

AGM Report 2011

**“Now you are
the body of
Christ, and each
one of you is a
part of it.”
1 Corinthians 12:27**

PITTWATER UNITING CHURCH
PITTWATERCHURCH.ORG



SENIOR MINISTER'S REPORT

In 2011 PUC entered its second year of a new strategic direction. It has been a time of reaffirming the path God has us on through reiterating that Jesus is our vision. This year has also involved expanding how we achieve this vision through:

- Engaging people with the truth of Christ
- Growing in the life of Christ
- Going for the cause of Christ

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) has done a great deal of work in 2011 to determine the key activities necessary to fulfil PUC's vision. It is a team of people committed to seeing God's will play out in the life of this church. As this team has met together throughout the year it has developed new initiatives such as:

- Community Building Team
- Advance Leadership Network
- Communications Team

The SLT has also been the driving force behind seeing PUC take significant steps towards us as a people operating at our full capacity. One of the decisive moves in this direction was the setting of a budget for 2011/2012 that ambitiously aimed to harness the potential generosity amongst those who call PUC home. The SLT provides leadership across all that occurs at PUC and has been pivotal in developments during 2011 in the following areas:

- Inspirational worship
- Mission to others
- Children, youth and family ministry

In the latter part of 2011 the SLT made the decision to increase the resources available to Children, Youth and Family Ministry. This is a strategic ministry in the life of PUC and the following changes were initiated by the SLT:

- Katie Lamb (PUC Children's Worker) had her hours increased from 10 hrs/wk to 20hrs/wk
- Fiona Blair had her role expanded to focus on Youth and Families Mission. This role is concerned with engaging people in mission to youth and to families as well as engaging youth and families in mission.
- An example of this new approach was the Big Friday dinner that was held recently. This dinner saw close to 80 people sharing life over a BBQ and served as a great reminder of the capacity that we have as a church to connect together around the reality of how Christ created us to be.

Throughout 2011 the SLT has also sought to refine its understanding of the role it performs in the life of PUC and in relation to the staff, especially the ministers. This is an evolving area for the SLT and one that will continue to lead to greater effectiveness for this team in its leadership function within the life of PUC.

During 2011 we have seen a great deal of stability amongst the staffing arrangements at PUC. In 2010 we saw the addition of:

- Katie Lamb (nee Marshall) - Children's Worker
- Fiona Blair - Youth Missions Pastor
- David Vaealiki - New Life PGT Co-ordinator
- Deb Everist - Ministry Assistant and New Life Sport and Rec Co-ordinator
- Julie Swavley - Treetops Preschool Director

Therefore, 2011 has been a year in which many of the staff have had the opportunity to find their feet in the life of PUC. This has been a settling in time for the staff team as a whole. However, there is a great deal of momentum that this team will take leading into 2012 due to the stability and growing familiarity that staff have with each other. It has been great to welcome the following staff into the team in 2011:

- Bethwyn McIldowie - New Life PGT Trainer
- Allison Kenchington - New Life PGT Trainer

In many ways it has been clear throughout 2011 that we are only in the very early days of where God is taking us as a people during this season. We have a strong foundation as a church on which to build into the future.

In 2012 we should be expectant to see God develop us as a people around his Vision.

I would encourage everyone to consider afresh the call to be sold out to God's purposes as they play out in the life of PUC. Let me encourage you to belong to this church and sow into it in a way that allows us to stand together in and for the cause of Christ. For there is no greater cause on earth than that which Jesus calls us to. May you be inspired as you read the following reports from various ministry areas. For God is at work in our midst.

Rev. Nigel Rogers
Senior Minister PUC

ADVANCE LEADERSHIP NETWORK

Age groups involved in this ministry

All ages

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Nigel Rogers

Core activities during 2011

This new initiative has been developed to ensure that leadership is intentionally cultivated in the life of PUC. In fact leadership development is something that we seek PUC to be renowned for.

The Advance Leadership Network was launched in the second half of 2011. This leadership network is about advancing the capacity and contribution of leaders in the life of PUC. It is also about centralising the way that we are equipped as leaders in this church. It is a network for leadership development that draws people from various ministry areas together for specific opportunities to share and grow as leaders.

The core events of 2011 have been:

- Launch of Advance Leadership Network
- Advance Leadership Workshop with Dean Brookes

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- Visit by Dean Brookes provided great wisdom and direction for the key leaders at PUC

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- Advance Leadership Workshops
- Improved resourcing of leaders especially through utilising online services
- Ministers and pastors attending the EL 250 conference

CHILDREN & FAMILIES MINISTRY

Age groups involved in this ministry

0-12 year olds

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Oversight: Steve Everist, **Children's worker:** Katie Lamb

Cubbyhouse (0-3): Gill Williams (Coordinator) with parent volunteers

Treehouse (3-5): Paula Paterson (Coordinator), Emma Watson, Fiona Turner, Julie Mountain, Karin Witanowski, Dianne McKenzie, Vanessa Smith

Clubhouse (6-12): Katie Lamb (Coordinator), Natalie Oldenburg, James Brocklebank, Julie Mountain, Michelle Mills, Phil Watson, Steve Everist, Lisa Jackson, Steve Park, Leigh Griffiths, Di Mackenzie, Vanessa Smith, Yvette Pascoe, Tim Pascoe, Rachael Watson, Brad Watson. Assistant leaders – Nina Griffiths, Mitchell Smith, Isabella Lorimer.

Playhouse (preschool playgroups), Monday: Christy Kohlhoff (Coordinator), Kirstin Barchia, Katie Lamb.

Wednesday: No church representative.

KUCA (Friday kids club 6-12's): Katie Lamb (Coordinator), Steve Everist, Tom Knox, Indy Griffiths, Chloe Purl, Shonelle Squire, Jarrod Watts.

Launch Mob (New program for year 6 students): Steve Everist and Katrina Freeston

MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers and is an outreach ministry of this church that allows mums to have time out whilst their 0-5 year olds are cared for in the MOPPETS program. Yvette Pascoe (Coordinator), Gill Wood (Mentor), Amanda Moran (Discussion Group Leader), Karin Witanowski (Discussion Group Leader), Rachael Watson (Hospitality), Simone Yakich (Discussion Group Leader), Kristie Vaealeki (Finance Leader)

MOPPETS Carers (0-18mth and 18mth – 5year program for children whilst parents in MOPS): Katie Lamb, Lorraine Bollen, Fiona Turner, Jan Figgis, Joy Hartshorne, Rob Wood, Lisa Jackson, Gill Williams, Mikala Kelman, Linda Craven, Adele Henry, Alyce Lawrenson, Joi Loxley, Pauline Wadeisha, Cath & Vern Prowse, Pamela Dacker.

Treetops Preschool Bible Story Program: Volunteers teach Bible stories to the children on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lisa Jackson, Fiona Turner, Val Scotter, Fiona Blair, Katie Lamb, Steve Everist.

Core activities during 2011

- Four children's celebration services
- Treehouse kids participating in celebration service with a song
- KUCA campout
- Christmas Eve workshop

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- We've run MOPS to capacity with a wait list all year – showing that the mums are really loving the program provided. Some mums give us prayer requests when asked directly if we can pray for them and also independently via our prayer request boxes on each table. Two MOPS mums did the alpha course this year. Even though we didn't have a MOPPETS leader this year, God provided some faithful and regular carers so that it hasn't been added stress for the team.
- New Launch Mob program has been a great success. For the first time in years we have not seen our year 6 students disappear half way through the year.
- The redevelopment of KUCA to BIG Friday Arvos shows promise with so far showing record numbers.
- Treehouse continues as a healthy group (8-12 members) taking children on the first stage of their journey with God.
- Obvious increase in spiritual maturity in Clubhouse kids especially with their relationship with God and their prayer life.
- Children's celebrations have been a real highlight and the jumping castles and sausage sizzle have made these Sundays very popular.
- It has been really wonderful to walk with some of our children during the baptism process. These baptisms have really touched our hearts.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

Rev. Steve Everist was called to PUC five years ago specifically to strengthen childrens and families ministry and has clearly done an excellent job. In 2012 Steve will pass over many responsibilities for children's ministry into the hands of Katie Lamb (nee Marshall) who has grown wonderfully in the role of Children's worker and whose work hours have been extended from ten to twenty hours and our Youth Mission Pastor, Fiona Blair. Steve will be taking up more responsibilities in the areas of pastoral care and education and training.

- Yvette Pascoe will be stepping down as coordinator of MOPS and Amanda Moran will be the coordinator in 2012.
- Development of BIG Friday Arvos, including a monthly family dinner gathering.
- Christmas Eve Workshop.
- Four Children's Celebration Services.
- Launch Mob

The great KUCA legacy

We want to give a huge rap to Tom Knox and Clive Coombes for years of fantastic service to our Friday afternoon KUCA kids program. Hundreds of children have found friendship, adventure, food and faith through KUCA and we want to express our great appreciation to both Tom and Clive for all their joyful and loving service.

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Age groups involved in this ministry

All ages.

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Nigel Rogers, Deb Everist, Esther Durham, Matt Whiteley (blog).

Core activities during 2011

There is a great deal of information that needs to be communicated to everyone associated with the PUC community. We are not a small church that can simply communicate everything that is happening during some announcements on a Sunday at church.

Therefore, the communications team has worked extremely hard during 2011 to develop ways of engaging people with PUC information. The following are an outline of the ways in which people can be informed the life of PUC:

- PUC website
- Weekly email
- Square 1
- PUC blog
- Church news
- Facebook

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- The development of a new website that looks sharp and effectively communicates up-to-date info amongst the PUC community.
- A new-look weekly email that engages people with essential PUC information.
- A PUC blog that has informed and inspired around 500 per month since its inception in July.
- Development of church news as a means to communicate PUC matters with people during worship.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- PUC TV
- A version of the website for mobile users (smart phones & iPads)

COMMUNITY BUILDING TEAM

Age groups involved in this ministry

All ages.

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Nigel Rogers, Steve Everist, Sue Kelman, Fiona Blair, Ric Bollen.

Core activities during 2011

This team was established in 2011 with the express focus of growing people in the life of Christ. It is a team that covers the overarching responsibility for creating a culture of care, belonging and discipleship in the life of PUC. As such there is a great deal that his team assumes responsibility for. The following is an outline of what this team focuses on:

- Attending to the blue slips that come through each week which involves:
 1. Praying through prayer requests
 2. Following up Pastoral care needs
 3. Following up Opportunities to serve
- Developing and overseeing “welcoming teams” at all services
- Overseeing Life Groups and Life Central
- Crisis Visitation
- Coordinating and inviting people to monthly “Big Sunday Lunches”
- Personally connecting with people who are new to PUC
- Overseeing the PUC members database
- Developing annual PUC Directory
- Overseeing process of people becoming Members of PUC
- Developing and overseeing a mentoring program
- Facilitation of Alpha Course and Marriage Course
- Facilitation of the Integrate Course

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- The development of the Community Building Team to be the organisational hub for these various ministry areas
- Great number of people who attended the Alpha Course and the Integrate Course
- Development of Big Sunday Lunches
- People being integrated into PUC through Life Central
- Generation Now is a new PUC Life Group initiative. Generation Now is targeted at Gen Y who, broadly speaking, are those born between mid-1970’s through to the mid-1990’s. Underlying Generation Now is the conviction that God is calling us to stand for Him Now. It is this generation who need to engage those around them with the truth of Christ. This generation needs to be strong and disciplined to grow in Christ now. Furthermore, Generation Now must act now for the cause of Christ. Everything about Generation Now is about being these things now for God’s glory.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- Development of a Mentoring Program
- Running of the Alpha Course, Integrate and the Marriage Course
- Growth in Life Groups and Life Central

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Age groups involved in this ministry

All ages – everyone is welcome to attend working bees.

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Bruce Kelman – Chairperson

Craig Williams - Chairperson 2012

Matt Gleeson – Treasurer

Lexi Oldenburg – PUC Office Manager

Wade Orth – Secretary

Stuart Kelman – Auditorium/ Recording Studio – sound, lighting, projection

Greg Boyer – Advisor

Core activities during 2011

1. Managing our finances, which includes preparing the yearly budget, monitoring expenditure against budget and having our accounts audited.
2. Maintaining our property and equipment. This is managed by volunteer labour where possible and through working bees. Trade labour is hired when necessary.

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

This will sound like a strange highlight, but after initially saying that it was too expensive, Sydney Water has agreed after some persuasion to provide us with a gravity sewerage connection. Currently we have a pump out system which cost us approx \$3,000.00 per year in operations and maintenance, and this won’t be required once we are connected to the sewer main via pipe work allowing our sewerage to flow into the main via gravity. Three thousand might not sound much, but this is a saving in today’s dollars that we will make every year that PUC operates on this site. One hundred years is three hundred thousand dollars in savings.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

1. Monitor progress on the proposed development in Boundary St. as it will involve the sale of 20 metres of our land to allow the building of a road along our southern boundary.
2. Pursue a maintenance strategy for the Church Point Cemetery.
3. Continue to hold working bees.

INSPIRATIONAL WORSHIP TEAM

Age groups involved in this ministry

All Ages.

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Nigel Rogers, Steve Everist, Deb Everist, Fiona Blair, Ric Bollen.

Core activities during 2011

Worship is critical in the life of any church. At PUC we seek to have inspirational worship. Therefore, the role of the Inspirational Worship Team is rather self-explanatory. The team meets weekly with the express aim of ensuring that our time of worship can be the best we have to offer. There is still a great deal of room for improvement however, our core activities are what remain and they are:

- Ensure effective planning of all elements of worship
- Provide honest and open revision of worship services
- Implement new initiatives as directed by SLT

- Provide clear communication with those involved in worship services
- Develop creative and inspiring ways to engage people with the truth of Christ during worship

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- Easter Services
- Move to 6pm service in the Basement
- Baptism services
- Many people being impacted by worship through the preaching, music, testimonies and prayer ministry

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- Moves to inspire people to attend church more regularly
- Greater development of uniqueness amongst the three services
- More testimonies of what God is doing in people's lives

MEN'S MINISTRY

Age groups involved in this ministry

18+ (Reality is more like 30+)

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Ghafur Barchia

Core activities during 2011

1. Action Man Day
2. Mens Conference
3. Steak of Origin
4. Mens Retreat

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- Men's Conference that gave PUC Men the opportunity to gather together for inspirational worship and teaching specific for what God calls men to be.
- Connecting men on the fringe of the PUC community into the life of the church.
- Fundraising through events such as Steak of Origin for the work of Our Neighbours Ministry in Zimbabwe

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- March 2012 – Men's conference 2012 will focus on *going for the cause of Christ*.
- May 2012 – Rolling out through Life Groups a new initiative aimed at drawing the men of PUC into missional activities.
- October 2012 – Men's Retreat.

MINISTRY WITH SENIORS

Age groups involved in this ministry

From youth to seniors.

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Steve Everist (coordinating minister), Sue Towey (Jacaranda Manager), Ruth Woodley (LACC chairperson), Lorraine Bolen (LACC secretary), Louise Lorimer (C.A.F.E Jacaranda coordinator), Betty (Deputy Chairperson) and Ron Snelling (Jacaranda Day centre), Helen Coleman (Aged Care Outreach Ministries (ACOM), previously Nursing Home Ministries), June Harris, Ken Harris, Alice Reynhout and a huge cast of volunteers.

Core activities during 2011

- Jacaranda refers to two complementary ministries hosted in the Jacaranda room in partnership with Uniting Care (UnitingCare Ageing). Jacaranda Enriching Life runs on Monday and Wednesday and aims to encourage wellness, independence and to provide friendship, support and activities particularly for the frail and those with dementia and respite for carers. Jacaranda Café runs on Tuesday and Thursday and seeks to bring aged members of the community together around fine food with entertainment.
- Aged Care Outreach Ministries (ACOM): Places that PUC ministers to include: Peninsular Nursing home (monthly) Bayview Gardens Nursing Home (Monthly), Montgomery @ RSL Village (Monthly), Tobruk Hostel @ RSL Village (Weekly), Milne Bay Hostel @ RSL Village (Weekly), Avalon House Nursing Home (from weekly to monthly throughout the year), Seaside Nursing Home (2nd monthly), Seabeach Gardens Nursing Home (2nd monthly), and other one off visits at RSL Village to support the people in dementia hostels. Most of the visits are informal worship services which can include some 1 to 1 time.
- Aged Care Workshops (ACW) which have been continuing for over a year now, have brought people together with great enthusiasm and forged new working relationships. This has opened many doors and provided an increase of community support.
- Prayer meeting which meets Monday morning for Aged Care Ministries, and support for people involved.
- Devotional Group: New group commenced for Jacaranda Enriching Life on Wednesday once per month, reaching up to 8 people at a time – sometimes including volunteers.

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

Jacaranda Enriching life: Jacaranda has had an average of 27 members through out the year. The wellness program has proved to be very successful. It has improved strength and confidence in our members and enabled them to expand their physical and social activities both within Jacaranda and the wider community. Joint Community Care Northern Beaches and Jacaranda lunches with entertainment provided by Pittwater High School have given us the opportunity to reach out to the community at large and the introduction of devotional time at Jacaranda has given members the opportunity to access spiritual support when needed

CAFÉ Jacaranda: CAFÉ Jacaranda is in its 9th year of operating on a Tuesday & Thursday catering for elderly groups and other church based communities from the Peninsular to distant suburbs. The home style meals are very much enjoyed with musical entertainment. We are thankful to a committed team of dedicated volunteers who are mostly from the outside community who assist on these days with offering the groups a delicious meal and a welcoming atmosphere in a church environment.

Nursing Home Ministry: The Aged Care Workshops have opened more doors with people working together with the Body of Christ. We have had lots of support from another church in the area advertising the workshops in their church newsletter, also lots of support from the Chaplaincy Department at the RSL Village Narrabeen. We have commenced our own regular newsletters as a means of making the Body of Christ more aware of the needs of the frail aged and those with dementia. Coffee ministries have commenced, supporting volunteers from ACOM and ACW on a one to one basis. God has sent us many volunteers for this ministry, opened doors and shown us creative ways to minister to those with dementia.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- Next year Jacaranda Enriching Life hopes to offer our services to people with more advanced dementia and to facilitate more engagement with the local community.
- More pastoral visits for hostels. More awareness within the Body of Christ and staff looking after the frail aged re the spiritual needs of the elderly and those with dementia. Developing more dementia specific evangelical outreaches.

MISSION TO OTHERS

Age groups involved in this ministry

All Ages.

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Nigel Rogers, Steve Everist, Cliff Powell, Fiona Blair, Esther Durham.

Core activities during 2011

The Mission to Others team is primarily responsible for ensuring that as a church we “Go for the cause of Christ”. During 2011 we have sought to expand our local, national and international focus. This year has certainly been a development year that will see a number of new initiatives come online in 2012. The following is an outline of all that the Mission to Others team is focusing on.

Mission Area	Status as at November 2011
Local (Pittwater Area)	
Warriewood Street Party	Planning under way for an event in 2012
Serving the Pittwater Community Weekends	Planning under way for an event in 2012
Nursing Home Ministry	Already Occurring
PASWCA	Already occurring
Local (Sydney Wide)	
Working with people who are homeless	New Outreach initiative beginning February 2012
Participating in activities program in the residential housing section of Villawood detention centre	Already occurring
National	
Micah Challenge	Already Occurring
Indigenous Mission	Proposal needing to be developed
Partnering with a rural church community	Proposal needing to be developed
Global	
Our Neighbours Ministry	Already Occurring
International China Concern	Already Occurring
Mission exposure trip to India	Already Occurring

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- Inspiring visit by Marty Barrow from Our Neighbours Ministry.
- Commencement of visitations into the residential housing section of Villawood Detention Centre
- Promotion and planning of a short term mission trip to India
- Wonderful visit by Clive Coombes from International China Concern
- Appointment by PASWCA of new schools worker at Pittwater High
- Continuation of Nursing Home visits by a very committed team of volunteers

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- Mission trip to India
- Monthly outreach service to people who are homeless. This is to be run in conjunction with a number of church's in the city
- Warriewood Street Party and Serving the Pittwater Community event
- Development of an Indigenous Mission program
- Attendance at Micah Challenge “Voices for Justice” conference
- Development of partnership with a rural community

MUSIC MINISTRY

Age groups involved in this ministry

All ages, primarily 15 - 50.

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Andrew Bollen, Wes Harder, John Dacker, Jo Laub, Ben Carlisle.

Core activities during 2011

- Providing worship for Sunday worship services – 10am and 6pm;
- Members from the team have also provided worship for Mens conferences, Womens conferences, Community Christmas Carols and easter services.
- The team have also been active in writing new material for worship services in 2011.

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

Worship at all services has gone to a deeper level during 2011. We have seen lives touched and changed through worship services, and it has been evident that God has used this ministry. Most noticeably, the flavour of worship at the 6pm service has continued to grow and change, and there is a real sense of God moving in a new way through this service and the innovations in worship that have been introduced. Worship was kept intentionally fresh by introducing over 10 new songs for the year.

Rejoice was the Vision Launch song for 2011 which was written by Jo and Steve Laub, Andrew Bollen and John Dacker. This song was touched by God and incredibly relevant to where PUC was at.

The team continued to grow and develop, to the extent that changes were needed in the leadership team to ensure the continued growth of the team as well as the pastoral care of each team member. These structures are now in place to help the team continue to flourish in 2012.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

More of the same is planned! As a worship team the key is that we are continually seeking to worship God in new deeper ways. We seek to bring a level of excellence to everything we do, and to provide a platform Sunday by Sunday, to invite our congregation into a place where they can meet with God and encounter him afresh.

We will continue to refine the leadership structure so that we can grow the team, and the scope of what the worship team does, while at the same time, we can look after and nourish each team member.

A primary focus for 2012 will be to put to use the new recording studio and facilities. A number of issues stopped this facility being used to its full potential in 2011 which have now been overcome, and we have steps in place to have a number of songs written, recorded and released in 2012, importantly, a new vision launch 2012 song is high on the agenda.

NEW LIFE SPORT & FITNESS CENTRE

The New Life Sport & Fitness ministry comprises two outreach programs being Personalised Group Training and Sport & Recreation.

New Life Personalised Group Training

Age groups involved in this ministry

16 years and over

Key Leader/s of this ministry

David Vaealiki Coordinator /Trainer

Allison -Trainer

Bethwyn -Trainer

Core activities during 2011

The day to day running of The New life PGT program which involves specific 12 to 8 week programs.

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- People have received prayer through the groups
- Lives have been changed in many ways
- People have attended Church for the first time
- Prayer has become a regular habit for some by doing the program
- A world record was broken!
- God has truly impacted this program

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- An Easter Celebration
- A two-year anniversary celebration
- A Christmas celebration

Sport and Recreation

Age groups involved in this ministry

Futsal & Multisport – adult women

Zumba Fitness– primary & high school children & adults

Re-Form – 18+

Table Tennis – all ages, even over 80s

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Deb Everist [Futsal & Multisport]

Esther Durham [Zumba Fitness & Re-Form]

Max Steele [Table Tennis]

Core activities during 2011

Running two multisport & futsal competitions.

Zumba Fitness – two evenings per week and a slower beginners class on Friday mornings.

Reform – Running of the 8-week program, which began in October.

Table tennis on two mornings per week.

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

We have been pleased to see the crossover between our sports competitions, New Life Personalised Group Training (PGT) and Zumba Fitness classes. Quite a few have taken up the PGT program and have found it to be beneficial. The competitions themselves have been fun with very few injuries or problems.

Re-Form is currently underway with a healthy number of 7 participants. It has been wonderful to see the connection begin to develop between Re-Form and the Healing Centre.

Table Tennis has continued to be a fun and caring environment with members celebrating birthdays, travelling together on holidays, raising money for flood victims and caring for injured fellow members. It is a positive, caring, godly community that loves to play table tennis.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

Multisport & Futsal – running two seasons next year. Running sports events for church ministry groups.

Zumba Fitness – some free classes to encourage new members and bless existing members.

Re-Form – will be offered twice during 2012, around the beginning and then towards the end of the year.

Table Tennis – entering a Veterans competition, more fundraising & having fun.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Age groups involved in this ministry

All

Key Leader/s of this ministry

General Prayer and intercession: Steve Everist, Lindy Hubbard, May Smith, Ric Bollen.

Healing Centre: Steve Everist, Viv Cooper, Mel Bollen, John Walsh, Deb Everist, Al Boon, Kathy Brocklebank, Alexis Martin, May Smith, Di McKenzie, Lindy Hubbard.

Wednesday morning prayer breakfast: Cliff and Marion Powell.

Core activities during 2011

- 7/12/7 – week of prayer, February 31 - January 4
- United in prayer, 1st Wednesday evening of each month – prayer meeting
- Wednesday morning prayer breakfast, 6:30 in the chapel
- Wednesday intercession, praying for the congregations through the blue slips
- Healing Centre, 2 – 5 each Saturday afternoon

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

2011 has been a watershed year for prayer ministry. I would say that the number of people actively involved in regular prayer meetings and ministry has tripled. This is very important as the health of prayer ministry is a barometer to the health of the congregation.

- **United in Prayer** began in 2009 with around 6 faithful prayers. During the last six months 15-20 people have met regularly for prayer and it is not just the quantity of prayers which is significant but the quality of prayer. Special mention needs to be made of the commitment of Ben Hedstrom's young men's life group. When we began UIP it was mostly with woman, but at the November meeting we had 13 men and 3 women. Men taking prayer serious is a very good sign in the life of a church.

- **Healing Centre** was launched this year and has settled into a solid ministry. We have a wonderful servant team of prayers who are called to this ministry and give up Saturday afternoons at some cost to their families. From a ministry point of view it is really valuable to have a weekly resource where people can be listened to and supported in their lives by the power of God. We are very grateful to God for putting this ministry on our hearts and guiding us through every step.

- **Intercession** we feel it is a great privilege and important work to lift up members of the congregation every week in prayer.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- “Soaked in God” – Church prayer retreat for April

SHIMMER WOMENS MINISTRY

Age groups involved in this ministry

All women aged 15-105 in PUC

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Marion Powell, with team: Bronwyn Boyer, Deb Everist, Jo Rogers, Emma Watson, Steph Andrews, Deb Hodge, Sue Kelman – Minute secretary.

Core activities during 2011

- 1-3 April Retreat at Merroo “Enjoying God” – speakers Rosemary Johnston and Jo Rogers
- 25 June Shimmer Morning “What it means to Follow Jesus” – talk by Jo and testimonies from Bronwyn Boyer, Cathy Hemery, and Helen Johnston
- 10 Sept Fundraiser Trivia Night for Esandleni Sothando
- 19 Nov Gingerbread House Decorating

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- Seeing the deepening relationship between God, and each other at the retreat – a very special time
- The faithfulness and grace of God in the testimonies we have shared this year
- The awesome provision of funds for university fees for our girls in Bulawayo – and the fun we had being involved!
- Seeing the team grow in all aspects of leading this ministry

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- Bronwyn Boyer to take role of Coordinator of Shimmer with Marion’s retirement as leader

With approval of SLT:

- High Tea (10 March)
- Retreat (4-6 May)
- Shimmer Morning (4 August)
- Shimmer Evening (27 October)

TREETOPS PRESCHOOL

Age groups involved in this ministry

Each week Treetops caters for the care and educational needs of around one hundred and thirty, 3 - 5 year old children. These children attend on a variety of days and families are drawn from the local area. Over the years this preschool has built up a great reputation and we maintain a very healthy waiting list, mostly through word of mouth recommendations. A small number of families have church connections.

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Director: Julie Swavley

Assistant Director: Kirsty Crawford,

supported by a team of 12 very caring and experienced staff members.

Core activities during 2011

The children have had a wonderful time playing and learning together over this last year. Along with our very busy, fun filled days we have had many special events including, a welcome family BBQ, Mother’s day shopping, 3 Grandparents days, Open day visitors, 2 Pizza and Puzzle nights, 2 Family breakfast mornings, and an Orientation visit morning for new children.

We have had lots of exciting visitors including 4 performances (Aunty Wendy’s Mob, - an Aboriginal

Cultural experience, the Story tellers chair – a puppet show, A Swag full of instruments – a musical instrument show, and Dos Marravillas – a Spanish dancing performance.)

The staff have had a very busy year firstly saying Good bye to Sue at the end of 2010 and then welcoming me as new Director in 2011. The first part of the year also involved staff working closely with preschool Management on a new Enterprise Agreement covering Treetops staff working conditions and wages for the next three years.

Kirsty has admirably stepped into a newly created role as Assistant Director/Resource Teacher (part time) which has been a great help during both my initiation to Treetops and the staff transition to the new National Curriculum.

The National Curriculum has involved and continues to require a lot of rethinking for staff in terms of new governing standards, programming and regulations. We may all agree that we are very proud of what we do at Treetops and how we achieve the best for each child, but we also recognise that there is always room to aim higher. Through additional training, seminars and staff discussions, we have been gradually working through a Quality Improvement Plan ready for the new National Rating System which will be introduced in 2012.

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

God has graciously provided safety and relative peace for staff and children through all of the abovementioned changes and challenges at Treetops this year. On a personal level I am very thankful to see His hand working in the day to day management and interactions at Preschool.

2011 has seen an emphasis on increased connections between the Church community and the preschool. One significant example has been, the re-introduction of Bible Story Time twice weekly to our program. These short sessions are being run by a lovely group of enthusiastic volunteers who share God’s word with the children through pictures and discussion. These times have been well received by children and parents and will be continuing on into 2012. Another example is the opportunity for us to regularly share some of our special news with the church community through a monthly submission to Square 1. This publication is also distributed to all of our parents enabling them to know what is happening At Pittwater Uniting Church.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

As is the nature of preschool, we will be sending around half of our children off to Big school for the start of next year and so we look forward to welcoming in new families and starting the whole process of life at Treetops for them. At this stage we have not made any plans for new initiatives or for change, just adjustments as we continue to respond to new regulatory requirements in order to improve our service for our families.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Age groups involved in this ministry

Year 6 to year 12 (ages 12 -18)

Key Leader/s of this ministry

Shannon Wherrett, Brett Downie, Heather Svensen, Jessica Nicholson, Katrina Freeston, Fiona Blair.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Revolve leaders; Brett Downie, Heather Svensen, Jess Nicolson and Shannon Wherret.

I would also like to acknowledge the support of Katrina Freeston, Ruth Svensen, Glenda Christie, Ben Carlise, Lewis Hubbard, Steve Park and Steve Everist who have so generously given some much needed practical support for our outreach events. Revolve wouldn’t happen with this wonderful bunch of people!

Core activities during 2011

- Friday Night Revolve – ‘Youth Space’
- 6pm Service
- Revolve Life Groups
- Launch Mob

Highlights of God working in this area during 2011

- **Revolve Youth Space:**

This is our Friday Night program. Over the last 12 months this aspect of Revolve Youth Ministry has developed into a stable, consistent, effective & holistic (Engage, grow, go) program.

Most weeks there is a core of 18 young people attending who are either committed believers or people wanting to know more about Jesus. All of them regularly bring along their friends. For some of our 'attraction' activities we have had over 40 youth in attendance.

In the area of prayer (part of the 'devotion' aspect of the Friday night program) we have seen massive growth and momentum of young people developing into praying people.

- **Missions:**

Mission is a dominant 'flavour' at Revolve. Unfortunately inclement weather prevented us from doing the Rough Sleepers School, some other examples of a 'Go' focus include; a visit from Marty Barrow, a fund raiser for World Vision in conjunction with the 40hour famine, a poverty simulation game, teaching about and sharing from my our personal experience of serving on the Mission field in India, preparing to visit some rural areas in 2012 and the constant encouragement given to the young people to be a witness at school and at home.

This term we are looking forward to the integration of Launch Mob into the Friday night program.

- **Salvations & re-commitment:** 10 this year (that I know of)

- **The 6pm Service:** There has been a significant increase in the number of youth attending and being involved in the 6pm service, particularly from some of the senior boys.

- **Revolve Life Groups:** For youth ministry to be holistic this area is crucial. During this term there has been steady progress in the area of planting and growing life groups for young people, we would still love to have much more progress in this area, and, PTL, this term there has been a greater 'take-up' rate. As a result of this we are seeing significant spiritual growth, and also the opportunity for much greater equipping (& resourcing) for young people, not just in their personal growth but also for leadership training and development.

- **Revolve Facebook Page** - This term I have posted a portion of scripture and a short discussion/ explanation/reflection every second day or so, for Revolve youth to access on Fb. As leaders (and parents), we strongly desire to see young people released into adulthood with a strong biblical foundation in their lives, that they would each learn to feed themselves daily on the Word of God.

- **Combined Youth events:** These events take place each term, and serve as an 'outreach' activity. At this event last term there were about 100 young people and leaders in attendance from 3 churches. The event raised \$1020.00 for mission.

It is very exciting (and personally satisfying) to see the young people of PUC becoming 'missionaries' themselves. I regularly hear stories of them sharing the good news with their friends and inviting them to Revolve activities.

- **Leadership training:** Singapore 4/14 Global Summit, through Revolve Life Groups, missions (to India and Forbes) and practical opportunities to serve in Children's ministry and church services.

- **PASWCA:** Recruitment and placement of Schools worker at Pittwater High School.

Initiatives and events planned for 2012

- Rural (NSW) Mission & Discipleship training
- Cross Cultural Missions: India
- Revolve outreach events (locally), each term in 2012
- 'ReAct': a special two day event for Revolve young people that focuses on discipleship, teaching and serving the needs of our local area.

