

# BRAVE

## **ACC** NSW & ACT **2022 REPORT**

I can't wait to see you in person at conference! Never have these words sounded so wonderful or meant so much. We now live in a different world; many things have changed from our daily routines through to how we have had to engage with people of faith and those far from Christ so they can continue to experience the transformational power of God in their lives.

As I have talked with many Pastors and leaders around NSW & the ACT and indeed nationally and globally, we all have had to begin to re-think many things. One of my passions and commitments to you as your state leader is to come alongside you where you are, to meet you in person, hear your story and learn from your journey. I have particularly loved going to our regional churches who are doing amazing things in their local communities. This is one of the reasons we have called our conference **BRAVE**.

John 20:29 makes this statement, "Blessed are those who believe without seeing." To me this is what being brave means, you continued to lead during a pandemic, and to tenaciously find alternative ways to care and reach people. I want to encourage you all and say well done! Being brave is not just being in the battle, it's believing God is still in charge when we are not sure where he is, it's trusting in a God we don't see, yet still believing he is who he said he is and that he is working in everything for our good! Brave is to love, to hope for better days. The world needs a brave church, unflinching in faith and influential in its reach.

As we look ahead to the future, I feel very strongly to commit more time and energy toward our focus on Pastor's health so we will in turn strengthen our churches and our communities, already we have seen over 40 Pastors take part in mentoring and supervision through our Pastors Health initiatives. I want to ensure that we continue to achieve our goals in our four focus areas:

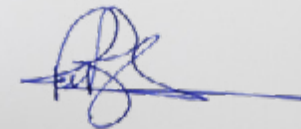
- Church Planting
- Raising Young Influencers
- Building a Discipleship Culture
- Awareness of Indigenous Culture

I am looking forward to celebrating with you in Port Macquarie the 20 churches that have been planted since last conference (2020), the 83 people who have taken part in our Starting Stronger training,

the 152 OMC credentialed pastors who have now been endorsed, and the 101 new PMC/SMC pastors that have been credentialed into the ACC. We will have space to recognise the focus on Discipleship and the new initiatives that will be made available as a menu to all our churches at conference. We will continue to encourage and profile our young leaders (since Oct 2020 we have 16 people under the age of 30 credentialed and take part in the Youth Alive Academy). I am also so encouraged to see many of our Ministry Departments and regions have opened with a beautiful Acknowledgement of Country, which shows respect to our first peoples. We have also seen a greater adoption of NAIDOC week where activities have included Aboriginal speakers and highlighting the value of local Aboriginal culture.

I want to personally thank all ACC staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes and the amazing leaders that make up your State Executive.

God Bless,




As Senior Pastors of Lighthouse for the past 22 years, Paul and Annette have grown a church that is well known, trusted and influential not only in its local community, but also on a national and international scale. Paul is the author of two books, the well known Thank God It's Monday and his recently released book Re-Think It. Unlearning how we think to reach a changing world that's thinking less about church. Through Sunday and online gatherings, a weekly popup restaurant for those in need, Chaplaincy with the Illawarra Hawks, the church's school (Cedars Christian College) and its 800 students, the vision of Lighthouse and the ACC is being felt and outworked practically under his leadership.

Although Paul is a visionary and innovative thinker, he is passionate about serving a vision greater than his own. As an ACC State Executive Member for the past 16 years, Paul continues to be passionate about seeing healthy pastors and leaders in our state. He is focussed on providing Pastors and Leaders opportunities for mentoring, supervision, and connection with the State Pastoral team. Paul is also energised by the state's four focus areas, Church Planting, Raising Young Influencers, Building a Discipleship Culture and Awareness of Indigenous Culture and has been so encouraged by the outworking of these focuses in churches and regions around the state.

*President Nominee*

**PAUL**BARTLETT



I am so proud of our Chaplains and ACC churches who daily are going out into the community to make a difference for Christ! Over the last 2 years we have grown to the point we have 406 members, across 26 sectors, impacting lives on a daily basis.



**Over the last 2 years:**

- 22 Chaplaincy Australia/ACC Chaplains received a Citation from the Premiers office specifically for deployment to evacuation centres during the bush fires
- 4 Chaplains have been employed within the corrective service and workplace sectors
- Due to the increase of mental health issues across Australia, we have been able to work with churches to deliver 3 Mental Health First Aid courses across NSW and ACT, with another 3 planned
- With the 2020 and 2021 Chaplaincy Conferences being cancelled, we still continued to build momentum across the state with "Connecting to your Calling", an all-in "Connection and Fun" night, as well as "Journey to Recovery- Disaster, Resilience and Post Traumatic Growth" ... all via zoom! Hundreds of Chaplains, Pastors, and leaders joined to connect and be encouraged. This was also a great opportunity to assist churches and organisations to understand the impact of disaster on our communities and the individual, and to give understanding for personal health and growth through these times
- Chaplaincy Conference 2022 - "Bridging the Gap" was a great success. We were humbled by record numbers at The Crown Plaza in Terrigal for 2 days in March, and 190 spaces booked for professional development pre and post conference. This conference continues to be a resource for churches, chaplains and leaders across many denominations with many opportunities for Professional Development and networking
- 1800Chaplain was launched in November 2021 nationally and has been operational for over 8 months. During that time we have seen

and heard amazing stories and testimonies of the help that has been offered and the care that has been experienced by our callers. Partnering with the church, 1800Chaplain can be a supplement of care & support or a credible resource for information on its website for individuals and churches across Australia.

- The Chaplaincy/Pastoral App was also launched in 2021. This is a key piece in ensuring long term effectiveness and impact of all chaplaincy work and especially with 1800Chaplain. This will also give an indication of community issues so that future training can be tailored for our churches and community
- A national reciprocal relationship with Sports Chaplaincy Australia was formed to open the door to new Chaplains in our network. It will strengthen both organisations and will lead to better outcomes of service delivery for our local communities
- A scholarship was funded for an Indigenous Leader or Pastor, to assist them to upgrade their qualifications to work within their local community as an accredited Chaplain





- In 2022 16 ACC Disaster chaplains were deployed during the recent flood event on the north coast. Their deployment locations included Far Northern Rivers, North Coast, Central Coast, and the Hawkesbury/Nepean Valley. 8 NSW Chaplains were also deployed to assist in Queensland during this time. Our recent Sydney/Central Coast floods had 15 ACC chaplains deployed to 13 evacuation centres. 5 Chaplains continue to work in 5 recovery centres.



As we look to the future, I am very excited to be a part of a growing movement of ACC churches that are passionate about touching lives. We see Chaplaincy as a bridge to the community and we are here to assist you to increase your footprint into your neighbourhood and beyond. It is together that we will make a difference.

**Ps Deborah Kuhna**  
*State Leader NSW & ACT*



Darren, together with his wife Bronwyn, leads The Chapel Collective a multisite Church in regional NSW. Darren has served on the State Executive for 8 years overseeing Church Planting and serving as the Vice President since 2018. Darren has a passion to position people to live their God appointed purpose and to raise churches positioned for their God appointed future.

His love is his wife, the gorgeous Bron and their three children. Darren is known for his conviction, authenticity, and love of sports.

*Vice President Nominee*

**DARREN BONNELL**



Ken has been involved in pastoral and leadership roles within ACC churches since he was a teenager and is grateful for his Pentecostal heritage. He has been happily married to Mandy since 1986 and they have 2 adult sons and have recently welcomed their beautiful daughter-in-law into the family.

Ken is the former Senior Pastor of Embassy Church, Belmore Sydney and now serves as a volunteer on the pastoral team at Embassy. He loves seeing people's lives changed through the power of the Holy Spirit and authentic church community.

Ken is bi-vocational and when he is not in church ministry, he enjoys working in the community as a funeral celebrant where he meets many incredible people who would probably never attend church.

He hopes his life and ministry reflect a real and growing understanding of what it means to be a good human and a real disciple of Jesus.

Ken has served on the State Executive since 2018 and is looking forward to being even more connected with pastors and churches in the movement for this next season.

*State Secretary Nominee*  
**KEN FISCHER**



### **Fun. Faith. Friends. Foundations. Formation. Future.**

In 1998, Penrith City Council planted over 100 small trees just near my children's school. Within one week, not one was left in the ground or undamaged as destructive small humans moved through the area. Every tree died. Fast-forward to 2022, the trees were replanted. Not one has been damaged. Not one has been removed. They are growing and thriving- and small humans still walk past every morning and afternoon.

So... what changed?

Essentially what our children have been taught in regard to the environment. While adults are still debating endless positions on the environment, in less than 25 years generational thinking and action has been transformed, why... because of targeted children's education.

If we are to transform our nation we must be completely committed to targeted, strategic and prioritised Children's ministry. There's no doubt that the past few years have been challenging, but now we get to rebuild, reshape and rethink what our ministries will look like.

Since September 2021, ACC Kids has facilitated the mentoring of nine Kids Pastors in NSW & ACT, for 12 months, with direct input from some of the best Kids Pastors globally. This program will continue for the next 2 years, to reach as many Kids Pastors as possible and is fully funded by the ACC National Executive.

In March 2022 the Kidshaper one day training event was held in Sydney, and in August Kidshaper National tour included a two-day event in Sydney and three regional events.

ACC Kids is here to support and champion your Kids Pastors and leaders as they reach the children in your community through Sunday services, SRE, playgroups, Chaplaincy, school holiday programs and every other creative way they are leading kids and families to Jesus.

As we look to 2023 make sure your Kids Pastor or Leader connects with me and other great kids' leaders across your region.

**Ps Allyson Parker**  
*State Leader NSW & ACT*



I want to start by thanking Andrew Harper who has led Community Engagement for the past season. He did an incredible job to support churches engage and care for their community in new ways, despite a global pandemic, disasters etc.

There is no doubt that this time has caused a re-think in us all. One of the things I have seen was a shift away from large programs run by a few volunteers (due to restrictions) to a more personal approach to community.

I am most passionate about ensuring that the church of 2022 & beyond makes sense to everyday life and that it remains a part of the social fabric of its city and region. To do this requires a seamless approach to our venues, our language, our allocation of time & a dedication to a lifestyle of community engagement from us, as pastors.

To do this, my focus has/will be:

- To develop community engagement ambassadors / leaders in every region of NSW and the ACT by the end of 2023.
- Support churches to be their best, when their community is going through its worst from natural disaster.
- That new church plants & pastors are offered a custom fit community engagement strategy that is central to their vision before they begin.
- That accredited training is provided for leaders and pastors through the Diploma of Community Services at Alphacrucis University College.

To that last point, the Diploma is something that I have completed recently along with 168 other community leaders nationally. Our goal in NSW and the ACT is to have one team member from every ACC church trained with this Diploma to continue to build credibility and trust to our communities. There will be at least two of these courses running next year and I encourage you to be a part of it. I am looking forward to this new season ahead with community engagement, partnering with you as you lead your communities.

**Ps Josh Hammann**  
State Leader NSW & ACT

Louise (Lou) Antonius along with her husband Felix lead Eastcoast Church, Caringbah in Sydney's Sutherland Shire. Lou has been part of Eastcoast Church for 18 years. After serving on the Pastoral team for 11 years in various leadership roles, Lou transitioned into the Senior Leadership of Eastcoast Church 4 years ago.

Lou's leadership and preaching style endears and inspires people across all generations. She loves and believes in the local church, and deeply understands the church's role in sharing the hope of Jesus Christ to the world, starting with the local community. From her own experience of serving God while raising her three young children, Lou is passionate about creating opportunities for all of God's people to serve and participate in ministry in any stage of life.

Lou is focussed on raising and releasing people into God's calling, and believes that everyone within the church can have a vibrant and vital relationship with Jesus, and that all Christians play an important role in the wider body of Christ.

*State Executive Member Nominee*

**LOUISE ANTONIUS**



Mark and Darlene serve as Lead Pastors of Hope Unlimited Church (Hope UC) with campuses in Charmhaven, Gosford, Peninsula, Newcastle, Maitland and Port Stephens, as well as internationally in the US and India. Mark lives on the Central Coast of NSW with his wife Darlene and they have 3 daughters Amy, Chloe, Zoe Jewel, son in laws Andrew & Hosanna, and 6 grandchildren.

Mark and Darlene have also launched Hope Rwanda: 100 Days of Hope and Hope Global in Rwanda, Cambodia and India, runs 4B Media and 4B Serve, have developed a Diploma of Screen and Media course in partnership with Alphacrucis, and launched the "Can We Pray For You" campaign.

Mark is a gifted, innovative, and strategic leader who will bring great experience and wisdom to his role on the State Executive.

State Executive Member Nominee

**MARKZSCHECH**



The last two years have proved a challenge; however our NSW & ACT ACC Women have stayed connected thanks to Instagram, Zoom and momentary breaks in lockdown.

### Live Instagrams

After receiving an Insta live lesson from Matt Wiley, our State Youth Alive Director, I launched "Conversations with Roz" .

In the last two years we have interviewed Julia A'Bell, Sandra Dumas, Darlene Zschech, Patricia Weerakoon, Susan Marcuccio, Paul and Annette Bartlett and Vicki Simpson. We have gleaned wisdom, leadership tips and had some laughs (especially the one with Patricia on healthy sexuality!!).

### Getaways

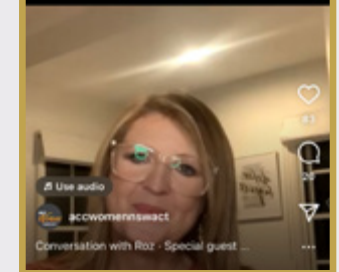
We have hosted two getaways. These intimate gatherings provide a safe place where women can enjoy honest and authentic conversation. My prayer is that none of our leaders would have to do their leadership journey alone.

At the end of 2020 we took a bunch of our 30+ female Co-Senior Pastors away. This was a brilliant time together and great friendships were formed.

In 2021 our fearless female Senior Pastors gathered for an excellent time of encouragement. It is exciting to see more of our women stepping into this role. Watch out world!!

### Conferences

This year we have hosted some regional conferences. These events gather women from all ages and walks of life, providing a place where away from everyday distractions, they can lean in and receive something fresh from the Holy Spirit.



Thank you to all our ACW regional leaders for investing in our women.

### National Executive

Congratulations to Ally Cawthorn who was voted onto our National Executive in 2021. Ally is launching a mentoring initiative for women across our nation who are interested in stepping into a governing position.

### Leadership retreat

To finish this year we are hosting our first ever Leadership Retreat. The theme is "Find your Leadership Voice - How to show up, speak up and lead with confidence!"

The purpose of this gathering is to receive leadership specific input. We want to equip our leaders so they can be resilient, stay in the race and finish what God has called them to do. We will do all of the above in the beautiful surrounds of Mt Carmel retreat at Varroville .

Dates: Tuesday 8 - Thursday 10 November 2022.

For more details go to the @accwomenswact Instagram account or contact Roz at [roz@macquarielifechurch.com.au](mailto:roz@macquarielifechurch.com.au)



ACW Senior Pastors

**Ps Roz Zaia**  
State Leader NSW & ACT



Nobody really knows who Stephen Lott is... not because he's an enigma... but because since the age of 11, he's only ever been known as 'Lotty'! A down-to-earth Aussie through and through, Lotty's highly relational nature draws people in, and as a passionate and gifted speaker and innovative leader, he brings wisdom, fun, blessing and empowerment to all in his sphere of influence.

His 20 years of ministry experience include planting LifeHouse Church in Moree, and leading Youth Alive NSW & ACT. Lotty and his wife Cie are the beloved Senior Pastors of LifeHouse Church, a multisite church with campuses across Northern NSW, where they lead the way in making disciples who make a difference, both here at home and across the globe.

His current State Executive portfolio, *Emerging Leaders*, aligns directly with his personal passion to raise and release the current and emerging generations into their God-given purpose -- resulting in leaders who have gone on to hold significant roles in some of our country's leading churches.

Lotty and Cie have been married for 22 years, have four amazing children and love living in "paradise" on the Coffs Coast.

State Executive Member Nominee

**STEPHEN LOTT**



Roz has been married to Mark for 38 years, having raised three children who are now adults.

Roz grew up in Sydney, surrendered her life to Christ in her 20's, and was called from school teaching into the ministry. Roz and Mark pastored their church in Newcastle together for thirty years and in 2020 Roz took on the Senior Pastor role by herself. Macquarie Life Church has a strong emphasis on church planting, family and local community.

Roz is passionate about demonstrating, teaching, and raising authentic healthy leaders and churches. She loves hiking and custard tarts. Roz was elected to the NSW & ACT State Executive in 2016. Roz and Mark have a long standing involvement and influence within our State and the ACC movement.

State Executive Member Nominee

**ROZZAIA**



As the ACC NSW & ACT Red Frogs Coordinator it has been a highlight to increase partnership with the Red Frogs NSW & ACT team to strategically empower churches throughout NSW & ACT. This has provided us with increased opportunities to connect our churches with universities and high schools.

Seeing local churches start breakfast programs with their local high school has been a highlight for me. As well, seeing first-time Red Frog volunteers discover the joy of serving a generation at Schoolies and Music Festivals has been an exciting achievement. Also, it's been so rewarding to raise awareness about the opportunities available through Red Frogs for churches to connect with their communities in a practical way.

As things have opened up I am looking forward to an exciting period, particularly with universities in NSW asking Red Frogs to be present on their campuses. There are heaps of opportunities available for churches to build new bridges in their community.



Red Frog volunteers at Splendour in the Grass, Byron Bay

**Ps Paul Dent**  
State Leader NSW & ACT

**REDFROGS**  
AUSTRALIA

There has been more change in the last two years than the last decade, however, unequivocally two things have not changed:

1. Teenagers still need Jesus
2. We still need each other

These two thoughts framed 2022 for Youth Alive, from Youth Alive Leaders Retreat in February where over 300 NSW & ACT leaders gathered, to 'United We Pray' where we stood together in unity to pray for teenagers to encounter Jesus.

This year we're celebrating 40 years of Youth Alive and we're marking this moment by doing what Youth Alive was fashioned for: uniting ALL OF US together and preaching the Gospel! For the first time in over a decade, we're gathering as a state – bringing together thousands of teenagers from every corner of NSW & ACT to stand as one unified generation and see a wave of salvations.

Our desire is to see 1000 new young people decide to follow Jesus in the next 12 months and become planted in local youth ministries... and... to achieve this it takes ALL OF US.

### Youth Alive Academy

In 2021, we welcomed Tim Bassetto onto the team as the State Youth Alive Academy Director. In six months, Tim and his team have established our third academy location (SYD) and aim to launch our fourth location in the ACT in 2023. The team doubled the number of enrolments in NSW this year and in partnership with ACC NSW & ACT and Alphacrusis, we have sponsored our first indigenous student to study at the academy.

We're raising youth leaders that are passionate about making disciples. Our aim is to help produce youth ministries that excel at making strong disciples and we know that the bi-product of strong focussed discipleship is evangelism. We're excited to produce lasting fruit through our academy here in our state.

**Ps Matt & Beck Wilesmith**  
*State Leaders NSW & ACT*



The last two years have definitely tested our emotional and spiritual health. There were health orders to abide by, differing opinions to navigate, technology to be mastered, leaders to process and a sense of loss when some of our people didn't return to church.

If you are one of the many who reached out during this season and chose to receive mentoring or supervision - WELL DONE!

I am grateful to our State Executive that they place such high value on Pastors health and offer to invest into all of credential pastors by paying for one free mentoring or supervision session.

**State Pastoral Team:**

Our State Pastoral Team is a group of experienced ministers who have had fruitful ministries and leadership roles in the ACC. These people create a safe place with senior leaders and their spouses over a meal or coffee so that they can share honestly about life, leadership, family, failures, and successes. Sometimes all we need is another person who understands and who gets what we are going through. Each region has an appointed person who belongs to this team and works alongside the Regional Leader.

Caleb and Renee Dwyer oversee this team and are passionate about helping you connect if this is something you are interested in.

**Mentoring**

Kate Mole from Hope UC oversees our ACT & NSW mentoring. We have a great team of trained mentors that provide a safe, supportive, environment for personal and professional growth and development.

**Supervision**

This area provides a confidential space with pastors and leaders to discuss what is happening in the ministry with someone who is trained to provide the support. It follows the biblical principle of discipleship, providing encouragement, accountability and time out to rest and reflect. Susan Marcuccio is passionate in her leadership of the supervision space

**Pastors Health Hotline**

We know this last season has been a challenge, so with this in mind, we have set up a Pastors' Health Hotline (PHH). If you call this number 02 4075 2710, Ps Marilyn Brett will be available to talk to you and help you find the right

support. Marilyn is a coach, mentor and has pastored along with her husband for 35 years. Perhaps you need a debrief, a pastoral visit, information about counselling, supervision or mentoring – we want to help you find the best way forward. Put this number in your phone, on your fridge or share it with a friend.

**Live Instagram**

In May this year we interviewed Mark Kelsey the C3 Leadership and Global Development Pastor on pastors' health. He shared his journey of coming back from burnout and the strategies he now keeps in place so he can sustain and stay healthy. You can go back and listen to this interview on our socials page

We love you; we believe in you, and we want you to stay healthy and finish well.

I encourage you to take advantage of the state's offer of a free mentoring or supervision session. If you need any more information head to the ACC NSW & ACT website page under Pastors' Health.



**Ps Roz Zaia**  
*State Leader NSW & ACT*

Resourcing churches and ministries, with cultural information has been a highlight for us. More & more churches and ministries are seeking advice of where to find resources to guide their educational journey and assist in creating thought provoking conversations that bring understanding and awareness to their audiences.

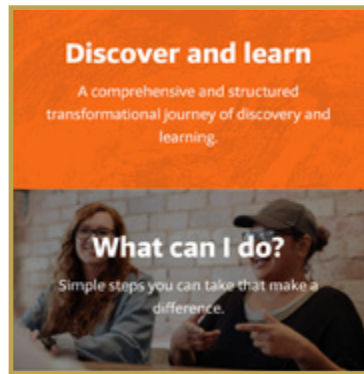
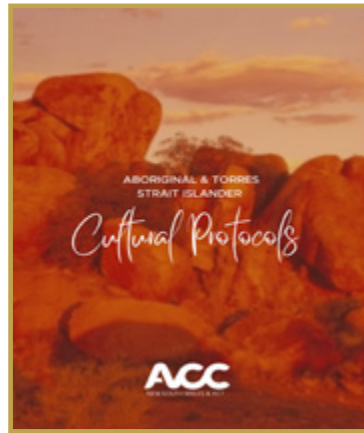
**Resources/organisations we have promoted include:**

**A Cultural Protocols Resource page was added to our states website under the Indigenous Ministry.** We have had a number of ministers/churches commenting on how helpful this information has been.

**Australians Together** website is a fantastic resource for churches, ministries, schools and organisations looking for learning resources to help inspire and equip you and your workplaces to understand our shared history and assists with how we together can respond in meaningful ways that builds on a platform of unity and reconciliation. [australianstogether.org.au](http://australianstogether.org.au)

**National NAIDOC Week Celebrations** – We found this year to be a fantastic turn out, not only in our community of Tweed Heads but across the nation. It was for most of the nation 2 years of not being able to come together & celebrate – but we sure made up for it – the pictures show over 1000 people marching hand in hand with the local police down the main street of Tweed Heads in solidarity – (not being escorted), but they were there to support our gathering as a show of right relationship and respect.

It was such a positive atmosphere and definitely highlighted the National theme of, **Get Up-Stand Up-Show Up!** – which provided an opportunity for everyone to feel involved, regardless of where they are at with their personal Aboriginal education journey. We have seen schools, organisations and some churches of all types be brave and embrace changing the narrative for a reconciled future together.



NSW mob marching to the QLD Border



Modern Day Yawahr (Corroboree) @ Twin Towns



QLD mob meeting NSW at the border

**Ps William & Sandra Dumas**

State Leaders NSW & ACT

Safe churches require visionary leadership. Such leadership understands the value of children and young people, and indeed all people to God, and seeks to ensure that all steps have been taken to protect them from harm. Governing boards and leadership teams, not only recognize the value of each individual, but they also recognize how creating a safe culture bears witness to Christ within their community.

As a movement we continue to review our procedures and update our documents and training as part of our ongoing commitment to the highest standard of child safe practice.

Last year, the ACC Child Protection policy and Safer Churches Guidelines were updated to reflect new legislation and current best practice in implementation. It is important that each ACC Church has updated their policy and guidelines to these versions, or ones that are equivalent. All Safer churches training has been updated in 2022, and from August moved to a new host platform which has meant individual churches can now have far greater oversight of their volunteer training records. The helpline has also moved to an encrypted online record keeping format for all child related reports. This new format allows church Safer Churches Officers access to update information and add relevant documents to reports relevant to their church and ensures safe storage of these records permanently. We want to thank the team at Safer Communities for their ongoing work in assisting ACC with Safer Churches training and implementation.

This year, from February 1st, the Children's Guardian Amendment (Child Safe Scheme) 2021 came into effect in NSW, which has embedded the 10 Child Safe Standards into law for all religious organisations. This means, that all ACC Churches in NSW are required to understand and implement each of the Standards across all ministries and activities. There is a significant amount of resource provided by the Office of the Children's Guardian to assist you in understanding the Child Safe Scheme and help you with compliance.

As a Movement, Safer Churches commitment is at the core of our ministry. If you need information, advice, or assistance, please be in contact.

**Ps Allyson Parker**  
*State Leader NSW & ACT*



Emerging Leaders in NSW & ACT remains such a vital ministry for our churches. With young adults being so deeply impacted by the last few challenging years, we need strong young adult ministries now more than ever.

Emerging Leaders has been pulling together Young Adult Pastors and leaders from around the state and territory to pray, encourage and to share ideas about how we can best serve this generation of young adults. Young adults carry so much of the leadership and practical work within our churches and their tech skills were lent on intensely during the season of lockdowns.

Under the leadership of the State Executive and guided by the Emerging Leaders National Director Ps Matt Heins, our vision has been to create opportunities for emerging leaders to develop support networks through fellowship, while also receiving an intentional impartation of wisdom and the Spirit.

2022 will see a return to our in-person leadership gatherings and 2023 is already shaping up to be a huge year for Emerging Leaders events. 2023 will also see a fresh leadership injection in the department as our team continues to grow and develop.

God is doing great work in and through this vibrant and important ministry and I am so excited for all that the future holds.

**Ps Timothy Biasetto**  
*State Leader NSW & ACT*

Launching a Church in the last two years was a bold move only a church planter can fully appreciate.

Against all odds, at the time of writing this report, we have endorsed 26 ACC NSW & ACT Churches, (8 churches in 2020-2021 Conference period and 18 churches in the 2021-2022 Conference period) from all over NSW & the ACT.

To every pioneer, innovator, risk taker and visionary who has planted a Church since our last conference reporting period we applaud your bold faith!

Our new Churches express the collective of who we are as a movement in their mix of unique style, diverse reach, new churches and new campuses. Churches planted in locations spanning everywhere from major cities and suburban growth areas, to regional towns and rural communities.

Here is how Church Planting ACC NSW & ACT continues to train, resource, finance and coach our church planters in launching churches that start strong and thrive.

1. Facilitating two Starting Strong Intensives each year. These training intensives are free to every prospective church planter in the ACC (we launch an expanded program this November).
2. Online training and Zoom Webinars
3. Personalised coaching available for every church planter.
4. Unprecedented finance options for ACC NSW & ACT church plants.
5. BDC Church Planting Cohort (In May we launched our first discipleship based church planting cohort).

In addition to these things, we have been hard at work on new initiatives and expanded training that add even more to our training, resourcing, financing and coaching. The plan, even more churches starting strong and positioned to thrive.

A massive thanks to the speakers, guests and office staff who played a part in seeing the 26 new churches in the last two years and to Bronnie Bonnell for overseeing our Intensives and shaping its content.

Finally, to Chris Smith who is finishing up in this space, a special mention and massive thank you. You have worked tirelessly, passionately, and loyally along-

side Bron and I. More than that you have championed every Church Planter and supported every new Church.

Is it time for you to plant a new church or new campus?

To explore all that's possible you can email us at [darren.bonnell@nswacc.org.au](mailto:darren.bonnell@nswacc.org.au) or [ken.fischer@nswacc.org.au](mailto:ken.fischer@nswacc.org.au)

**Ps Darren Bonnell**

*State Leader NSW & ACT*

**Welcome...**

**Wilcannia River of Life Church**  
*Wilcannia*  
(Ps David Jackson and Western Regional Team)

**Life In The Spirit Ministries**  
*Prestons*  
(Ps Filipo Tato)

**Lifeforce-Fairfield**  
*Fairfield*  
(Ps John and Anne Iuliano)

**Grace New Life Church**  
*Pemulway*  
(Ps Gideon Jesudoss)

**Resound Church**  
*Randwick*  
(Ps Luke Reid)

**Everyone Church**  
*Oran Park*  
(Ps Simon Austin)

**Riverina First Fijian Community Church**  
*Griffith*  
(Ps Eroni Niuserere)

**Centi Church**  
*Sydney CBD*  
(Ps Tony and Emelia Mora)

**Unity of Christ Church for All Nations**  
*Blacktown*  
(Ps Makor Nyeng)

**Home Together Australia**  
*Forde*  
(Ps Chris and Briony Heyward)

**God's House of Love**  
*Currans Hill*  
(Ps Lima Leulualalli)

**ISAOGC**  
*Oran Park*  
(Ps Atapana Metuli)

**Mt Sinai Church**  
*Campbelltown*  
(Ps Lave Wright)

**Zion Church**  
*Caringbah*  
(Ps Josiah Sherwin)

**Ignite City Life Church**  
*Queanbeyan*  
(Ps Josua Tavaga)

**Life Space Church**  
*Marsden Park*  
(Ps Tym and Wendy Kent)

**Father's House Sydney**  
*Bankstown*  
(Ps Sione Maake)

**FountainGate Ministries**  
*Inverell*  
Ps Henry Weatherall

**Amazing Grace Christian Assembly**  
*Riverstone*  
(Ps Shaji Thomas)

**Sydney Family Life Church**  
*Glenwood*  
(Ps Ruel Gounder)

**Agape Christian Church**  
*Colyton*  
(Ps Rowell Corpuz)

**Glow Sutherland**  
*Caringbah*  
(Ps James Murray)

**Celebration Church International**  
*Lakemba*  
(Ps Viliame Bolabiu)

### Following Jesus

Our vision is for every student in NSW Government Schools to be given the opportunity to question, explore and discover the Christian Faith for themselves. Students will then be able to make an informed decision about whether or not they will choose to follow Jesus.

In NSW the Department of Education has given an incredible privilege to all ministers and their representatives to teach the Christian faith to students in Government schools for half an hour each week. This time is now known as SRE (Special Religious Education) and was formerly known as Scripture.

With 2,240 public schools in NSW and almost one million enrolments, the ACC is currently reaching into 130 of these schools, educating approximately 3,000 students in the Christian Faith.

ACC is an Authorised Provider of SRE teachers and all teachers who attend an ACC church are authorised by us. We offer face to face SRE teacher training along with the very popular zoom training and a recently added video course.

Of our 321 ACC churches, 77 churches have seized this opportunity to educate students in the Christian faith. Together we send just over 200 people into schools each week enabling them to make valuable connections with their local schools.

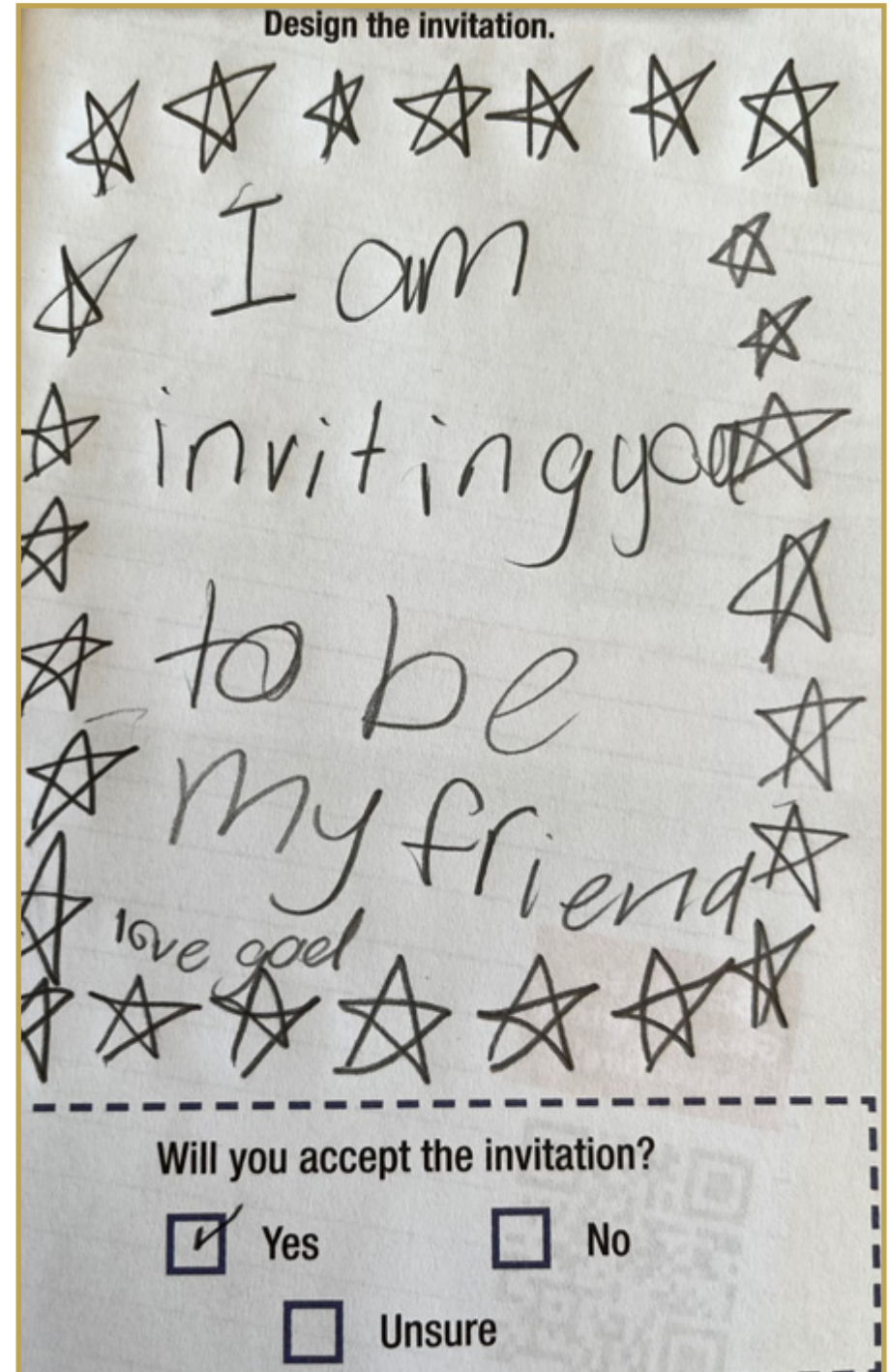
If you would like to take up this opportunity contact: [sre@nswacc.org.au](mailto:sre@nswacc.org.au) or go to [www.nswacc.org.au/ministries/sre/](http://www.nswacc.org.au/ministries/sre/)

The NSW & ACT ACC SRE department is run by volunteers and we are grateful to have a volunteer who sits on the Commission of the combined churches of NSW, a volunteer who fulfils an administration role and a volunteer who sits on the High School Committee for NSW.



### Ps Barbara Scott

State Leader NSW & ACT



Emeritus over the last two years has been challenged with interruptions around COVID and weather events (like everyone else). However, we have now been able to have some gatherings in the last year. We have had lunch gatherings in Newcastle, the Central Coast, Penrith, Blue Mountains and have one planned for Norwest Sydney soon.

Our members appreciate the ongoing sense of connection after retirement. I have been able to contact individuals regularly by phone and email.

Once every quarter we release a newsletter updating our people about state events and bringing encouragement to our members.

90% of the Emeritus members, even though retired and stepping down from pastoral roles, are still very active in ministry. We are encouraging people to work in mentoring or supporting emerging leaders, be aware of the need to disciple others, have an awareness of the needs of our indigenous brethren, and support others with church planting through prayer and offering help.

I am pleased to report that life in Emeritus is back on track and looking forward to maintaining our connection and gatherings into the future.

**Ps Ian Bartley**  
*State Leader NSW & ACT*

