

2023 Annual Report



crosspoint
church

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ABN 50 633 699 262

spreading substantive, maturing,
expanding joy in God.



the past

It is good to look back. It is healthy and wholesome. There is so much to thank God for. So much to enjoy about God in what he has shown us of himself. So much to celebrate. But there is also much to learn from the past. And much to grieve.

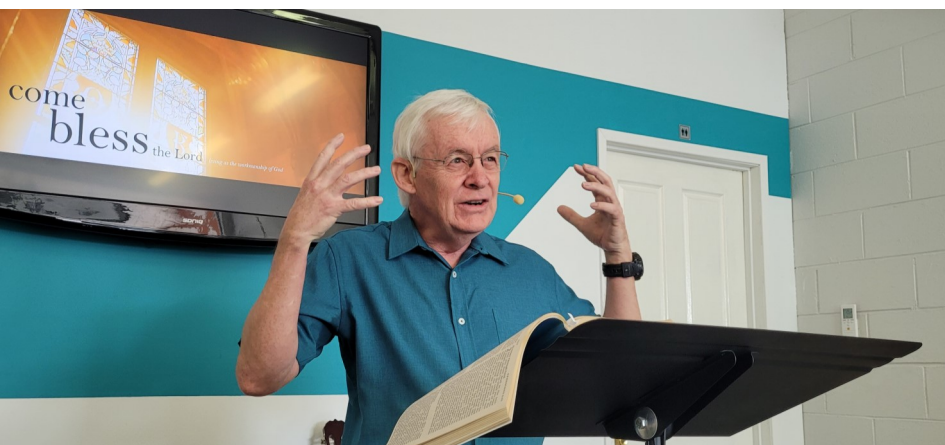
Thank God we believers do not live as prisoners of the past. We do not need to be afraid to face the past. Even when it is terrifying. And painful. And broken.

Why? Because the past is the history of our brokenness under the curse; but the curse does not have the final word in our story; God does. God reclaimed human history when he sent his son to enter human history to redeem it—and us—from the destruction of the curse. Through the lens of the cross, history with all its ups and downs is faceable. The ups are monuments to the grace of God. The downs are the scars of a conquered enemy; a death that has lost its sting; a grave that has lost its victory!

We do not—we *must* not—sorrow as those who have no hope. To do so, we would have to betray the truth, to forget the cross. And that is something God's people can never let happen. We must always keep a clear vision of the cross across the millennia until Jesus comes back the same way he left. This is our hope. We cling to the gospel.

I will come to the altar of God,
to God, my greatest joy.

—Psalm 43:4 CSB



elders' report

Jason Harris

What a blessing to write this report as part of a team of elders for the first time. We appointed Douglas Corin as an elder a few weeks ago and he has hit the ground running. I look forward to how God will use his wisdom and gifts in this new role. Please pray for him and for us as we seek to model grace, wisdom, and humility in our oversight of the assembly.

looking back

This has been a year of plodding. We've just been doing what Jesus' assembly ought to be doing. We've been assembling regularly to worship our great God together. We've been digging into his word to be shaped by his heart and his message of redemption in Jesus crucified. We've been asking him to work through his word—not nearly enough though. We've been sharing the joy we have in God himself with each other and





with those who do not yet have joy in him. And we've sought out opportunities to do good in Jesus' name.

This report is a brief record of some of the more formal ways in which we've been able to do good. But there is so much more that goes on between the lines. One of my privileges as a pastor is to hear story after story, week after week, of the ways that God has used our people to serve others in big ways and little ways. Truly the gospel does change us and give us a heart to share the love that we have so freely received through the cross of Jesus.

One of the ways in which this happens is through small gatherings and one-on-one catch-ups over coffee or a meal. These meetings matter. Especially when they are viewed as divine appointments for building each other up in grace and in the knowledge of God; in other words, in joy.

Early in the year, we saw a number of people involved in our systematic theology course. This was a great opportunity to grow in our understanding of the truth revealed in Scripture and to wrestle with all its complexity and nuance.

In our preaching this year, we spent a lot of time in *The Acts of the Apostles*. This series stretched out over the better part of a year, but was, I think, useful and rewarding. Over Christmas, we spent some time in 1 John 4:9 in the series *Love Came Down*. Then early in 2023, we spent four Sundays in a series called *The Crossward Life*. In this series, we looked at the intentionality of Jesus' life and ministry in the gospels. I sought to demonstrate that the cross was not an unfortunate ending tacked on to Jesus' life. Nor was it a concession after he had failed in his primary goal. Rather, the cross was the intentional end and goal of Jesus' life from before his incarnation. More recently, we went through Paul's letter to Titus in a series called *Transforming Truth*. Douglas has continued to lead

Transforming Truth

a study in Titus

us through Paul's letter to the Ephesians in his series, *Come bless the Lord*. And Tim began a series looking at 1 Peter titled *Hope for Exiles*.

This year has brought some new people and seen some old people move on. We thank God for each person that he brings to us and pray that God will use us in their lives and them in ours.

We have also seen a steady stream of guests this last year. It is wonderful to meet other believers and seek to connect with them. Both Douglas and I are encouraged to see how warmly our guests are welcomed and the way so many make the effort to greet and get to know those who worship with us. Thank you for your expression of love in this.

looking forward

Good things are already happening as a result of adding a second elder at CrossPoint. It has been a wonderful experience so far to put our heads together and strategise for your spiritual wellbeing. God has given us a shepherdly dynamic of love and care for the assembly. It has been wonderful to mark out time to pray for you together. We ask most seriously that you pray for us and each other.

We have a number of things we'd like to see going forward this year. Some are more technical. For instance, we hope to guide the church to



expansion
the story of the early church



Love came down

become incorporated this year so that our legal structure is better suited to our situation. Others are more focused on the spiritual. For instance, we want to continue to develop a clearer vision of what we are seeking to accomplish spiritually at CrossPoint. We've discussed this with you a little already, and will no doubt talk about it more. We really do need each person's gifts in the body of Jesus; the church. It is no small task to *identify* our gifts, to *develop* them, and then to get them *engaged* in particular situations that help to build up the body. But we believe this is something each assembly ought to be doing. As shepherds, we want to focus our attention on this task and encourage you to do the same.

As we close, we want to thank each person who has invested their time, money, and energy in serving the body and the local community this year. It is our delight to see this evidence of grace in you. Thank you.

Grace and peace to you.



Joan Douglas

income statement

for the financial year ended 30 June*

	2023	2022
Income		
Building	826	603
Care	681	1,043
Designated	1,113	1,214
Domestic Violence	222	232
General	15,636	15,903
Mission	686	748
	19,163	19,743
Expense		
Care	600	1,060
Ministry		
Baptism	-	93
Books	135	24
Camp	79	-22
Carols @ the hospital	78	36
Comfort	45	57
Family lunch	107	-
Jr. Church	-	64
Lord's table	8	24
Morning tea	58	152
Multimedia	149	50
Music	140	86
Mission	1,290	854
Organisational expenses		
Administration	210	410
Public liability insurance	1,177	1,044
Summit	74	40
Staff		
Books	62	31
Venue		
Cleaning supplies	16	4
Equipment	10	105
Furnishings	153	64
Maintenance	114	168
Rent	13,579	13,248
Signage	-17	5
Utilities	743	698
	18,810	18,293
Net income	353	1,450

statement of cash flows

for the financial year ended 30 June*

	2023	2022
Inflows		
Assets: GST collected	11	16
Assets: GST paid	1,623	1,328
Expenses: Ministry: Books	34	26
Expenses: Ministry: Camp	249	158
Expenses: Mission: CCMN RI	90	-
Expenses: Org. Exp.: PLI	91	-
Expenses: Signage	17	-
Donations		
Building	826	603
Care	1,061	1,043
Domestic Violence	222	232
General	15,496	15,903
Mission	686	748
	20,405	20,057
Outflows		
Assets: GST collected	12	15
Assets: GST paid	1,576	1,531
Care	600	1,060
Ministry	290	265
Mission	1,380	854
Organisational expenses	1,295	1,044
Staff	62	31
Venue		
Rent	13,579	13,248
Utilities	743	698
Other	160	155
Income: Care	380	-
	20,077	18,902
Difference	328	1,155
Cash at beginning of period	6,414	5,260
Cash available	6,742	6,414

balance sheet

as at 30 June*

	2023	2022
Assets		
GST paid	437	412
Building	3,148	2,322
Care	239	158
Domestic Violence	2,189	1,968
General	598	795
Mission	568	1,172
	7,180	6,826
Liabilities/Equity		
Retained Earnings	7,180	6,826
	7,180	6,826

*All figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

statement

These financial reports were prepared by myself and represent to the best of my knowledge an accurate picture of the financial position of CrossPoint Church for the 2022/2023 financial year. The books from which these reports were compiled have not been audited or reviewed this year, as there is no legal or constitutional requirement to do so; however, the books are available for inspection by any member of CrossPoint Church by arrangement.



Jason Harris, MPA

19 July, 2023

what a gracious God we serve, who
makes **delight** to be a duty, and who
commands us to **rejoice**.

– Charles Spurgeon

ministry reports

Each year in our annual report we include ministry reports to share what God has been doing in each of our ministries. We hope these will be an encouragement and facilitate awareness and prayer.

If you are interested in seeing a list of current ministry leaders, it is available on our website [home » about » our leadership].

venue

Jason Harris

The need for a larger venue—ideally a venue of our own—remains an important matter for our assembly. Attending a gathering in a small area can be quite confronting for some people. I believe our numerical growth will plateau until we get settled into larger facilities.

Last year I set a goal of getting our building fund balance up to \$10,000. This year, we have made good progress toward this goal. Better progress, in fact, than in any previous year. But we still have a long way to go.

Since we moved into our current venue in 2016, we have paid more than \$95,000 in rent. Imagine if we could buy and put the next \$95,000 into our own building! This is the goal moving forward. But to do this, we will need to save a considerable sum toward a down payment. This is the purpose of the \$10,000 goal.

If you believe in what God is doing through his assembly here at CrossPoint, please consider what you can do to help us reach this goal. It will not be reached in large amounts. It will be reached in small, regular giving. Five dollars here; a dollar there. All of us. Week after week. Until the goal is reached.

	2023	2022
Cash flow		
Opening cash	2,322	1,719
Inflows	826	603
Outflows	-0	-0
Net cash	3,148	2,322

music

Kezia Dennison

The music ministry this year has settled into a bit of a comfortable rhythm, but we are working toward many little things to improve the music part of worship at our gatherings each week. Please pray that we will not drift into a rut with our music, but will continue to grow and be deliberate in how we approach this important part of our gatherings. Our musicians are constantly seeking to learn new strategies and techniques to help better facilitate this part of our weekly worship.

Please thank God with me for our current musicians who sacrifice their time to practice and play for our gatherings. Please be in prayer too for myself as I organise the music and seek to provide better leadership and organisation to the musicians involved in this ministry as organisation in general is not my strong suit. I am grateful for much grace from these wonderful musicians and our church but I am seeking to improve this skill set and would appreciate prayer on that front.

Additionally, if you're interested in being involved in the music ministry, please do speak to me. Please pray as always that the music ministry at CrossPoint will reflect Christ and point to him in everything.

carols at the hospital

Mel Thornton

Each year since 2018 we have taken the time around Christmas to bring a little of God's love to those who need it and are typically forgotten about. We made our annual trip to the Mental Health Ward at Cairns Hospital to sing carols with the patients and staff and to pass out chocolates. These visits seem to be appreciated by the patients and staff alike and are designed to be a fun time for them to be able to sing along.

This year we streamlined the process a bit to run a little smoother and had a successful visit. We have taken on board feedback to further streamline this for this coming Christmas. We had the average number of carollers and we are so grateful for each one who joins.

This year we are hoping for even more carollers to join us, but if it's not your thing we would appreciate your prayers on the day.

morning tea

Mel Thornton

The goal of our morning tea time is to encourage people to spend time together after the gathering in a relaxed environment and this continues to be effective.

We have had more people involved this year which has been a blessing as this has helped ease the load. If anyone would like to participate in this ministry there is a sign up sheet released each quarter and you only need to sign up for the date you are able to do.

I am thankful for each one who has participated this year.

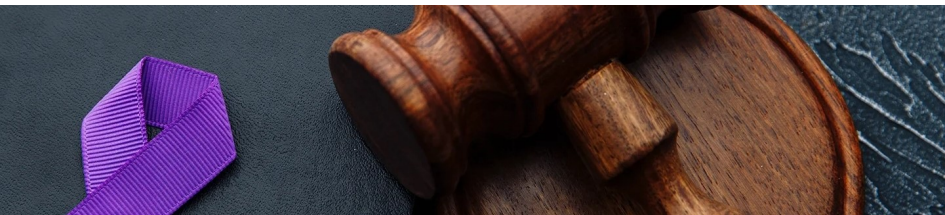
website

Kezia Dennison

We have good news on the front of our multimedia. Up till now, the website ministry has covered all parts of our online presence. However, this year, we have split into two ministries with Tim Corin taking over leadership of the social media side of things. I am excited to see where he takes that ministry and what God does through it. As for our website, Douglas Corin and I continue to test various strategies to improve our online presence and improve our website in particular. This includes the workings of SEO and a lot of behind the scenes work to keep things running smoothly and up to date.

Please pray that we will find new ways to better our website and improve where we need to improve. Thank God too for those who continue to access our website for the online sermons and for the numerous people who visit it each week. May God be glorified in our online presence and may he bring those who are looking for a church like CrossPoint to our doors through this important online tool.





domestic & family violence

Joy Harris

One of the ways we seek to minister to the oppressed and vulnerable is through our fund for victims of domestic and family violence. We also offer counselling, follow-up, and help in practical ways.

This year we started working with the *DV Safe Phone* (dvsafephone.org). Founded in May 2022, they have, so far, collected more than 14,000 phones. These phones are repaired and data wiped so they are untraceable. These are posted, along with a charger and new SIM card, to 245 DV and law enforcement agencies, safe houses, and hospitals Australia-wide. Currently, more than 5,500 victims have received a phone and there are 622 different community and corporate partnerships collecting phones and funds. Often large corporations donate the old company phones when they are replaced with a newer model.

Many victims need a secret phone because abusers often seek to isolate their victims. These phones allow victims to get online and have access to friends, family, and assistance organisations. This is a free service we offer and we are the only distributor in Cairns. Please pray as this brings us into contact with a number of vulnerable people each year whom we are privileged to assist.

Donations to CrossPoint’s DV fund can be given online or by bringing in your metal and glass cans and bottles so we can get the cash from recycling them. There is a large plastic bin with a purple lid in the back room for this purpose. Our goal is to maintain a balance of about \$2,000 for emergency assistance.

	2023	2022
Cash flow		
Opening cash	1,968	1,736
Inflows	222	232
Outflows	-0	-0
Net cash	2,189	1,968

social media

Tim Corin

I have several broad goals for the social media ministry. On Facebook, our reach is down 48.5%, but visits are up 67.9%, year on year. These visitor stats are encouraging, as they're also increasing reasonably steadily month by month. New page visits are likely based on users either searching for our page or clicking through from the website, as the decrease in reach suggests we're not posting enough for Facebook to suggest our content to users. My goal is to increase our reach and visits by posting more regularly. Posts could be as simple as links to the weekly sermons after they're uploaded to the website and upcoming events.

I'd also like to investigate the use of Instagram and Threads. Our current content isn't geared towards Instagram, but with the ease of cross-posting between Instagram and Facebook, I don't think it would hurt to focus on these accounts. I'm not familiar with Threads yet, but it does seem to be another good avenue for increasing our general reach and engagement. Along the same lines, I aim to learn more about X (Twitter), as we have been most active there historically.

Finally, I'd like to publish our sermons to YouTube. I think we could quite easily add past and future sermons to YouTube as an alternative location for people to access them. It will make it easier for people to save/download them in their YouTube app, rather than amongst their files somewhere on their computer/phone.





mission

Jason Harris

We have given more toward the explicit proclamation of the gospel this year than in any previous year. What a beautiful achievement!

In 2021, we committed to support Andrew Walkington through OAC Ministries at \$100 per month and this financial year has been the first full year of supporting this ministry. Although it has stretched us, we have successfully met this commitment and are in a position to continue supporting this ministry for now. Thank God!

As can be seen in the reports below, we have chewed through much of our mission fund reserves. Every dollar you contribute to this fund goes toward the explicit proclamation of the gospel of Jesus. Sharing the good news of reconciliation to God through Jesus crucified is urgent work. The opportunities are expanding. Please pray about what you can do to help us build strategic partnership for the gospel.

	2023	2022
Mission spending		
CCMN Religious Instruction	90	80
OAC Ministries	1,200	700
Project	-	74
	1,290	854

	2023	2022
Cash flow		
Opening cash	1,172	1,278
Inflows	686	748
Outflows	-1,290	-854
Net cash	568	1,172

cleaning

Joy Harris

This ministry is one of the ways CrossPoint strives to make people feel welcome and safe. Cleaning, vacuuming, window-washing, and mopping the front steps takes 40-60 minutes. You can get a copy of the key and come in at your convenience. Everything you could need is in the back room and even volunteering for one part of the cleaning (i.e. just vacuuming or just windows) would be very helpful.

Volunteers can sign up on the “How Can I Help?” form found on the information table every three months. You can sign up to clean either the inside or the outside—or both.

letterboxing

Kezia Dennison

We have been on pause when it comes to our letterboxing of flyers around our community. We haven’t had much of a response even to our more intensive flyer drops. In light of this, we are taking a moment to figure out our next step. We are looking into numerous alternative options such as online advertising which might better facilitate getting our church information out there and allowing us to reach a broader, more receptive audience than our physical flyer letterboxing has had thus far. Please be in prayer that God will lead us in this area and that we will be receptive to whatever ways we can be better stewards of our time, energy, and money when it comes to trying to connect with our community and reach people with the hope and joy we have to share here at CrossPoint.



care

Jason Harris

This year has been financially difficult for many, and it shows most clearly in our care fund giving. Perhaps our mission fund has stolen the limelight this year. Nevertheless, our Christmas offering this year went toward the care fund and this has kept our overall spending from dipping too dramatically.

Our giving continues in three categories this year: assisting persecuted believers, fighting human trafficking, and providing medical and practical support to those in need. Every dollar given to our care fund goes directly to supporting such beneficiaries. Our goal is to keep our working balance in this fund around \$200. This allows a buffer for meeting any needs that come up suddenly. Please see our website for more details on how these funds are distributed.

	2023	2022
Care spending		
International Justice Mission Australia	200	660
Open Doors Australia	100	150
Rachael Liu	200	150
World Vision Australia	100	100
	600	1,060

	2023	2022
Cash flow		
Opening cash	158	175
Inflows	681	1,043
Outflows	-600	-1,060
Net cash	239	158

may the God of hope
fill you with all joy
and peace in believing.

—Paul (Romans 15:13 ESV)

