity under the Australian Charities and Not-for- profits Commission Act 2012;
- (m) is willing to participate in the Diocesan safe ministry screening and training program, including a Working with Children Check.

### Qualifications for election as a Lay Member of Synod

- (a) I am a baptised person over the age of 18 years who regularly attends public worship at Geraldton Anglican Cathedral and this is my primary place of worship;
- (b) I acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God and no-one comes to the Father except through Him;
- (c) I submit to the Bible as the authoritative Word of God and as the final authority in matters of faith and conduct;
- (d) I adhere to the Nicene and Apostles' and Athanasian creeds;
- (e) I assent to the doctrine of the Anglican Church of Australia as expressed in the Thirty-nine Articles, the Book of Common Prayer and the Ordering of Bishop's Priests and Deacons;
- (f) I endorse the Declaration of Faith adopted by Synod 2008 known as the "Jerusalem Declaration(2008)";
- (g) I assent to the *Constitution Statute 2016* of the Anglican Diocese of North West Australia;
- (h) I assent to and respect the authority of the Bishop of North West Australia in spiritual and liturgical matters within the Diocese.
- (i) I agree to conform to the behaviour and practises set out in Faithfulness in Service: a national code for church workers.